

KSAC Feedback on the Proposal for Fourth Street from Walnut to Leadville Avenue for the Summer – June 1, 2020

KSAC appreciates the opportunity to provide our feedback on the proposed initiative “Closure of Fourth Street from Walnut to Leadville Avenue for the Summer.” While this is not specifically identified in the City’s *Ketchum Sustainability Action Plan – 2020*, we feel it relates to the long-term City energy goals to reduce emissions and decarbonize: “Eliminate emissions from municipal vehicles by 2030” and “Decarbonize all city facilities by 2030.”

In addition, KSAC is currently working on a GHG inventory of Ketchum so it is a growing area of focus to consider ways to reduce GHG emissions. Street closures to encourage walking, biking, dining, and other outdoor activities are happening across the nation. These closures often result in less emissions.

Examples of cities that are closing streets to allow for more pedestrian traffic, bicycling and dining include Philadelphia, Oakland, Denver, Berkeley, Tampa, Minneapolis and others. For reference, Oakland recently closed 74 miles of City streets:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/10/oakland-california-slow-streets-coronavirus-us>.

We recommend that Council approve this initiative.

Sincerely,

Sharon Grant
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Betsy Mizell
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