

Homan, Kim

From: Walton, Mariah
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 7:53 AM
To: Homan, Kim
Subject: FW: 9 Mile Road

Mariah Walton

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From: Jenn LoVasco <jmlovasco@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 4, 2024 6:54 PM
To: Walton, Mariah <mw Walton@eastpointecity.org>
Subject: 9 Mile Road

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City Council,

I wanted to reach out to you today as both a concerned resident and a hopeful citizen regarding the proposed road diet for 9 Mile. I'm writing this letter for the public hearing, and I really appreciate you taking the time to consider my support.

As someone who loves walking and often strolls down 9 Mile with my kids, I've personally experienced the dangers posed by the current road setup. The traffic conditions can be really dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists, including my family. As parents, our main concern is creating a future where our streets don't threaten our children's safety. It's on all of us to build a community where safety and accessibility are more than just ideals - they're actual realities.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has conducted several studies that show how road diets have positive impacts on communities like ours. According to their research, road diets can reduce overall crashes by 19 to 47 percent (Source: [FHWA Road Diets Informational Guide](https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/road_diets/guidance/info_guide/ch1.cfm?fbclid=IwAR0h9vivjn0c1lGYnj176HlIK-CWCmahV7xCw5Tnfl6DSU5QaW2F6CwKQa8)). By repurposing road space to include bike lanes, wider sidewalks, and safer crossing opportunities, we're promoting a culture of shared road usage that prioritizes the well-being of everyone in our city.

The decision you're facing is more than just a change in traffic patterns; it's a vote for public health, environmental sustainability, and an improved quality of life. A road diet aligns with forward-thinking planning, a reimagination of public spaces that benefit residents and visitors alike by increasing safety, community connection, and even potential economic benefits for local businesses.

I urge the council to see the proposed road diet as an opportunity rather than a limitation—a chance to set a precedent for progressive and proactive city planning. By voting to adopt the road diet on 9 Mile, you're affirming your commitment to protecting residents and solidifying our reputation as a "family town" that prioritizes the safety and quality of life of its citizens.

I genuinely hope that my daughters grow up in a city where safety is a given, not just a privilege—an environment where they can walk, cycle, and play without the constant fear of road accidents. Let's embrace this chance to create an inclusive and safe urban space for current and future generations.

With all the data and real-life benefits supporting the road diet, I implore you to stand on the right side of change. By voting for the road diet, you're not only investing in the physical infrastructure of our streets but also endorsing a vision for a safer, friendlier, and more sustainable community.

Thank you for considering this and for your ongoing efforts to improve our city. The decisions you make have a direct impact on the daily lives of every resident and visitor. I trust and look forward to your positive response regarding the 9 Mile road diet proposal.

Respectfully,

Jennifer LoVasco
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