

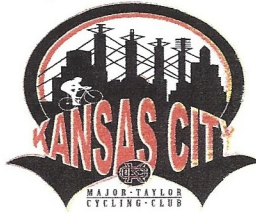
Major Taylor Cycling Club of Kansas City

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January 26, 2021

Mayor Quinton Lucas and
Members of the KCMO City Council
414 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106

Dear Mayor Lucas and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of the Major Taylor Cycling Club, I have drafted the following letter to express our group's **support** for the measure to decriminalize walking and biking on city streets. As our city works to protect Black and Brown users in public spaces, legislation like this is a necessary step.

Simply put, **we support this measure because it protects people who look like us.** Our group is one of a small number of groups in Kansas City working to support biking opportunities for riders of color. In the course of riding, we frequently encounter situations where our wheels get dirty or our bikes are not in pristine condition. We don't deserve to be punished for such pointless and vague violations which do nothing to protect us.

The name of our group comes from Major Taylor, a Black cyclist who rose above adversity and racial injustice to achieve competitive success and serve as a role model for athletes of color long after his death in 1932. We honor that legacy by riding and serving as role models for the next generation of riders and fighting for our space in public space. Advancing justice in any way we can is part of that work, and that includes with measures like this.

In conclusion, **we strongly urge each of you to vote in favor of this measure.** Black and Brown people deserve to move through our streets without the threat of police violence, and this legislation is an important step in that direction.

Warm Regards

Mitchell Williams
President
Major Taylor Cycling Club of Kansas City