

CITY OF JERSEY CITY OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY HALL | 280 GROVE STREET | JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302 P: 201 547 5500 | F: 201 547 5442

October 3, 2022

Dear County Executive DeGise,

I'm writing to formally communicate my support for a protected multi-use cycle path on Manhattan Avenue between Palisade Avenue and 19th Street and on the 14th Street Viaduct.

These roads are highly traveled by residents of three cities—Union City, Jersey City, and Hoboken—not just in cars, but walking, running, biking, on scooters and skateboards; also referred to as active transport. Per the DMV's website, <u>32.2% of Hudson County</u> households do not have a car. All persons traveling on our county roads deserve to do so *safely*.

In light of the adoption of the resolution to apply for the Safe Streets For All (SS4A) grant, this protected path would be an incredible first step toward ensuring safe and equitable travel options for all.

There are many other reasons to create protected lanes for those choosing micromodal travel:

- Cycle/micro-mobility infrastructure increases business revenue.
- Studies show investments in protected cycling/micro-mobility infrastructure yields usage increases of 50%-75% in two years after installation. As the cost of gasoline continues to rise, the return on this investment will be invaluable to some of our most vulnerable citizens.
- The leading cause of death in Hudson County is heart disease. A 2016 study found that people who bike regularly had about 15 percent fewer heart attacks than those who did not ride a bicycle. Bicycle commuters are less likely to have the sort of conditions related to heart disease, including high cholesterol, high blood pressure, and pre-diabetes, compared with those who don't commute by bicycle.
- Reducing trips taken by personal vehicles can help <u>reduce the emissions</u> of greenhouse gasses that degrade our environment and endanger our health.

A protected path would make active transportation safer, reduce social inequalities, and improve public health, the environment, and the quality of life in Hudson County.

Sincerely,

Steven M. Fulop

Mayor, City of Jersey City