



My name is Catherine Girves and I'm the Executive Director of Yay Bikes!, a non-profit organization with a mission to support people using bikes for transportation through the tools of education and advocacy. And I'm here today to talk with you about speed limits as a proponent of HB 436.

Speed limits matter.

Speed limits influence community safety. A difference in five miles an hour can dramatically impact the likelihood of serious injuries or deaths for people walking, riding bikes, and even those driving cars.

Speed limits influence community health. Increasingly our populations do work that is sedentary. Creating conditions that invite or discourage people to travel from one place to another by walking or biking is very much influenced by the speed on our streets and influences the health of our communities.

Speed limits have an economic impact. They influence what people notice when they are traveling from one place to another and how likely they are to stop and shop or consider buying a home.

Speed limits influence crime. If you want to create an environment inviting to drug trafficking, make sure to place roads in neighborhoods that move fast and are easily accessible by freeway ramps. If you want to interrupt drug trafficking in a community add bike lanes, improve sidewalk surface, and reduce speed limits.

Speed limits matter.

Through my work I have been fortunate enough to work with transportation professionals, law enforcement officials, public health workers, economic development and business leaders, elected officials, and neighborhood leaders from across the state. In the past three years, I've ridden bikes with almost 500 people, representing 91 jurisdictions in 54 different communities in Ohio.

I implore you to allow these leaders to limit the speed on roads to improve the health, safety, and economic vibrancy of their communities.

Speed limits matter.

Thank you

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