

## Bobbie Walthall

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**From:** Jeff Long <jeffreylong@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 4, 2018 10:03 PM  
**To:** Bobbie Walthall  
**Subject:** City leaders approve bike boulevards, other bicycle and pedestrian projects

Hello,

Can you please distribute the note below to the City Commission. Thanks!

Jeff Long

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<<http://m.ljworld.com/news/2018/may/17/city-leaders-approve-bike-boulevards-other-bicycl/?templates=mobile>>

Hi,

I'm disappointed for multiple reasons in this decision to try and turn 21st Street into a bike boulevard:

1) I ride a bicycle. I bicycle on 21st Street east of Alabama. Never have I felt like I needed any additional protection on 21st Street.

2) The city does not maintain their current bicycle lanes. Please check out the striping on east 15th Street east of Haskell. Perhaps the money should be spent maintaining what we already have.

3) On June 5 you are voting to approve Ordinance 9474 designating 21st Street as a "major or main trafficway". Under K.S.A. 12-685 this means 21st Street's primary function "shall be the movement of through traffic between areas of concentrated activity within the City" yet according to <http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2018/apr/26/transportation-commission-recommends-converting-tw/> you only turn streets with low traffic volume into bicycle boulevards.

In that same article the Transportation Commission Chair also states ""Unless you live on that street, you're probably not going to drive down it" probably due to the 25 mph speed limit on it. So which is it?

Is 21st street a major trafficway for moving traffic or is it a low volume street that we want to discourage use of? Where are the traffic counts? Were any done? Are there any criteria regarding what is low volume versus major trafficway?

4) Why would your endpoints be Iowa and Massachusetts? Both are not bicycle friendly.

5) I for one would prefer spending money such as this on repairing the roads we already have. How many roads do we have like 19th Street that have a pavement condition index under 50 for multiple years? Naismith between 19th and 23rd is in poor condition. Wakarusa north of 23rd is bad. Lawrence between 27th and 31st is bad. I know some of these projects are planned for the future but I think money spent on projects such as these would be better used to repair these roads sooner. Plus you would be increasing the safety of every bicycle rider that already uses those streets.

6) Why were higher priority bike projects not selected?

Jeff Long

