



Dear Members of Cleveland City Council,

Since the introduction of Ordinance 370-2022, Bike Cleveland has been rallying public support for the Complete & Green Streets legislation. So far over **140 advocates** signed letters of support highlighting the many benefits of complete & green streets. Below are the messages and signatures from our advocates:

Subject: Clevelanders Need Complete Streets

Across the whole City of Cleveland, a quarter of residents do not have access to a vehicle. In some neighborhoods—particularly Central and Hough—those rates climb to over 60%. Tens of thousands of our neighbors rely on their feet, their bike, or the bus to get them from place to place, yet our streets are often designed for cars alone.

Imagine a roadway that considers pedestrians, people in wheelchairs, bicyclists, and transit rides alike, making the street safer for everyone. This is what Clevelanders deserve.

Complete & Green Streets holds the city accountable to designing roads for all Clevelanders and creates transparency in the road design process. I ask you to vote YES on the Complete & Green Streets ordinance – we need your leadership and vision to bring us into a new era that is not dependent on cars alone.

Subject: Complete Streets are Safer Streets

In 2021, 73 people lost their lives in traffic crashes. In 2022, we are on track to reach the same number. An average of 292 people are seriously injured in traffic crashes across the city. This is by design, and Cleveland has an opportunity to change it.

The Complete & Green Streets ordinance would address traffic violence by setting a standard for how our streets are designed and identify best practices for safe streets. It would open up the decision making process to stakeholders like the RTA, NOACA, and others to ensure that the city considers all modes of transportation - not just cars. It would also make the processes more transparent so residents can understand why their streets are designed the way that they are.

Cleveland City Council has an incredible opportunity to address the traffic violence that is killing our neighbors. You have already committed to the Vision Zero initiative, and this is a critical component of eliminating traffic deaths in Cleveland.

I urge you to vote YES on the Complete & Green streets for the safety of our loved ones and our neighbors.

Subject: Complete Streets are Great for Cleveland businesses

The American Public Transit Association found that people living in Cleveland save an average of \$9,576 annually by switching from driving to taking transit. Savings are even greater for those who can use a bike for transportation. In addition to Clevelanders having more expendable



income, Complete Streets make retail districts more accessible and create more beautiful roads with green infrastructure components and less concrete, encouraging private investment.

Better bicycle infrastructure can create jobs directly, too. Cycling adds over \$556 million and 3,400 jobs to Wisconsin's economy through increased tourism, bicycle manufacturing, sales and repair, bike tours, and other activities. Locally, Towpath trail-users bring \$6.9 million to the region annually.

It should be easy for someone without a car to easily get to our local businesses. Complete Streets would make it safer for people to get out of their cars and explore their city. Vote YES to show constituents that you understand the importance of bike and pedestrian infrastructure to the livability and economic prosperity of Cleveland.

Subject: Cleveland's Children Need Complete streets

Almost a third of Cleveland Metropolitan School District students walk or bike to school. That's about 11,200 children using our pedestrian and bike facilities every school day. Complete Streets provide children with opportunities to walk, bike, and play in a safe environment. More children are likely to walk or bike to school when sidewalks are present, when there are safe street crossings, and when school zones enforce a reduced vehicle speed.

Complete Streets would formalize a street design process that takes into account just that: the safety of our most vulnerable road users. Our children need safer streets and you have the power to fulfill that need. Vote YES on the Complete & Green Streets ordinance and set the bar higher for Cleveland students.

Subject: Complete Streets addresses racism as a public health crisis

Thank you for passing a resolution that declares racism a public health crisis and recognizing the ways it seeps into all of our systems. The design of our city is no exception.

The Complete & Green Streets ordinance would address the city-wide disparities of vehicle owners, traffic fatalities or injuries, and health. When you look at a map showing the number of Clevelanders without a car and traffic crash rates across the city, you will see that neighborhoods with high rates of poverty are hit the hardest. In the United States, pedestrian fatalities are almost 75% higher among Black Americans than white. Despite representing only 12 percent of the U.S. population, Black Americans account for 20 percent of the pedestrian deaths. Across the country, access to safe transportation is an equity issue.

Improving our infrastructure can benefit the health of Clevelanders in many ways: it will reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities; it will improve mobility for people who need to get to their work, doctors appointments, or school; and it will offer active mobility options to encourage physical activity.



Streets that are designed just for cars do not lend themselves to more physical modes of transportation like biking and walking. One study found that 43% of people with safe places to walk within 10 minutes of home met recommended activity levels. Only 27% of people without safe places to walk met the recommendation. Building our environment to encourage active living is a strategy to improve health inequities in Cleveland

The time is now. Vote YES on the Complete & Green Streets ordinance as a strategy towards addressing systemic racism in Cleveland.

Subject: Lake Erie needs Complete & Green Streets

Lake Erie, our greatest natural resource, must be protected. The Complete & Green Street ordinance is one strategy for Cleveland to start addressing the impacts of climate change and create a more resilient city.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, created by the United Nations, recognizes the shift from cars to bikes and transit as a key mitigation strategy. Walking and biking are modes of transportation with zero emissions; riding and walking can improve air quality and decrease fuel usage. The Complete and Green Streets legislation will make it easier for Clevelanders to choose environmentally-friendly transportation methods.

The aspects of this legislation that encourages green infrastructure will improve tree coverage, thereby improving air quality and keeping the streets cooler. Stormwater mitigation measures will make our streets more resilient to flooding and can save the city money in the long run.

The future of our city depends on our choices today. I urge you to vote YES on this legislation and continue to protect the environment around us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jordan Abbott
Dr. Robert Abouassaly
Ms. Andriana Akrap
Mr. Leonardo Alves
Christopher Balser
Ms. Michelle Bandy-Zalatoris
David Beach
Dr. William Beasley
Jonathan Bobel
Dr. Emma Bratton
Elaine Breiner
Ms. Tracy Brubaker

Mr. Richard Bulan
Julie Callsen
Ms. Arykah Carter
Mr. Tom Cavan
Ms. Lucinda Cave
Mr. Steven Cayford
Davide Cerri
Ms. Jennifer Chandler
Ms. Barbara Chonko
Mr. Ryan Clapp
Ms. Barbara Clint
Arthur Cobb



Michele Cold
Ms. Anneliese Coleman
Mr. Drew Crawford
Mr. Kevin Cronin
Steven Cuccia
Mrs. Elizabeth Cusma
Olga Davis
Mr. Richard DeJesus
Mr. Daniel Dieterich
Dr. Peggy Doheny
Mr. Joseph Duffy
Megan Factor
Ms. Christine Fergus
Dr. Murray Fishel
Mr. Morgan Fox
Mr. Timothy Furey
Mr. Raymond Gajkowski
Mrs. Kathryn Garvey
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Mr. Terrence Metter
Julia Mettler-Grove
Ethan Miller
Geoff Miller
Mr. Scott Mondak
Mr. Daniel Moore
Gina Moore
Mr. Roy Moore
Dr. Sveta Morozova
Dr. Kevin Mueller
Mr. Thomas Mulready
Ms. Laurie Myers
James Naccarato
Ms. Paula Norris
Mary Oneill
Mrs. Emily Pence
Mr. David Petro
Ms. Mary Petrus
Mr. Trevor Pollack
Bobbi Reichtell
Ms. Jordan Reif
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Jackie Robbins
Anne Root
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John Sailor
Ms. Sara Schimelpfenig
Carol Schiro
Luke Schwan
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Mr. John Sesek
Mrs. Kathleen Sessions
Ms. Debra Shankland
Ms. Anna Shelow
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Ms. Marika Shioiri-Clark
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Mr. Jack Wesley