From: Ben Sandee

To: <u>Transportation Commission</u>

Cc: <u>Martin, Arvina</u>

Subject: In support of Transportation Commission item #7, Vision Zero 2021 with a focus on Whitney Way improvements

Date: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 10:20:34 AM

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Hello and thank you for your careful consideration of the safety improvements to Whitney Way.

I live on South Hill Dr, two blocks from Whitney Way. Many of my routine trips by bicycle would naturally route along Whitney Way, if I felt that it was a comfortable and safe road on which to bicycle. For example, my trips to Westgate Mall, our CSA pickup on Oakwood Dr, to the farmer's market at University Ave/Whitney Way all involve significant "back-road hijinx routing" in order to avoid Whitney Way as it stands today. For this reason I strongly support the reconfiguration of Whitney Way to include dedicated bike lanes along with maximum speeds and a single lane of travel for cars. In particular, I think that the speed limit reductions need to be done in concert with lane reductions, because otherwise the road will continue to be a raceway where the speed limit is largely ignored.

Along with cycling, my daily routines involve walks across Whitney Way @ South Hill to reach Garner Park and other locations. This crossing is treacherous and I believe that any improvements that can be made will be much appreciated by both drivers and pedestrians alike. No driver wants to hit a pedestrian who is trying to cross the street to get to the neighborhood park.

Finally, I read through the entire list of Vision Zero 2021 proposals and I can't find a single one that does not seem like an important improvement. I'm not familiar with every location in the list but I have confidence in the people making these assessments, based on my previous interactions and past performance.

Thank you again,

Ben Sandee 5126 South Hill Dr