

To: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission
From: Adam Jaskiewicz
Subject: New Street Layouts
Date: Tuesday, September 7, 2021

City Council and Transportation Commission,

I got a chance over the weekend to check out a few of the Healthy Streets installations around town. Over the past few weeks I've also seen some of the new downtown traffic patterns. I just wanted to write and express my support for them. I'm sad it took us so long to get Healthy Streets in place, but I'm looking forward to seeing what data we can gather from these installations.

I particularly like the South Main Street road diet from four to three lanes. I know it was a bit of a mess during move-in weekend but everything is always a mess during move-in weekend. I live off the stretch of West Stadium that had a similar road diet a few years ago, and it's been great in that area. It really seems to smooth the traffic out and make biking, driving, and walking less stressful. I know one thing I always hated when driving was getting stuck in a line of cars behind someone turning left, with people whizzing past me on the right. The dedicated turn lane solves that. And having bike lanes, even if they are just paint, is great.

I like the two-way switch on First and Ashley. I used to see plenty of wrong-way traffic turning on those streets, and the biggest complaint I've heard from visitors about driving in Ann Arbor is "all the one-way streets". I was so glad when the one-way loop around the old Borders went away, and I think this will be similar.

I also like the advisory bike lanes. I haven't seen all of them around town, but the ones I have are fine and they do slow people down on these quiet neighborhood streets which is great. I understand peoples' trepidation; they are a bit of a shock the first time you turn down one, but it's really no different from unpainted streets once you get past that.

Thanks,
Adam Jaskiewicz (he/him/his)