



## REPORT/RECOMMENDATION

<b>To:</b> MAYOR AND COUNCIL	<b>Agenda Item</b> <u>IX. A.</u>
<b>From:</b> DEBRA MANGEN CITY CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/> Action
<b>Date:</b> OCTOBER 2, 2012	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
<b>Subject:</b> CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING	

**INFORMATION/BACKGROUND:** Attached are copies of e-mails and letters received since the last Council meeting.

September 23, 2012

The Honorable James Hovland, Mayor of Edina  
and Members of the Edina City Council  
Edina City Hall  
4801 W. 50th Street  
Edina, MN 55424

Dear Mayor Hovland and Members of the City Council,

This letter is being written to ask when or if Valley Estates will be getting No Parking signs on Creek Valley Road near Creek Valley School.

I refer you to a portion of the minutes of the April 3, 2012 Council meeting:

MINUTES  
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
EDINA CITY COUNCIL  
HELD AT CITY HALL  
APRIL 3, 2012  
7:00 p.m.

**VIII.C. REQUEST FOR PURCHASE – CONTRACT ENG 12-1 VALLEY ESTATE  
IMPROVEMENT – APPROVED**

Mr. Houle presented the street and utility improvements proposed for the Valley Estates neighborhood and staff's recommendation to install sidewalks adjacent to Creek Valley School, along Creek Valley Road from Gleason Road to Nordic Circle, as discussed during the feasibility phase. He indicated staff was reviewing the special assessment policy; however, this \$14,000 portion of the project was proposed to be special assessed in 2013 with 50% to the School District and 50% divided among neighborhood properties at \$101/REU. The sidewalk installation was recommended to improve pedestrian safety since there was a fair amount of traffic on the roadway and the sidewalk would tie into the Gleason Road sidewalk system. Mr. Houle explained this project was approximately \$100,000 over budget, which would be paid from the Storm Water Fund, because the amount of drain tile needed to address issues with storm water drainage had been under estimated. He confirmed installation of the additional drain tile would address the concern expressed by residents at the public hearing relating to drainage issues. It was noted the special assessment would be lower than presented at the feasibility study.

The Council emphasized it did not want this sidewalk to become a de facto pick-up or drop-off location for school buses. Mr. Houle advised there were no student pick-up locations on public streets and staff would communicate with the School District to assure this does not occur or that it does not become a parent drop-off/pick-up location. The Council acknowledged a bus was already parking in this area and directed staff to resolve that issue with the School District. Member Swenson made a motion, seconded by Member Sprague, approving award of contract, Contract No. ENG 12-1, Valley Estates Neighborhood Reconstruction, to the recommended low bidder, Midwest Asphalt Corporation at \$1,148,414.50.

Ayes: Bennett, Brindle, Sprague, Swenson, Hovland  
Motion carried.

As you can see, Mr. Houle advised that there were “no student pick-up locations on public streets,” and, I believe, all Council members acknowledged that fact. What is not recorded in the minutes was the additional discussion and agreement by the Council that the issue would be addressed with the use of “signage” or public information or other means available.

In a letter written to Mr. Houle and copied to you after the April 3rd meeting, I expressed the opinion that signage would be the most direct, clear, and permanent way to stop the problem on Creek Valley Road and that I hoped the installation of such signage would be included in the street reconstruction project. As of the date of this letter, however, no signage has appeared, and I am not aware of other public information. If Creek Valley School personnel have issued a directive to parents about this issue, I have not heard about it.

To provide you with some current information regarding the situation, I’ll mention that cars are still, in fact, lining up on the north side of Creek Valley Rd. at the end of most school days. To be clear, they are NOT “parked.” They are now idling and waiting to get up to the stop sign at the corner when they are able to slowly move along the east side of Gleason Road - where other cars are lined up - until they can get into the circular area where they are, presumably, allowed to pick up their children. There are days when cars are also lined up to the south of the stop sign at the SE corner of Gleason Rd.

