

January 27, 2012

RE: Senate Resolution 1805

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee,

Healthy community design is essential to the health and economic well-being of all Kansas communities. Livable streets-sometimes referred to as Complete Streets-are an essential first step to the connectivity that is vital to community health. The principles of livable streets include roadway design that facilitates safe and convenient travel by all users including bicycle, pedestrian, public transit and motor vehicles. By increasing accessibility of all modes of transportation, livable streets increase the capacity for safe and convenient travel for individuals of all ages and abilities. Livable streets promote physical activity, encourage a sense of community, provide economic benefits, improve the environment and increase travel safety in communities.

Safe, convenient travel for all Kansans is essential to the State's economic vitality and health of its citizens. We encourage the Kansas Senate to declare support for livable streets policies and urge their adoption at the local, metropolitan, regional, state and national levels.

The Health & Wellness Coalition of Wichita is supports these efforts both at the state and local level.

Sincerely,

Mim McKenzie Health & Wellness Coalition