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December 13, 2021

Re: East Medical Center Drive Bridge Project

ATTN: Ann Arbor Transportation Commission

The Washtenaw Bicycling & Walking Coalition (WBWC) is writing to reiterate our comments of October 14, 2021 regarding the East Medical Center Drive (EMCD) Bridge Project. The plans presented at the Nov. 17 Transportation Commission meeting do not reflect our comments regarding the opportunities present. While we don't know what revisions staff will present at the upcoming meeting, WBWC supports a bridge design that helps walkers and bicyclists get to the hospital, travel between Central and North Campus, and access the Border-to-Border Trail. Our October statement shows how this can be done.

When the EMCD bridge was originally designed and constructed a generation ago, accommodations were made for a future shared use path underpass. As the bridge nears the end of its life, this planned improvement has *still* not been built. Additionally, this is the only chance for another generation to better accommodate a Campus-to-Campus Bikeway (which the University speaks to in its carbon neutrality plan) by widening the west sidewalk on the bridge. We now have an opportunity to make both of these improvements a reality. Let's meet the needs of walkers and bicyclists as well as drivers. Considering the expense of widening the bridge to increase vehicle flow, accommodating walking and biking needs is a small investment. As a recently recognized League of American Bicyclists *Gold-level* Bicycle Friendly Community, it is the least Ann Arbor can do.

Thank you for your service to the city.

Sincerely,  
WBWC Board of Directors