A recent incident occurred because of this situation. A car that had been idling and moving on Creek Valley Rd. went partially into the crosswalk in an apparent effort to move ahead of a car waiting to the south of the Gleason Rd. stop sign. A valiant crossing guard initially stepped back as the Creek Valley car went into the crosswalk space, changed his mind, exercised his authority by going in front of the car to stop the errant driver, and allowed students to cross the street.

Another concern exists for some in our neighborhood. The height of city fire trucks is a factor that recently mandated the trimming of some trees limbs at a nearby home. Shouldn’t the width of a fire truck also be of concern? If both sides of Creek Valley Rd. were lined with cars, would a fire truck be able to get through in the case of an emergency? An example of this question would be the several very large yearly school events. I can personally attest that a single car cannot easily get by the cars parked on both sides of the street, so I’m quite sure that a fire truck could not do so. Balder Lane might be considered an option into our neighborhood, but it would not be if a home directly across from Creek Valley School property needed emergency attention.

I know that there are also serious concerns about cars parking all over our area for soccer games and, in some cases, very poor and potentially dangerous driving getting to and from the soccer fields. Solving those problem may have several options, but, it might be wise to include one component in the solution ..... that being, again, the width of fire trucks and the ability for them to have easy and quick access to a home emergency near the soccer fields.

But, the issue of cars idling and inching along while waiting for students at Creek Valley School could be easily and quickly solved by installing No Parking or No Waiting signs on the affected streets. And, it would best be done before we get piles of snow, which will only compound an already unsatisfactory situation. I, and, I believe, many others look forward to ACTION being taken by Edina's City Council in the very near future in order to be in compliance with Mr. Houle's April 3<sup>rd</sup> advisory.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,



Mary Ellen Nord  
6425 Nordic Circle  
Edina, MN 55439



Coalition of Minnehaha Creek Waters  
P.O. Box 649  
Excelsior, MN 55331  
[www.cmcwmn.org](http://www.cmcwmn.org)

September 17, 2012

Mayor James Hovland  
City of Edina  
4801 W. 50th St.  
Edina, MN 55424

Dear Mayor Hovland,

The purpose of this letter is to briefly introduce you to the Coalition of Minnehaha Creek Waters, a newly formed non-profit organization created by a group of lake, creek, and homeowner associations. Our mission is to preserve, protect and improve the Minnehaha Creek Watershed and surrounding area waters from aquatic invasive species (AIS) and storm water run-off. Currently, we are comprised of eight community led organizations with nearly 1,000 supporters. We expect these numbers to grow as our organization creates a foothold as a leader and protector of our local waters.

As concerned citizens who seek to protect the lakes and waterways that comprise the Minnehaha Creek Watershed and surrounding area, we are firstly concerned with the rapid spread of AIS. As you may know, zebra mussels and Eurasian milfoil are now a pervading issue in a number of lakes in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed, specifically Lake Minnetonka. We want to prevent the transfer of these species to uninfested lakes. Additionally, new more devastating species of AIS such as hydrilla and quagga mussels are a bigger threat to all lakes and waterways in the state of Minnesota. We seek to keep our lakes clean, natural and free of AIS. While we can't turn back the clock for those lakes already infested, we can work to prevent infestations from the next waves of invasives. We have presented and voiced our main objective to the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District about preventing the spread of AIS to area lakes. With our lobbying efforts, \$250,000 has been earmarked for this initiative along with a tentative action plan for 2013.

The Coalition of Minnehaha Creek Waters looks forward to your support and working with you in the near future to help protect the natural beauty, recreational outlets, economics, and serenity of our area lakes. For more information about our organization, please visit our website at [www.cmcwmn.org](http://www.cmcwmn.org), or post us your support on facebook (Coalition of Minnehaha Creek Waters). If you have any questions, we can be reached at [president@cmcwmn.org](mailto:president@cmcwmn.org).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Gothberg".

Ken Gothberg  
Coalition of Minnehaha Creek Waters Member

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Heather Haen Anderson <cwk-mail@connectingwithkidsedina.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 28, 2012 11:27 AM  
**To:** info@connectingwithkidsedina.org  
**Subject:** RE: 4th Annual Edina Day of Service, Saturday October 13th

# EDINA DAY OF SERVICE



Celebrating a Culture of Service in Our Community

The Edina Day of Service is a city-wide project that invites you to be part of what makes Edina a wonderful place to live, learn and work. We invite you to share part of a Saturday to work on a project with others who feel this same commitment to service. We hope you have fun. You will make a difference!

