

4.1.21

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:

Hoxie Collective 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.

Decriminalizing walking and biking is essential to the work we do at Hoxie Collective. Our work is centered on making civic systems and public space more accessible to residents. Walking and biking are essential forms of transportation and should not be criminalized.

Part of the issue we have with these laws is that the data is inaccessible in Kansas City. Transparent data needs to be made accessible including details on location where tickets were given and the race and ethnicity of people who received the tickets. Without access to data here, we can look at other cities that have reported their jaywalking ticket data. It has been found that jaywalking tickets are rarely written and when they are, they are disproportionately given to people of color. It was reported in 2020 that 89.5% of Jaywalking citations in New York (from January to September of 2019) were given to Black and Hispanic people. Similar reporting in Sacramento showed that, in an area where Black people make up only 15% of the population, nearly 50% of jaywalking tickets were issued to Black people.

Unnecessary barriers for people trying to access active transportation places a burden on residents by leaving them vulnerable to harassment for infractions that don't pose a threat to the safety of our neighborhoods.

**In conclusion, Hoxie Collective supports the adoption of this Ordinance #210200, particularly the full repeal of Sec. 70-783, and asks the City Council to do the same.**

Thank you,



Christina Hoxie, AICP  
Founder & Community Planner  
Hoxie Collective LLC



Regan Tokos  
Community Planner  
Hoxie Collective LLC