



Sustainability Action Network

Local Solutions for Transition to a Sustainable Economy

P.O. Box 1064, Lawrence KS 66044
a Kansas 501(C)(3) not-for-profit

Mayor Michael Dever
Lawrence City Hall
6 East 6th St.
Lawrence KS 66044

15 October 2013

Mayor Dever & Commission:

Sustainability Action is in support of installing a 10 foot wide multi-use track on the north side of the 6th & Iowa Overpass Reconstruction. We had suggested this to the previous City Engineer in 2012, and we also included it in our suggested revisions of the Transportation 2040 Plan.

Currently, the 6th & Iowa Overpass Reconstruction plan calls for only a 6 foot wide sidewalk on the north side. But U.S. 59/McDonald Drive is one of the major impediments for bicyclists and pedestrians moving east and west in a high-use corridor. At the very minimum, Lawrence should be budgeting 10-15% of our transportation construction funding for bicycle transportation. To increase the 6 foot sidewalk to a 10 foot multi-use track will be the most cost effective way to accommodate bicyclists here, rather than needing to do a more expensive retrofit sometime later.

We do not know if our suggestion for T-2040 made it into the final document, so here is what we had submitted:

“The 2012-2040 Recommended Bicycle and Pedestrian System Improvement Projects (bikeway plans, bike routes, bike lanes, shared use paths, sidewalks, other bicycle-pedestrian facility and system improvement projects) shall include the following additional projects:

- Full 10ft wide shared use path included in the 6th & Iowa Overpass Reconstruction with Auto Turn Lane. OR:
- Bicycle-pedestrian bridge over Iowa St. (U.S. 59) connecting 7th St. with Centennial Park.”

This is an ideal opportunity to accomplish a long awaited objective. Please adjust the budget for this project to include a 10 foot wide multi-use track on the north side of the overpass.

Sincerely,

Michael Almon