

May 5, 2017

Mayor Soden and City of Lawrence Commissioners,

As a City of Lawrence-Douglas County Joint Advisory Board, the Douglas County Food Policy Council submits this letter of support for inclusion of a budget line to fund \$200,000 of Transient Guest Tax dollars on a multi-purpose structure that could serve as a permanent home for the Lawrence Farmers Market. This was included in previous versions of the Capital Improvement Plan as submitted by Parks and Recreation but is not included in the updated approvals under consideration on May 9 at the Commission Study Session.

This request builds upon a recommendation made by the national farmers' market consultant, SCALE, Inc., whom we hired in 2016 to conduct an analysis of our county's farmers market sector. The project was funded by a United States Department of Agriculture Farmers' Market Promotion Program grant.

One of the twelve recommendations was "Securing a Viable, Long-term Location for the Downtown Market." The consultants suggested the creation of a working group including LFM leadership and City of Lawrence staff to establish ***"a commitment to resolve the question of location and develop and implement a long-term plan. Whether or not that plan calls for a move, it is clear that improved facilities will be needed going forward for the Saturday market."***

Given this recommendation, and the uncertainty inherent in a year-to-year lease for this group of over eighty local business owners, **the Food Policy Council strongly encourages you to include the multi-purpose structure in the CIP plan for this year.** We recognize this topic also relates to your priority to create a new Downtown Master Plan, and release of the forthcoming Parking Study.

In particular, we note that this statement of support:

- ✓ Encourages an open and transparent conversation and process about the future of the Lawrence Farmers Market in downtown Lawrence to determine a permanent solution that satisfies the needs of the market's vendors and customers.
- ✓ Does not take a position as to the permanent location of the market.
- ✓ Celebrates the cultural and economic asset that the Lawrence Farmers Market—the oldest market in the State of Kansas—is to our community.
- ✓ Offers the collaboration of the Douglas County Food Policy Council to:
 - Support the establishment of such a working group as proposed by the consultants
 - Conduct precedence and feasibility research as to a shared-use facility
 - Assist in grants and other funding options to leverage the City's investment

Lawrence is a statewide and regional leader in building our local food system. We look forward to working with the City and community members to continue supporting our farmers markets.

Thank you for your consideration,

Marlin Bates
Douglas County Food Policy Council Chair

Bobbie Walthall

Subject: Taxes

From: Carol Reynolds [<mailto:cjreynolds4@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:03 PM

To: Diane Stoddard

Subject: Fwd: Taxes

Begin forwarded message:

From: Carol Reynolds <cjreynolds4@gmail.com>

Subject: Taxes

Date: May 5, 2017 at 2:00:46 PM CDT

To: tmarkus@lawrenceks.org

Mr. Markus I read today where you recommend the mill levy be increased in Lawrence so you can balance the budget. Do you realize the mill levy just increased so renovations to Lawrence High, Free State High and the junior high schools could be completed? It's not the right thing to do, Sir. I suggest you find a way to balance the budget by cutting spending, not by easily asking for more and more from the citizens of Lawrence. That's the easy way, I'm sure, just place it on the home owner. A college town has just as many renters as owners and it's not fair to the owners to always foot the bill. Maybe you can go to the contractors that have been given so many subsidies, such as Fritzell and Compton. Let them help you balance your budget. You may see many protestors on your door step if you want to increase the mill levy again. It's the perfect climate for an uproar. Thank you for your time.

Carol Reynolds

Sustainability Action Network



Local Solutions
for Transition to
a Sustainable
Economy

P.O. Box 1064, Lawrence KS 66044
a Kansas 501(C)(3) not-for-profit

Mayor Leslie Soden
Lawrence City Hall
Lawrence KS 66044

8 May 2017

Mayor Soden, and Commissioners:

This year, our community is at the moment that the City Commission has stated each year since 2013 that it will act on bicycle transportation projects.

On 23 July 2013, in response to Sustainability Action's request for bicycle transportation funding, Commissioner Amyx said "I know we'll be looking at those things suggested by other Commissioners in the future. What those plans are going to look like we'll wait and see". And Commissioner Riordan said "I think we could do a lot more for bicyclists. I'd like to create a city where people ride to work and other places, and not just for exercise".

On 13 May 2014, Mayor Amyx said "During the two meetings that they had last week, there was a lot of discussion about financing bicycle and pedestrian improvements. Amyx asked Schumm if the task force he mentioned was something he would want to do immediately". Commissioner Schumm said "He thought it should be set up quickly because there was a lot of energy surrounding the issue right now". The Commission moved on 1 July 2014 to "direct staff to prepare a draft resolution to establish a taskforce to look at the pedestrian and bicycle planning issues". Eight months later, the City Manager brought a resolution back to the Commission on 24 March 2015.

On 29 June 2015, the Pedestrian-Bicycle Issues Task Force (PBITF) began their work, and completed their report and recommendations on 26 February of 2016.

One year ago on 3 May 2016, the Commission took up the PBITF Report, though not in time to factor into the 2017 CIP. They did, however, fund a "Bicycle-pedestrian improvements" line item with \$450,000 undesignated funds.

Today, the guidance from the PBITF that the Commission had asked for, has been prioritized and available for one year. But when compiling the 2018 CIP this March, City staff failed to pencil the numbers for any project in the PBITF priority list. Staff also failed to recommend for line item funding, any of the four projects proposed by Sustainability Action, projects from the PBITF Report.

The only presence for bicycle funding in the CIP is the same generic undesignated "bucket" of \$450,000 as "Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements", CIP-C109. In that bucket is \$135,000 for a 6th St. shared use path, nowhere near the up to \$1 million needed for the project, and a 21st St. bicycle boulevard, that is on hold until the transit hub question is resolved.

