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Kalamazoo Region Bike Route Committee  
% Paul Selden, Chair

Dear Kalamazoo Region Bike Route Committee

I am one of the surviving victims of the June 7, 2016, Kalamazoo bike crash that claimed 5 lives and left 4 of us injured and recovering still. While this does not make me an expert on road signage, the incident has increased my awareness of the needs of bicyclists in general and has given me a voice to speak out both on my behalf and for other bicyclists.

I endorse and support the implementation of the region-wide Bike Route System as drafted on Map 7 of the Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study Non-motorized transportation plan. This plan was thoughtfully drafted by a number of interested people and officials in and around Kalamazoo County. The proposed signage has undergone similar scrutiny and vetting by a number of governmental officials, including MDOT as well as bicycling stakeholders and I encourage and support the signage guidelines developed by the Kalamazoo Regional Bike Route Committee (KRBRC).

Kalamazoo County has an opportunity to be a regional and statewide leader in promoting safe recreational bicycling, as well as bicycling tourism by adopting a consistent, widely supported signage that is both visible and informative. The M1-8a signs and associated direction and distance guidance clearly meet these objectives.

Sincerely,

  
Paul L. Runnels