



On behalf of Bike Walk Knoxville, I am proud to support the City of Knoxville's Missing Middle Housing proposal. Missing Middle Housing provides more housing of various types and prices, and can help our communities make incremental increases in housing to existing neighborhoods that we all know and love. This proposal will also create more opportunities for folks in Knoxville to live in neighborhoods that are walkable and bikeable, with access to parks, schools, local businesses and more without requiring the use of a car.

In the future, Bike Walk Knoxville would love to see the removal of parking requirements from such proposals. Parking mandates constitute a significant barrier to the development of small-scale, affordable housing in urban areas. Reducing off-street parking requirements is a recommendation outlined in the City of Knoxville's Vision Zero Action Plan, and would benefit many of the City's priorities such as sustainability and equity. However, we believe that this proposal represents a vital first step, and we encourage the Planning Commission to approve the proposal and catalyze the development of missing middle housing in Knoxville.

Knoxville residents need, want, and deserve communities that are bikeable and walkable. This proposal will help serve that purpose, and Bike Walk Knoxville is proud to support it.