You can plan your own project or join one that is open to the public. All of the projects listed on the [Connecting With Kids website](#) will welcome you so feel free to join in!

**Heather Haen Anderson**  
Executive Director  
Connecting With Kids  
952-688-8081  
connectingwithkidsedina.org

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Friday, September 28, 2012 9:06 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Disappointed



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** Wood, George R. [<mailto:GWood@littler.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 7:51 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail; [jonibennett12@comcast.net](mailto:jonibennett12@comcast.net); Mary Brindle; [joshsprague@edinarealty.com](mailto:joshsprague@edinarealty.com); [swensonann1@gmail.com](mailto:swensonann1@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Disappointed

I was disappointed to see that the Council chose to take a position—any position—with respect to the pending Constitutional Amendments. It is not the Council's job to be taking positions on proposed Constitutional Amendments that will be voted on by Minnesota residents generally. I don't need, nor do I want, your input on how I (or any other Edina resident) should vote on any Constitutional Amendment. Our city faces a number of substantial issues and the Council, along with city employees, should be spending their time focusing on these issues, not telling citizens how to vote on a Constitutional Amendment. I assume the Council will not be telling us how to vote in the various elections that will be on the ballot for state and federal positions in our government.

George R. Wood, Shareholder

612.313.7624 direct 612.670.5709 mobile 612.630.9626 fax [GWood@littler.com](mailto:GWood@littler.com)

1300 IDS CENTER, 80 South 8th Street | Minneapolis, MN 55402-2136

**Littler**

| [littler.com](http://littler.com)

Employment & Labor Law Solutions Worldwide

-----

To ensure compliance with requirements imposed by the IRS, we inform you that any U.S. federal tax advice contained in this document (including any attachments) is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.

This email may contain confidential and privileged material for the sole use of the intended recipient(s). Any review, use, distribution or disclosure by others is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient (or authorized to receive for the recipient), please contact the sender by reply email and delete all copies of this message.

To reply to our email administrator directly, send an email to [postmaster@littler.com](mailto:postmaster@littler.com)

Littler Mendelson, P.C.

<http://www.littler.com>

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 26, 2012 11:09 AM  
**To:** 'RICHARD YOUNG'  
**Subject:** RE: RE:

Dear Richard,

I will forward your message to Mayor Hovland.  
If I can be of additional assistance to you please contact me.



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** RICHARD YOUNG [<mailto:richardyoung1145@msn.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 26, 2012 10:42 AM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** RE:

Please send to mayor.

Thanks

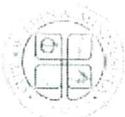
---

**From:** [mail@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:mail@EdinaMN.gov)  
**To:** [richardyoung1145@msn.com](mailto:richardyoung1145@msn.com)  
**Subject:** RE:  
**Date:** Wed, 26 Sep 2012 15:38:26 +0000

Dear Richard,

Thank you for your interest in the City of Edina.

Please let me know to whom you would like to send this message to, the other Council members and perhaps the Mayor?



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** RICHARD YOUNG [<mailto:richardyoung1145@msn.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 26, 2012 10:26 AM  
**To:** Mary Brindle; [swensonann1@gmail.com](mailto:swensonann1@gmail.com); Edina Mail  
**Subject:**

What is your position on the franchise fee (tax)?

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Monday, September 24, 2012 9:03 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: To mayor Hovland



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** j bdell [<mailto:jamesbridell@state-engineering.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 23, 2012 2:09 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** To mayor Hovland

Dear Mayor,

Let me tell you that the the school system has been relying on email to communicate to parents the school activity. As it should be. But what has happened is an abuse of the email system. You can't expect parents to spend 1 hour at their computers combing over all the spam emails that are sent out from the school. This is gotton way out of control, the sending of emails to parents. You have so many emails to comb and read through, to make sure you have not missed something important amid the nonsense emails.

