

RE: Senate Resolution 1805

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee,

Please accept my testimony in support of SR 1805. In the Wichita area where I live, it is becoming ever more important that all modes of transportation are available to users. For many years, bicycling has been one of the options that I have used for travel to and from work as well as leisure activities. I have also made use of public transportation.

I firmly believe that connectivity is critical to overall neighborhood health and sustainability. As a City Council member in the Wichita suburb where I live, and as a citizen of Sedgwick County and Kansas, we must continue to making roads and streets more accessible for all modes of transportation.

Livable streets - sometimes referred to as complete streets - are roadways designed to allow for safe and convenient travel by all users, including motor vehicles, pedestrians (including those with disabilities), transit vehicles and bicyclists both along and across the corridor. Livable streets encourage active living, promote good health, provide economic benefits, make neighborhoods healthier and provide safer streets. Livable streets provide safe and convenient travel for persons of all ages and abilities, including children and the elderly.

Since safe and livable bicycle, pedestrian and transit systems are important to the economy and economic development of Kansas, we would encourage the Kansas Senate to declare support for livable streets policies and urge their adoption at the local, metropolitan, regional, state and national levels. If you will pass this resolution, it will provide incentives for my fellow public officials to adopt livable street policies locally.

Thank you,

Mike Reichenberger
City Council member
Andale, Kansas