From:	Nicole Prange
To:	dencc - City Council
Date:	Monday, August 07, 2017 5:49:39 PM

Dear Denver City Council,

I am writing in support of the Espinoza/Lopez Amendment CB17-0819 for the addition Morrison Road Improvements to include phase 3. I have previously communicated my support of this project in a submission to the Transportation and Mobility committee and would like to share the following with City Council.
I have been a resident of the Westwood neighborhood since August of 2013. I remember house hunting with my husband and driving down Morrison Road to see what is now our home. We both recognized what a cute and unique street it is. I recall both of us agreed what great potential it has and wondering why no one is taking advantage of this area. The homes are still reasonably priced, there are 2 parks within walking distance and every neighbor we have met has been delightful. Since purchasing our home we have had a son, whom I now stay at home with. Our days are mostly filled with story time at the library and walks to the parks. I have become quite familiar with this area and could tell you which streets have the best sidewalks for a stroller, and how long it will take me to walk from Kentucky and Sheridan to Newton and Alameda. I am also aware of which residents speak which language, as I say *Hello* to everyone we come across.
These things are important to me and my family. A strong community, safe neighborhoods, and accessible corridors providing shops, dining, and services. I would like to stay here and raise our son in a bright and culturally vibrant neighborhood. Before moving to Denver, my husband and I lived in the San Francisco Bay Area. My husband grew up in SF and I lived in Oakland while attending college. The Mission district in SF has always been a community of welcoming, close knit people who celebrate their culture and family values. The Fruitvale neighborhood in Oakland is similar, yet individualistic. We moved here to have the opportunity to own our own home. It would be a real shame in knowing that Denver's one of a kind cultural areas are plagued with broken sidewalks, burnt out street lights and too high of speed limits. All of those factors create a real hazard for the thousand of kids living in Westwood, not to mention the Mothers I see every morning and afternoon walking their children to the bus stop.
My husband and I talk of riding our bikes down Morrison to the Westwood Food COOP or to Kahlo's for lunch one day. We are hesitant because everyone drives too fast, and we would of course take our son. I hope that he can grow up in a neighborhood where he can ride his bike to the parks, or to a market for (hopefully not soda) a refreshing 100% juice. There is so much we can do here and the best part is this is a thriving community that is sky rocketing in value. I'm no dummy to the fact that you could put the money in an area like Cap Hill or RiNo. Those are already walkable communities with high price tags attached. This is a snip-it from WAlkscore.com, link attached. Cars are the second largest household expense in the U.S.4 One point of Walk Score is worth up to $3,000 of value for your property.5 Read the research report. Wouldn't it be great to add another walkable neighborhood to Denver's list. I know this will never be a San Francisco or even a sprawling Oakland, but Denver has something to offer no other city has. It's citizens who are ready and eager to grow. We can do it, I can do it. We need resources and we need them now.

Thanks for your time, I am looking forward to your decisions.
Fearless SAHM,
Nicole Lesavoy
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What Makes a Neighborhood Walkable

What makes a neighborhood walkable? Learn about walkability on Walk Score.