



January 5, 2022

Dear Hennepin Ave. S. Project Team and Mayor Frey,

On behalf of the Midtown Greenway Coalition, I am writing to submit our support for the recommended design for the Hennepin Avenue South reconstruction.

We are pleased to see 24/7 bus lanes, a sidewalk level bike path, numerous pedestrian improvements and safer dedicated left turn lanes for cars.

We are especially pleased to see the protected bike path in the design. As the ultimate *protected bikeway* in Minneapolis, the Midtown Greenway proves that creating safe places to bike leads to significant increases in the number of people who choose to bike rather than drive.

Protected bike paths like the one in the recommended design are a win-win-win for our community. Biking reduces greenhouse gas emissions and is good for health. In addition, bikes are good for business. Cyclists spend as much or more money at small businesses as people arriving via car.

A safer, more vibrant, more livable Hennepin Avenue will make our community stronger—and ultimately draw more people to live, work, and shop here.

It's been 60 years since the last reconstruction on this stretch of Hennepin. We're pleased that the recommended design will serve the kind of transportation system we need for the next 60 years. We urge the City to move forward with installation and look forward to its completion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Soren R. Jensen".

Soren R. Jensen
Executive Director

P.S. The new sidewalk level bike path on Hennepin would connect to the Midtown Greenway trail, helping connect thousands of daily Greenway users to Hennepin Avenue businesses and amenities.