

February 4, 2021

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

Dear Mayor Lucas and Members of the City Council:

Riff Raff – a biking group of slow to moderate bicyclists in and around Prairie Village, Kansas City, and surrounding cities who weekly ride on Kansas City streets -- wishes to submit the following letter in support of the proposed legislation to decriminalize walking and biking in Kansas City.

We support this measure as a step to limit the over-policing of Black and Brown people in Kansas City. The measures targeted in this legislation, including jaywalking, dirty tires, and bike inspection, do nothing to actually make our streets safer for people who walk or bike. It doesn't make sense for us to allow these measures to remain in place, especially if there is no evidence they protect the people who fall under their scope.

Most of the members of Riff Raff are overwhelmingly retirees and overwhelmingly white. We have never been stopped because our bikes are dirty or they may appear to be unsafe. We would be outraged if that ever happened. We want to live in a world where everyone is treated equally. We support this measure to decriminalize walking and biking in Kansas City because we want all bicyclists, regardless of age or ethnic background, to be treated the same

In conclusion, Riff Raff strongly supports the adoption of this measure and asks the City Council to do the same.

Thank you,

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I have attached to this letter a picture of members of Riff Raff with Mayor Lucas on Saturday, December 5, 2020.