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January 27, 2012

Senator Dwayne Umbarger, Chairman, Senate Transportation Committee
Senator Bob Marshall
Senator Kelly Kultala
Senator Les Donovan
Senator Anthony Hensley
Senator Terrie Huntington
Senator Mike Petersen
Senator Roger Reitz
Senator Vicki Schmidt

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation:

The Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) supports Senate Resolution 1805 for livable streets policies (sometimes referred to as complete streets). As the association of city and county governments and metropolitan planning organization serving the bistate Kansas City metropolitan area, MARC works with local government officials, state departments of transportation, and transit providers on regional transportation plans that guide the allocation of federal, state, and local transportation dollars. These regional plans also help to manage traffic congestion; improve the transit system; increase bicycle and pedestrian travel options; meet the transportation needs of elderly, disabled and disadvantaged residents; and promote transportation safety. The proposed state resolution shares the common goal of creating and maintaining a safe, multimodal, equitable transportation system.

We further recognize that the Senate resolution is consistent with the goals and objectives of *Transportation Outlook 2040*, the long-range transportation plan for the greater Kansas City metropolitan area. The Senate resolution supports livable streets policies and encourages their adoption at all levels of government, which will work toward the Kansas City region's long-range goals. MARC is also working on adopting a complete streets policy to guide its planning and programming work and encourages local governments to adopt and implement livable or complete streets policies. As of January 26, 2012, two counties and two cities on the Kansas side of our region have adopted livable streets resolutions, and additional Kansas communities in the MARC region are working to develop similar policies.

Livable streets can help support economic vitality, accessibility, safety, and public health in the state and our regional and local communities. We encourage the Senate Committee on Transportation to support SR 1805.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Warm", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David A. Warm
Executive Director

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