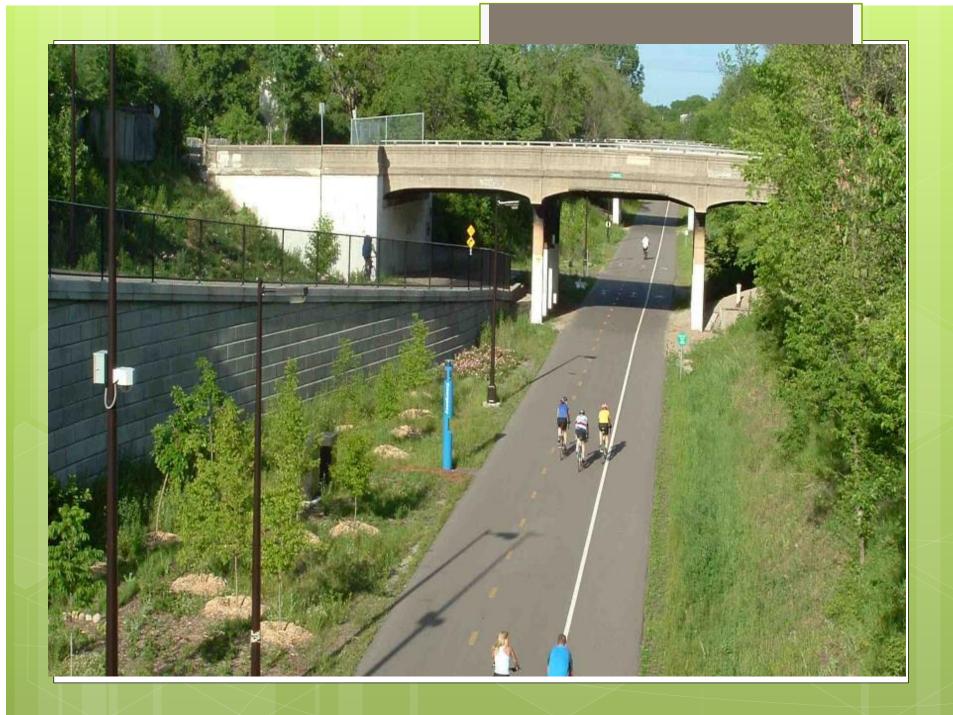


Soren Jensen, Executive Director, Midtown Greenway Coalition

Equity and Bike/Walk
Trails: Building trails is Not
Enough



### Midtown Greenway

- 5.5 Mile Biking and Walking Trail
- Called the best urban bike trail in the nation, but also a major walking trail
- Commuters and recreational users
- Open 24/7, lit at night, plowed in winter
- More than 1 million trips per year
- Goes through high and low income neighborhoods; high diversity and low diversity neighborhoods.

### Midtown Greenway Coalition

- Had the idea for the Greenway; now works to protect and improve it
- Small NGO, operates like a "friends" group
- Trail Watch Bike Patrol; helped plant more than 5,000 trees and shrubs; runs Adopt-A-Greenway trash clean-up program; works to get more gardens and art into corridor

### Biking/Walking and Equity

- The Minnesota Healthy Kids Coalition
   Transportation Equity Research Project
  - Safety key concern: better facilities, lighting
  - Community engagement and seat at the planning table
- Citylab: How Low-Income Commuters View Cycling. Infrastructure alone cannot address the many barriers our respondents cite
- Anthony Taylor from Slow Roll MPLS and Major Taylor Cycling Club: It's not infrastructure first. It's relationships first, understanding the culture and motivations first

### Biking/Walking and Equity

- Cycles for Change Equity Study: Barriers to biking for communities of color
  - Not knowing how to bike and/or rules of the road
  - Not having a good bike and proper equipment and clothing
- Midtown Greenway Coalition / Hennepin County Study: Not feeling welcome in the Greenway; not seeing people from my community or culture represented

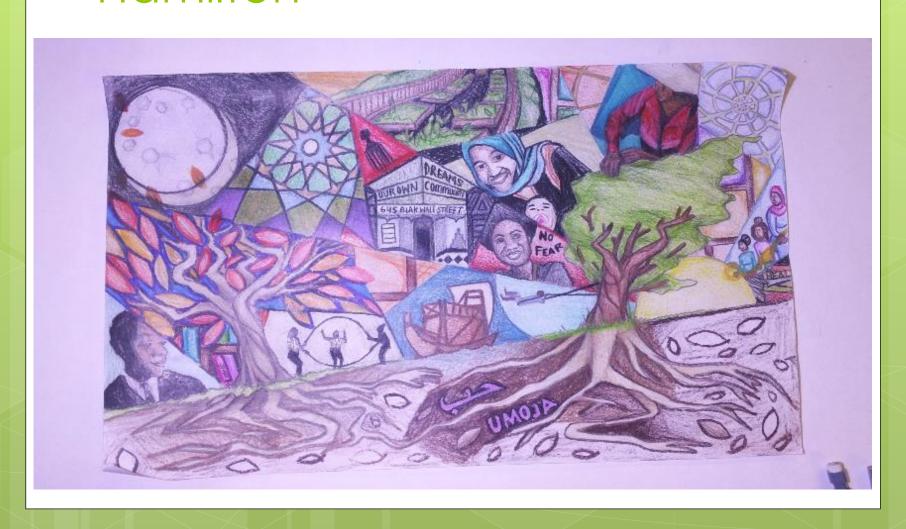
# Non-infrastructure Approaches to increasing equity

- Staffing: Hiring experts on outreach to communities of color; having volunteers and board members with expertise
- Program Partners (Unpaid): Andersen School (bike skills), Slow Roll (new riders)
- Program Partners (Paid/Stipends): Community leaders from communities of color
  - Shared Street/Woonerf Demonstration
  - Equity through Art

# 13<sup>th</sup> Ave Mural by Little Earth and MCAD



## 10<sup>th</sup> Ave Mural by Jordan Hamilton



#### Resources

Our Streets MPLS:

http://www.ourstreetsmpls.org/ reading\_list\_equity\_and\_biking

The League of American Bicyclists:

http://bikeleague.org/sites/default/files/ The\_New\_Movement\_Report\_Web.pdf