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October 3, 2019

Mayor Don Stielow and
North Kansas City Council
2010 Howell Street
North Kansas City, MO 64116

Dear Mayor Stielow and Members of the City Council:

Bridging the Gap, a non-profit established in 1992, is writing this letter to add our voice to the chorus of supporters for the new changes to Armour Road, which will provide so many benefits to North Kansas Citians. **We believe that multimodal “complete streets” will ensure a bright future for North Kansas City, because:**

- **Multimodal complete streets stimulate city economies AND improve citizens’ health, by encouraging people to spend time walking or riding on the street.** From Paris and New York to Atlanta, and Columbia, MO to Greensburg, KS, complete streets have been shown to attract many more people outdoors. These streets represent the new standard of excellence for city life, reducing traffic and stress levels, building community, improving air quality, and beautifying the city for residents, workers and shoppers. We want these same opportunities to enhance the well-known appeal of North Kansas City, and this is our best chance!
- **The changes on Armour Road align with the stated vision for North Kansas City;** in the city’s 2017 plan for Armour Road, leaders endorsed an Open Space and Trails Types framework, which “provides guiding principles for sustainable open spaces and pedestrian and bicycle paths.” This is consistent with the most forward-looking plans of other municipalities in the region, and we congratulate North Kansas City leadership for this vision—please follow through on it!
- **Supporting greater biking and walking through this project will help to lower the city’s carbon footprint,** which is emerging as a powerful concern for citizens in North Kansas City and throughout the country and world.

For these reasons, Bridging the Gap strongly supports efforts to preserve the new configuration on Armour Road. Please let me know if we can be of service in helping to make this happen.

Sincerely,

Kristin Riott
Executive Director
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