

October 1, 2022

Councilman Mark Jeffreys -

On Wednesday, September 28th, an 18-year old UC student lost her life while crossing Jefferson Avenue to a driver running a red light. Another student was injured in this accident, and just a week prior, two other young women were struck by a car in the same area. According to a September 29th Cincinnati Enquirer article, there have been 103 pedestrian crashes on main roads around UC since 2017. One death—one crash—is one too many.

In response to these pedestrian crashes, Corryville Community Council is formally requesting \$500,000 in initial funding from the Corryville TIF to be used towards designing and constructing pedestrian safety measures in Corryville, including enhanced cross walks, bump-outs, converting yield signs to stop signs, and others.

We recognize that pedestrian safety is a harrowing challenge in Corryville given the high volume of younger residents, dense housing, and several of the region's largest employers and institutions nearby that attract tens of thousands of daily commuters. However, we are not asking for plans or another study. Recent Enquirer reporting—and UC DAAP graduate Anthony Gustely's (BUP '22) capstone project, "EYES UP, SLOW DOWN: Improving Pedestrian Safety in the 2030 District"—have already provided sufficient evidence outlining the problem.

Instead, we are explicitly asking for \$500,000 in initial funding from our own TIF to go towards civil design and construction of pedestrian safety improvements along crucial corridors – including but not limited to – Jefferson, University, and William Howard Taft.

Corryville Community Council is committed to ongoing engagement on the exact "what" and "where," and has conceptual support from community stakeholders, investors, representatives, and organizers including the Corryville Community Development Corporation, Short Vine Association, and Uptown Rental Properties towards improving pedestrian safety, connectivity, walkability, and mobility in Corryville.

Please allow this letter to serve as an official request for funding from our own TIF towards pedestrian safety improvements in Corryville. Thank you for your time and consideration, we look forward to meeting with your office and the city to discuss this urgent matter further.

Sincerely,

Trak Hollstein

Leah Hollstein – Secretary, Corryville Community Council

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