19th Street Neighborhoods Coalition

Limit Traffic on All of 19th St.
No Widening east of Harper

Transportation Commission – 9 November 2017
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FCnpA8cNpmg&list=PLzt8e_efB6wUjB3OfHtvNJlbbP_U6UIRi_&index=1
Watch presentation - Time stamp 1:14:30 to 1:24:30
19th St. Character is Residential

From Naismith Dr. eastward, 19th is lined with homes, driveways, schools, and cross streets – not an arterial street profile.

Homes are close in, with shallow front yards.
Right-of-way is residential width of only 50 feet (65 in some places).

From Massachusetts eastward, the pavement is only a 30 foot residential width, the two lanes only 11 feet wide each.
19th St. Character is Residential

West of Mass, daily vehicle trips range from 10K to 21K – beyond capacity – we want some to be diverted to 23rd St.

East of Mass, daily vehicle trips range from 4K to 8K – collector level counts – and cannot handle more traffic.
19th St. Character is Residential

From Harper St. eastward to its terminus, 19th St. serves 212 homes, a salvage yard, the animal shelter, and a church.

Right-of-way is residential width of only 65 feet. The pavement is 22 feet residential width, crown-and-ditch contour, asphalt material.

Daily vehicle trips are less than 1000. These conditions don’t warrant widening it to 47 feet, for $3.625 million.
West Traffic Generator: KU Central District

Kansas decided to build this. We can only deal with it. We want its new traffic to be directed to 23rd St. $350 Million project Includes a 5-deck 3,250 stall parking garage
The City claims widening is justified for these reasons:

• For a third employee access to Venture Business Park
• For water lines, drainage, sidewalks, and a bikeway
• Low PCI prohibits repaving - must totally rebuild
• For transit service
• For emergency vehicle access
Wider 19th St. to O’Connell Unjustified

- Public Works claims the East 19th St. Pavement Condition Index (PCI) is 24.8 (out of 100).
- This abrupt change after 2016 seems contrived.

2009 PCI 49.6

2015 PCI 49.6

2016 PCI 49.6
• Venture Park employees and deliveries will come chiefly from out of town and elsewhere in Lawrence.
• VBP fronts on 23rd St, a divided 4-lane principal arterial.
• Franklin Rd. at 23rd. “a key component” of original plan.
Use the New Capacity on 23rd St.

• Since the K-10 SLT opened, KDOT traffic counts on 23rd are down by 4310 at Iowa, and 5040 at Mass.
Use the New Capacity on 23rd St.

Since the K-10 SLT opened, KDOT traffic counts on 23rd St. are down by 8820 at O’Connell Rd.
Options to a 19th St. Complete Rebuild

- Waterlines are routinely upgraded without rebuilding streets.
- A 6 foot sidewalk and 10 foot shared use path would be welcomed.
- There is a historical M.O.U. to retain drainage ditches as higher performing than storm sewers.
- Traffic calming reduces speeds but NOT numbers.

- We propose a gate at O’Connell, operable by emergency and transit vehicles only.
Solution To Address All Aspects

• Mill and overlay 19th St. at 22 foot wide pavement.
• Remove and repair sub-grade in the few needed spots.
• Install new waterline, sidewalk, shared use path.
• Install barrier gate at O’Connell, opened by transponders on emergency and transit vehicles.
• Install $1 million roundabout at 23rd and Franklin Rd.
• Save $1 million overall.
Traffic Calming?

If you need a sign to tell people to slow down...

...you designed your street wrong.
Citizen Opposition to 47 Foot Wide 19th St. to O’Connell

Brook Creek Neighborhood Association
Barker Neighborhood Association
Schwegler Neighborhood Association
University Place Neighborhood contingent of 30

Voted to oppose the project
Submitted formal opposition in Capital Improvement Plan
Voiced opposition to City Commission
Submitted T2040 Plan amendments