



Ben Kessler &lt;bkessler@bexley.org&gt;

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## Bike lanes on Drexel

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**Abigail Lowther** <abigail.lowther@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 1:41 PM

To: Ben Kessler &lt;mayor@bexley.org&gt;, jrobinson@bexley.org, jsaad@bexley.org, lfeibel@bexley.org, mklingler@bexley.org, mlampke@bexley.org, smarcellino@bexley.org, tmarkham@bexley.org

As a physician who treats many children and adults with obesity that results in large part from a lack of access to easy, safe opportunities for physical activity, and as a resident of the City of Bexley, I'm writing to support **Option B** of the City's efforts to improve Drexel Avenue. Option B would improve access and safety for all roadway users, including for people who walk and bike frequently along the corridor. Improving the corridor for people who walk and bike will also improve the safety for street users, including drivers.

Adding protected bike lanes would not only make Bexley a leader in bike infrastructure in central Ohio but would create a dramatic improvement in safety and comfort for adults and children riding bikes on Drexel Avenue.

Option A will continue the present condition of a wide street where cars will continue to go fast creating unsafe conditions. The median (Option A) would have unintended consequences of encouraging people to drive faster since the majority of the street will be large and open without parked cars, which often are not using the space. Option B will slow down traffic and create a safe condition for pedestrians and cyclists.

These lanes were recommended in the Bike Friendly Bexley Recommendations and there are many benefits for Bexley residents and the community at large.

Benefits include:

**Dramatically increasing safety for cyclists of all ages**

**Creating a direct north - south route connecting Bexley**

**Providing environmental benefits, reducing pollution and helping to reduce greenhouse gasses**

**Providing an equitable transportation option for residents and workers in Bexley**

**Economic benefits that come with the addition of bike lanes**

Implementing these world class protected bike lanes is good for the environment, good for adults, and perhaps most importantly good for the kids of Bexley. Creating separate, protected bike lanes on Drexel would allow children and families to more safely bike to school, for fun, to community events business and further Bexley's place as one of the most livable cities in central Ohio.

Thank you for your consideration,

Abby Lowther, MD