

CITY OF FOUNTAINS  
HEART OF THE NATION



KANSAS CITY  
MISSOURI

QUINTON D. LUCAS  
Mayor

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
UMKC and CMH Letter of Support  
January 28, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

As mayor of Kansas City, I commit my and the City's full support to the University of Missouri-Kansas City and Childrens Mercy Hospital with their efforts to conduct research on ~~the-the city's~~ zero-fare bus transit initiative.

This past December, Kansas City committed itself to becoming the first major metropolitan area with free public bus service. Quality and affordable public transportation connects people to opportunities, health care and education. It also has the power to transport them out of poverty. As a leader in the United States on zero-fare transit, Kansas City will need to evaluate the impact of quality transportation on the health and well-being of all individuals in Kansas City.

We have already initiated the beginning stages of fare free transit with implementing a new high speedBus Rapid Transit line that is free for all riders. After only a month, we are already seeing the economic impact this has had on people's lives.

Partnering with UMKC and CMH will allow Kansas City and the United States to really understand how fare-free transit affects the health care of it's people.

Since I have been on City Council transportation has been a major initiative-priority of my office, as it is a major barrier to living happy, healthy lives in Kansas City. During my inauguration in August 2019, I made the commitment to making our bus system free ~~as~~ a majority priority. ~~I'm happy to announce that~~We'reWe're currently working with the City Council and our transit authority Kansas City will findto find the \$8 million that it is required to make our system completely free for all riders.

The goal of the zero-fare transit system is to provide access to economic opportunities for all of Kansas City, especially the areas that are most marginalized and which have the lowest life expectancy. Providing access to jobs, education, healthcare, and other activities of everyday life is essential and a priority of the municipal government in Kansas City. I'm proud to make this a reality and interested in to see the outcomes of this program.

The Mayor's Office is happy to assist this project by assisting with communication between UMKC and CMH, and the City of Kansas City, City Council, and Kansas City Area Transit Authority (KCATA). I

welcome researchers to present the results of their work to City Council and residents. I look forward to this project and more projects like it in the future.

I'm proud of the innovative work that Kansas City is doing and I fully support the evaluation of the zero-fare transit system.

Quinton Lucas

Mayor, Kansas City, Missouri