



August 8, 2017

TO: Kelley Yemen  
Director of Complete Streets  
Office of Transportation & Infrastructure Systems  
FROM: South of South Neighborhood Association (SOSNA)  
SUBJECT: Proposal for protected bike lanes on Lombard and South Streets

Dear Miss Yemen,

On behalf of the South of South Neighborhood Association's Board of Directors, staff, and community, we write to express our support for the pilot proposal for protected bike lanes on South Street from 21st Street to the South Street Bridge.

Following the initial informational session in July, we have received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from our community members in support of the pilot project. Many residents mentioned the improvement of biking infrastructure to promote health and safety for city residents. Others indicated that they use biking as a main method of transportation throughout the city and want to feel protected in our city streets. In addition, SOSNA has not received any negative feedback from our residents or local businesses.

In a city with tightly knit neighborhoods, we become directly linked to near and far neighbors when commuters travel through the city utilizing routes in our neighborhood including South Street. While improvements around the city, including to the South Street Bridge, have created more opportunities for bicycle commuters, the protected bike plane proposal can improve bicycle safety on South Street.

Our neighborhood serves as a gateway between West Philadelphia and the rest of the city. Given the number of commuters who pass through our neighborhood, we are eager to support the pilot project as it has the potential to enhance the safety of cyclists, pedestrians, and drivers. We look forward to working with oTIS, residents, and our local businesses to ensure that the project promotes bicycle safety and that those who pass through SOSNA's boundaries stop to enjoy our restaurants, shops, parks, and green spaces.

As an organization, we believe the benefits of safety, accessibility, and sustainability make the pilot project worth pursuing and implementing. We hope that oTIS will continue to support this pilot and other safety measures for bicyclists around the city.

Respectfully submitted,  
South of South Neighborhood Association