The PBITF work is done. Their recommendations are in. Please direct Public Works to construct in 2018, a \$782,500 shared use path along Naismith Dr. from 18th St. to 23rd St. \$300,000 would come from the C-109 "bucket", the remainder coming from funds in Stormwater, Street Maintenance, Utilities, Forestry, and Transit (see attached).

thank you,
Michael Almon



P.O. Box 1064, Lawrence KS 66044
a Kansas 501(C)(3) not-for-profit

Bryan Kidney, Director
Lawrence Finance Department, Attn: CIP
P.O. Box 708
Lawrence, KS 66044

13 March 2017

re: Naismith Dr. shared use path and street reconstruction, 18th to 23rd

Mr. Kidney:

The Sustainability Action Network proposes for the 2018 CIP the construction of a 10-foot wide shared use path on the east side of Naismith Dr. from 18th St. to 23rd St., widening all motor vehicle lanes north and south to 12 feet, and installing bus turn-outs and shelters at 21st St. Sustainability Action has for years advocated for safe and convenient bicycle transportation in collaboration with the Pedestrian Coalition, Live Well Lawrence, and neighborhoods.

The 2016 Pedestrian-Bicycle Task Force report gave the City Commission their requested priorities for bicycle and pedestrian projects. One of the key project priorities identified is Naismith Dr. from 19th to 23rd St. Naismith has a feeble attempt to accommodate bicycles by sharrows painted on unduly narrow (10ft) motor vehicle lanes, which are unsafe and unused by bicyclists. Instead, cyclists ride on the 4ft wide sidewalk on the west side. We agree with the Pedestrian Coalition that this situation is unsafe and inadequate for pedestrians or cyclists.

On the east side, the situation is even worse. At Naismith Dr. and 19th St., one of the busiest intersections in Lawrence, heavy pedestrian use has worn a "goat path" south all the way to 23rd St. It's hard to imagine that this persists in a flagship Big 12 college town. Sizable green space exists along most of the east side of the street to fit a 10-foot wide shared use path.

This new shared use path will connect the existing shared use path between Sunnyside Ave. and 18th St. to the shared use paths along 31st St. and the Lawrence Loop. The shared use path, the bus turn-outs, and street improvements will establish this as a complete street.

However, for a fully functional cross-town bikeway, a future redesign of the 23rd and Naismith intersection will locate the shared use path on the east side of Naismith, south of 23rd St.

Therefore, we propose that funds be allocated in the 2018 CIP for the following project:

1. Construct a 10ft X 6in concrete shared use path, with wayfinding signs, on the east side of Naismith Dr., from 18th St. to 23rd St.
2. Purchase ROW at NE corner of 20th St. and Naismith Dr., and others if needed.
3. Remove and replace six trees - one just south of 19th St., two north of 20th St., two between 20th and 21st, and one between 22nd Terr. and 23rd St.
4. Relocate 3 fire hydrants at 20th St., 22nd St., and 22nd Terr. (2 need upgrade)
5. Relocate 2 light poles using the Green Bond project (others can be worked around)
6. Install a bus turn-out and shelter, north-bound and south-bound, at 21st St.
7. Reconstruct inside curbs-and-gutters about 4 feet toward the center, so motor vehicle lanes become 12ft wide to adequately move K.U. and City transit buses and autos.
8. Mill and overlay and stripe asphalt (PCI of 50 and 57.7 are due anyway)
9. Have Westar relocate four utility poles, two north of 23rd St., two at 21st St.

Thank you,
Michael Almon

City of Lawrence, Kansas
Capital Improvement Plan 2018 thru 2022
Citizen Project Request Form

Name: Sustainability Action Network

Address: P.O.Box 1064

Email: paradigm@ixks.com

Phone Number: (785) 832-1300

Project Name: Naismith Dr. shared use path, 18th-23rd

Total Project Cost: \$ 782,500

Type Improvement ▼

Project Description:

Construct a 10-foot wide by 6-inch concrete shared use path, with wayfinding signs, on the east side of Naismith Dr., from 18th St. to 23rd St.2. Purchase ROW at NE corner of 20th St. and Naismith Dr., and others if needed. Widen motor vehicle lanes to 12 feet, replace inner curbs and gutters, mill and overlay the street, and install bus turn-outs and shelters at 21st St. Naismith Dr. will become a complete street, and the shared use path will be continuous from Sunnyside Ave. to the SLT Lawrence Loop.

Project Justification:

The existing 10-foot wide motor vehicle lanes with painted sharrows do not make a bikeway, but are dangerous, forcing cyclists to conflict with pedestrians on the west sidewalk. For people who walk, the "goat path" on the east side indicates how heavily used and underserved is this corridor. A new shared use path will connect the existing shared use path from Sunnyside Ave. to 31st St. and the SLT Lawrence Loop. Bus turn-outs will avoid the blocking of motor vehicle lanes.

Expenditure Schedule

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Type Construction/Maintenance ▼	\$680,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$680,000
Type Land Acquisition ▼	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,500
Type Planning/Design ▼	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000
Total	\$782,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$782,500

Project Operational/Budget Impact:

\$296,700 Bicycle-pedestrian fund
\$211,000 Stormwater fund
\$254,000 Street Maintenance fund
\$10,000 Transit fund
\$6000 Parks & Recreation, Forestry
\$2400 Street Lights fund, and \$2400 Utilities fund

Operational Impact Schedule

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Type Maintenance ▼	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$5,000
Type Select One ▼	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Type Select One ▼	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$5,000

Additional Comments:

See details in the attached letter