



201601286

**David S. Mann**  
*Vice Mayor/Councilmember*

## MOTION

We move that the city administration be directed to review and, unless not feasible, implement the attached recommendations of the Northside Community Council to improve pedestrian and bicycling safety in Northside particularly along Hamilton Avenue. Items deemed not feasible should be the subject of a report.

We further move that the city administration identify other long term initiatives that will make Northside safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

Vice Mayor David Mann

Councilmember Wendell Young

Councilmember Yvette Simpson

## **STATEMENT**

Northside has long sought city support to make Hamilton Avenue and other residential streets safer for walkers and cyclists. Recently a beloved Northside businesswoman was killed by a car as she crossed Hamilton Avenue. Serious injuries to pedestrians are frequent.

We must make Northside safer and engage in a positive fashion with this initiative of the Northside Community Council.



## Northside Community Council

September 19, 2016

*For the attention of:*  
Mr. Harry Black

Cincinnati, OH 45202

Mr Black:

We of the Northside Community Council would like to thank you for your Office's condolences following the death of Sarah Cole, and for your offer to help find solutions to address pedestrian safety in Northside. Our community has a long history of promoting the very pedestrian and walkable built environment that is a central part of our Northside neighborhood. Sadly, recent accidents involving pedestrians and bicyclists have reinforced our long-term calls for traffic calming and pedestrian safety measures to be implemented.

Immediately, in the interests of pedestrian safety, we would like the City of Cincinnati to consider implementation of the following short-term measures designed to help bring Northside into compliance with Plan Cincinnati's "Live" component, encouraging a more robust, walkable, safe, and clean Northside community:

1. **Enforcement of Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Laws:** We would like to see existing traffic laws enforced at minimum of 6 hours per 2 weeks.. We observe that the majority of Hamilton Avenue's and Northside's traffic is going faster than the posted 25mph speed limits. We see frequent disregard for pedestrian right-of-way at crosswalks. Enforcement of these laws would help improve pedestrian safety.
2. **Improved Signage:** Drivers need to be reminded of the reduced speeds in our business district.
  - a. We would like to see street signage emphasize "Reduced Speed Ahead" as the speed drops from 35 to 25mph in gateway arteries into Northside.
  - b. We would like to understand the feasibility of rumble strips to accompany the speed reduction signage as drivers enter the business district.
  - c. We would like to install radar speed signs on both sides of Hamilton Avenue going north and south. In addition to slowing traffic, these signs now collect traffic flow data that can be used to improve enforcement and decision-making.
  - d. We would like to install in-road "Stop for Pedestrians" signage at major crosswalks.



3. **Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety Study:** Northside has placed emphasis on walkability in our neighborhood planning efforts. It is our impression that planning and design of Hamilton Avenue has been auto-oriented, with a focus of moving cars as efficiently as possible. In the past we have requested a traffic calming study for Hamilton Avenue. Recognizing now that this frames the issue around vehicular travel, we would request the City conducts a study of *ways to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety and connectivity in Northside*. As part of this study, we ask that the Department of Transportation and Engineering's evaluation to include the safety impacts and traffic implications of:
- a. Aligning Northside's evening rush hour parking restrictions (3-6PM) with those of our neighboring communities of Clifton and College Hill (4-6PM), and/or the implications of eliminating these restrictions altogether.
  - b. The use of left turn only lanes to improve the predictability of traffic during rush hour.
  - c. METRO's transit hub, which will break ground in 2017, and will reroute bus traffic through Northside

As part of Northside's Community Budget Request process that will be voted on publicly at the September 19, 2016 Northside Community Council General Meeting, one of the most mentioned priorities for the community is pedestrian safety. The Northside Community Council looks forward to a continued long-term dialogue and strategy with the City regarding our traffic and pedestrian infrastructure.

James Heller-Jackson  
Communications Director, Northside Community Council

Sue Wilke  
Vice President, Northside Community Council