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John Robert Smith
& Emiko Atherton
Smart Growth America
National Complete Streets Coalition
1707 L St. NW, Suite 250
Washington DC 20036

Dec. 21, 2018

Re: Tennessee Complete Streets Consortium 6-month update from Knoxville
Regional TPO

Dear John Robert & Emiko,

The Knoxville Regional TPO, City of Knoxville, and Knox County continue to work toward the goals defined for our region through the technical assistance we received as part of the Complete Streets Consortium Series during 2017 and 2018.

This progress report summarizes actions taken by our team and others toward implementing complete streets since we sent our 1-month update in July 2018. Our primary guidance continues to be the recommendations included in the Next Steps Report. As with any process, circumstances arise along the way that can cause shifts in priorities or approach.

Our team from the Consortium Series met once more since the last update, and has agreed to continue meeting regularly going forward. The primary accomplishment of the meeting has been to keep the group updated on complete streets initiatives in general, and also on projects within the Broadway corridor, which was the focus of our workshop.

The coordination of the various projects along Broadway has been especially useful, in that it has increased awareness among staff of each project's scope and timeline. The City recently came to an agreement with TDOT about the amount of local match for funding related to the Accelerated Bus Corridor (ABC), which is expected to help advance work on that project. KAT, Engineering, and Parks & Recreation are all coordinating on their various projects within the corridor.

An additional significant change since our last update has been the opportunity for our region to form another team to receive technical assistance, this provided by America Walks and focused on pedestrian safety. This team, which includes several of the same members as the Complete Streets Consortium group, has received training on the [Road to Zero curriculum](#), and has discussed several projects for our region. The Road to Zero team will focus on increasing coordination among departments in the review of fatal and serious traffic crashes. This will further the goals of the Consortium team.

Here are additional updates on items from the Next Steps report:

- Regarding the recommendations for all regions (pp. 1-2 of the report), the Consortium team serves as the core team advancing this work. The TPO continues to provide educational opportunities through its [Active Knox Speaker Series](#), which included Seth LaJeunesse from the Highway Safety Research Center in October 2018. TPO also continues its effort to share information about traffic crashes involving people walking and bicycling, including recent presentations to its Technical Committee and Board, to Knoxville's Engineering staff and Council on Disability Issues, and to Knox County Engineering/Sheriff's Department staff.
- Regarding the recommendations specific to the Knoxville team, under the first goal, work continues on Tactics 1.1 and 1.2, with the continued meetings of the Consortium team, and the TPO updating and sharing its database of pedestrian/bicycle crashes. Wherever possible, the TPO shares crash information with an interdepartmental group, including staff from engineering and law enforcement, in order to increase opportunities for collaboration in addressing safety issues.
- Regarding the goal of institutionalizing Complete Streets, the ordinance to require sidewalks with all developments in the City was discussed at the recent City Council meeting, with a statement from the Mayor that it will be taken up after work is completed on Recode. Knoxville-Knox County Planning (formerly MPC) will begin implementing its requirement for sidewalks in all new subdivisions countywide in February 2019.
- Regarding Knoxville's second goal (increasing density and the quality of development & redevelopment), work continues on Recode Knoxville, with the expectation that it will be sent to City Council during the first

quarter of 2019. The City is receiving feedback from many quarters on this issue, including from neighborhoods that prefer not to see any change, and also from a coalition in support of more and different housing types throughout the City.

We continue to appreciate the feedback from Smart Growth America on this effort and look forward to working with you in 2019 and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellen Zavisca".

Ellen Zavisca
Principal Transportation Planner