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Option B to improve Drexel Avenue

Mary <maryheckler@gmail.com>

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To: mayor@bexley.org, tmarkham@bexley.org, lfeibel@bexley.org, mklingler@bexley.org, mlampke@bexley.org, smarcellino@bexley.org, jrobinson@bexley.org, jsaad@bexley.org

Dear All,

As a resident of the City of Bexley, I am 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 which encourages faster driving, 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 benefits the environment, adults, and perhaps most importantly, the kids of Bexley. Creating separate, protected bike lanes on Drexel would allow children and families to more safely bike to school, bike for fun, bike to community events, bike to businesses, and further distinguish Bexley as one of the most livable cities in central Ohio.

Kind regards,

Mary Heckler