

Lawrence-Douglas County
Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)
City Hall, 6 East 6th Street
Lawrence, Kansas 66044-0708

March 21, 2016



Dear Cultural Arts Commission and Porter Arneill,

The Lawrence-Douglas County Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) would like to express its support for the complete streets approach to the East 9th Street reconstruction project. The Countywide Bikeway Plan developed through a yearlong process to identify a network of bicycle infrastructure that should be built as roads are reconstructed and/or maintained. The plan calls for designated bicycle lanes on 9th Street between Massachusetts and Delaware Streets. We support the use of bicycle lanes in the 9th Street corridor as our preferred design as it is consistent with the Bikeway plan and what has already been installed in the 9th Street corridor to the west.

We also recognize that there is a need to balance the needs of all users in the corridor and encourage at a minimum that if Shared Use Path (SUP) is the final approved design that Shared Lane Arrow (Sharrow) markings and bikes may use full lane signs also be installed. We would encourage you to consider operational and safety concerns we have with the Shared Use Path design including: conflict points at intersections (including alleys), the use of stop signs and/or traffic control at the intersections, and the transition to the roadway and/or to other bikeway infrastructure at Delaware and Massachusetts Street. At 9th & Delaware we support the installation of stop signs to mitigate the heavy traffic from Delaware traveling downhill, to help make crossing the street safer. We should also point out that it is currently illegal for bicyclists to operate on any sidewalk in the central business district (CBD) and understand that the CBD includes 9th street starting at New Hampshire Street. A SUP in this area could create confusion for bicyclists and pedestrians downtown, as off street riding is not allowed (Ord 17-702). A transition back to the roadway will be necessary at or before 9th & Massachusetts. For the alley intersections we encourage the usage of signage to notify motorists of their responsibility to yield to bicyclists and pedestrians and other devices like parabolic mirrors to improve visibility.

The BAC recognizes that final design plans will be made during the second phase and, we would appreciate additional opportunity to review designs. Please keep bicyclists in mind as you move forward in finalizing your East 9th Street design.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lisa Hallberg".

Lisa Hallberg, BAC Chair