



## DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES®

guiding effective decisions in  
real estate, community, and economic development

October 5, 2017

Mr. Ralph Pfremmer  
Chief Executive Officer  
Trailnet  
411 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 202  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Dear Ralph:

Representing the four principals and 15 other employees of Development Strategies, I am pleased to express support for Trailnet's vision to connect the St. Louis region with a safe network for walking and biking. For 29 years, Trailnet has acted as an innovative leader in promoting walking and cycling as modes of active transportation. Now, your current project seeks to take that way of life to a whole new level.

Transforming our streets with these bikeways and sidewalks contributes to the revitalization of our neighborhoods, communities, and cultural districts. Trailnet's vision supports streets that are appealing to small businesses, which in turn bolsters economic prosperity. We know that attracting, retaining, and creating local talent is no simple feat, and requires collaborative effort. We see promising potential in Trailnet's vision as part of regional goals to improve the St. Louis quality of life, and we are excited to help them turn that vision into a reality.

Trailnet's project is designed to be sustainable, laying the foundation for a better future for St. Louisans. Protected bikeways encourage healthier lifestyles by making walking and bicycling easy to incorporate into daily routines. Ensuring these paths are accessible to everyone also promotes a more equitable St. Louis. They not only physically connect different locations, but also strengthen a sense of community across the region, generating positive change.

This ambitious vision presents the opportunity for the people of St. Louis to reenergize their communities around common goals and aspirations. Now is the time to redefine the region by transforming its infrastructure. Trailnet is modeling its plan on the Indianapolis Cultural Trail – a project that resulted in profound economic benefits. Trailnet's vision is projected to share a similar outcome, and is undoubtedly worth investing in.

Development Strategies is committed to partnering with Trailnet to support its vision to connect and revitalize all of greater St. Louis.

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Robert M. Lewis, FAICP, CEcD  
*Principal*