



The Honorable Eric Holcomb
Governor, State of Indiana
200 W. Washington St., Rm. 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204

The Honorable Andy Beshear
Governor, State of Kentucky
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100
Frankfort, KY 40601

March 4, 2022

Dear Governors Holcomb and Beshear,

I am writing today on behalf of Adventure Cycling Association in regards to the I-69 Ohio River Crossing (I-69 ORX) project.

Adventure Cycling Association inspires, empowers, and connects people to travel by bicycle. Our advocacy work focuses on four key aspects of bicycle travel: more miles of connected routes, bike-accessible transportation, safer conditions, and bike-friendly services. Our organization is proud to have more than 50,000 members, and with the power of the community behind us, we work to align the people, places, and infrastructure needed for meaningful bicycle travel.

The I-69 Ohio River Crossing project has the potential to connect and support communities. However, **the lack of infrastructure for biking and walking within the bridge design is a major problem.**

In order to meet the mobility needs of all citizens of Indiana and Kentucky, infrastructure projects need to at very least accommodate, if not prioritize active transportation modes, like biking and walking. Additionally, this critical missing link between the two states could connect a number of important cycling routes, including Adventure Cycling's Underground Railroad Route, the American Discovery Trail, U.S. Bicycle Route 76 to the south, and the Evansville and Warrick County trail systems.

There are many examples of major river crossings that accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians, including the 1-74 River Bridge (across the Mississippi River connecting Iowa and Illinois) and the Woodrow Wilson Bridge (across the Potomac River, connecting VA and MD, near Washington DC).

The reason to include a multi-use pathway as a component of this project is because it shows a commitment that infrastructure projects of this size and scale are for everyone, not just people who own a vehicle. For transportation and mobility to be just in our society, we need to provide infrastructure to people biking and walking.

Including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure is indisputably possible from an engineering perspective. It is a matter of political will. I stand with our community to ask you to find the courage to ensure the investment you are making into this project will work for ALL citizens of your respective states. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "K. Harris".

Katie Harris, Director of Advocacy
Adventure Cycling Association