

Benjamin Fields
President, Board of Directors
University Towers Residents Association
(1,200 families on University Boulevard)

September 20, 2025

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing on behalf of the 1,200 families of the University Towers Residents Association on University Boulevard to express our deep concern with the proposed traffic plan for this corridor. While the goals of the plan may be well-intentioned, its practical effect will be to massively inconvenience a tremendous number of your constituents—including the residents of University Towers—who rely on University Boulevard not only for commuting to work but also for shopping, healthcare, and daily errands.

As residents of already-existing multifamily housing on University Boulevard, we share the Council's goal of boosting housing along this corridor. Adding new multifamily housing along University Boulevard will raise the quality and lower the cost of living here.

However, we strongly oppose the anti-car elements of the UBC plan that would make it significantly more difficult for those of us who commute, shop, or travel by car. As the massive parking lots outside our building attest, most people who live in apartment buildings on University Boulevard drive. We are mystified by the data-free assumption that new residents will be able to reach jobs, shopping, recreation, and healthcare largely by walking, biking, or taking the bus.

I implore you and your County Council colleagues to make several critical changes to the plan, most importantly:

Maintain the current 35 MPH speed limit, which is already quite low for a roadway of such size and importance.

Protect right-on-red movements and preserve dedicated right-turn lanes, particularly the crucial turn from Arcola to University Boulevard.

Remove the underutilized bus lanes, which consume valuable road space while providing minimal benefit relative to the disruption they cause drivers.

As you have already seen, there is strong opposition among your constituents to this plan—opposition rooted not in resistance to change for its own sake, but in the very real and unnecessary burdens this plan will impose on our community.

I urge you to consider the perspective of the many residents who will be directly affected and to ensure that the voices of your constituents are reflected in your vote. By adopting these modifications, you can both preserve the intent of improving mobility and demonstrate to your community that their concerns are genuinely being represented.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Fields
President, Board of Directors
University Towers Residents Association