



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF ST. LOUIS
MISSOURI**

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May 22, 2017

Mr. Ralph Pfremer
Chief Executive Officer
Trailnet
411 N. 10th Street, Suite 202
St. Louis, MO 63101

Dear Ralph,

As Mayor, I am pleased to express the City's support for Trailnet's vision to connect the St. Louis region with a network of on-street protected bikeways and high-quality sidewalks. The City salutes Trailnet for being a bold leader in facilitating walking and bicycling for active transportation in St. Louis for 29 years and having the technical expertise to make this vision a reality. Trailnet and the City have an excellent relationship and a strong history of working together to enact change.

An equitable multimodal mobility strategy with safe transportation options for all of our residents has the power to strengthen our economy, improve health indicators, bridge racial divides, and create vital access to jobs and services. Trailnet's use of our on-street right-of-way as an asset makes re-envisioning our transportation system achievable in the near term with lasting impact.

Our ability to attract and retain diverse, talented people is dependent upon St. Louis having streets that put people first. Protected bikeways and high-quality sidewalks are mainstream in other cities. The time is now for St. Louis. Momentum for building connectivity is strong in our city from projects including the Midtown Loop, the Chouteau Greenway, and Project Connect with the NGA. Trailnet's vision synthesizes more than 40 plans to leverage this progress and assure connections north, south, east, and west.

Trailnet is modeling their vision on the Indianapolis Cultural Trail. Economic impact studies show that from 2008 to 2014 property assessments within 500 feet of the Cultural Trail increased 148%, adding \$1 billion to the tax rolls. St. Louis is poised for similar growth.

Trailnet has the full cooperation of the City and I endorse the participation of numerous City departments in contributing their expertise to the Master Planning process. I invite our corporate and civic leaders to join the City in making Trailnet's vision a reality.

Sincerely,

Lyda Krewson
Mayor, City of St. Louis

