



BikeWalkKC Policy Platform

City of Kansas City, Missouri

2019 Mayoral and
City Council Elections





Redefining our streets as places for people to build a culture of active living

We envision a region where walking, biking, and transit support community goals to improve equity, quality of life, mobility, jobs access, housing, economic development, sustainability, and climate protection.

BikeWalkKC is a member-supported 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that works to make Greater Kansas City a safer and more accessible place to walk, bicycle, live, work, and play.

Notice of non-endorsement and no political contributions

BikeWalkKC is a Missouri nonprofit corporation and has been designated by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501c3 Exempt Organization. As such, we are prohibited from endorsing or opposing candidates for elected office, and from contributing to candidate campaign committees. All information provided relating to the 2019 Mayor and City Council election is for the sole purpose of voter education. Non endorsement of or opposition to any candidate is implied. Voters are encouraged to research the issues relevant to them and make their own decisions about how they vote.



Importance to Kansas City

We believe that walkability is a simple solution to complex challenges. Prioritizing the pedestrian experience allows a community to leverage the full value of our public streets and spaces. Here we explain why this is such a vital and effective strategy for communities to help achieve broader goals.

Equity

Eliminate health and safety disparities for people of color and low-income through equitable improvements in the built environment.

Public Health

Improve health for all by increasing physical activity, eliminating food deserts, and decreasing social isolation.

Environment

Mitigate the acute effects of global climate change and improve air quality.

Traffic Safety

Eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries on the region's streets by 2030.

Economic Vitality

Make our cities more fiscally sound while building a community that is attractive and affordable.

Access and Mobility

Create access to opportunity by connecting people and places.

Neighborhood Resilience

Enhance quality of life without displacement and improve public safety.



Since the last election City Hall has made significant progress in enacting and implementing new public policy and new urban planning to advance goals for transportation, mobility, quality of life, equity, housing, economic development, health, and neighborhood vitality. That work must continue.

Update the 2003 Walkability Plan

The walkability plan is more than a decade old and in serious need of a comprehensive update. Much of it has yet to be implemented, or even started. The City must also create a clear prioritization of walkability improvements to guide future investments.

Create a Vision Zero Policy

No traffic fatality should be acceptable. People who walk and bike are disproportionately impacted, especially in lower income and minority communities. Vision Zero uses the lessons from public health and epidemiology to create a strategic, systems-focused approach to the safety of our streets.

Implement the Transit Oriented Development policy

KC has a good policy to make neighborhoods more accessible and connected while reducing the reliance on cars. Now we need to put the plan into action.



Implement the new Bike Master Plan

The new bike plan is an ambitious yet practical vision to connect all parts of the city. To be successful, it needs a jump-start of investment for the first Five Year plan, and sustained investment over the next 20 years.

Deliver projects faster and more efficiently

Residents are frustrated by the pace of change. Even when a project is funded the city struggles to deliver it on time and on budget. Internal project management and delivery barriers must be fixed.

Provide staff capacity and capability

Implementing these policies and projects requires qualified staff in the planning, engineering, and communications professions. And staff needs the authority to make decisions across City Hall silos.

Create a Mobility Strategic Plan

The city needs a comprehensive strategic plan that sets city-wide goals and tactics to achieve its goals. This should include the intersections of transportation, health, equity, economic development, sustainability, housing, and other important city-wide issues.

Michael Kelley, Policy Coordinator, Michael.kelley@bikewalkkc.org

www.bikewalkkc.org

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