My solution to the spam email world that the edina schools have created is to force teachers to send only 1 email each day - nothing more. That forces lazy teachers to think about what they are doing, so they can concisely communicate what the school activity is each day. I am getting tired of reading a 5th email saying something was forgotten in the 3rd email. So, I have to combe through all this email span to make sure nothing was overlooked. This is abuse of the email system, because teachers are too scatter-minded to put together their thoughts in 1 email per day. This has become a joke, the edina email communications system to parents.

Its starting to get annoying receiveing 4 emails each day from a teacher saying 4 different things. One email a day is enough. More than 1 email each day is abuse and constitutes spam.

Regards,  
Jim Bridell  
5533 Oak Glen Road  
Edina, MN  
952-854-9002

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Friday, September 21, 2012 9:16 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Edina is in good company



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** Carolyn Jackson [<mailto:cjackson@aclu-mn.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 20, 2012 4:37 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Edina is in good company

Dear Mayor Hovland,

Thank you so much for the vote opposing voter ID last night! I am thrilled that Edina will stand up to protect our elections system.

It turns out the Minnesota Bar Association followed our lead and passed a similar resolution today: <http://www.hcba.org/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsId=227>

I thought you might find this helpful if you get any flack from partisans.

Many, many thanks for both resolutions against these terrible constitutional amendments.

Carolyn Jackson  
Lobbying Coordinator  
ACLU-MN  
(651) 645-4097 ext. 125  
(and Edina resident)

American Civil Liberties Union: Because freedom can't protect itself.

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Friday, September 21, 2012 9:24 AM  
**To:** Karen M. Kurt  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Name your neighborhood



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** [dmswan2124@comcast.net](mailto:dmswan2124@comcast.net) [<mailto:dmswan2124@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 20, 2012 11:18 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Name your neighborhood

I talked to Mary Brindle before the last meeting and decided not to attend as she said it doesn't change anything and a Council Member who is a realtor thought this would be a good idea. She said it was not costing taxpayers anything. However it appears that some people who are spending time on this are salaried?? Is this true?

We live in Indian Hills and wonder if now any realtor listing a new home for sale in Cherokee Hills and other areas close by will now claim that these homes are in Indian Hills? Sounds like a gimmick for realtors to use to their advantage. Is this true?

Thank you.  
Mary Swanson

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 20, 2012 4:02 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: fr Mary Yee: thank you for adopting resolution on Photo ID amendment



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** [bascacat@aol.com](mailto:bascacat@aol.com) [<mailto:bascacat@aol.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 20, 2012 3:58 PM  
**To:** [bascacat@aol.com](mailto:bascacat@aol.com)  
**Subject:** fr Mary Yee: thank you for adopting resolution on Photo ID amendment

Dear Mayor Hovland and Members of the City Council,

I want to express my appreciation for your vote to oppose the photo ID amendment. Thank you!

Mary Yee  
Edina

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 20, 2012 3:51 PM  
**To:** Steve Kirchman  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: construction

Good afternoon,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members and Steve Kirchman.



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** Amy Hykes [<mailto:aschicago@hotmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 20, 2012 3:06 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** construction

I think Edina needs to rethink its approach to all the construction and tear downs that are taking place. The hours that construction people are allowed to make noise is unreasonable for residents to have live through. These hours might be OK if you are talking about just one project. However, in our neighborhood there seems to be a tear down on every block and it NEVER stops. I am not against tear downs but lets make it so people that currently live in those neighborhoods don't have to live with constant noise from 7 am until 10 at night. I moved from a town where noise could only be made from 8am to 6pm which sounds much more reasonable. The city we came from also fined construction workers who don't abide by the rules.

I also think Edina could do a better job of enforcing the current rules. The construction people know that they don't get in trouble so often they push the limits starting at 6:45 am with hammers or drills as well as start at 7am on Saturdays or Sundays. The cement trucks are constantly stopping to clean their trucks at the side of the road and leave residue of cement on our streets and gutters. From what I can tell in city code it is illegal for them to leave construction material on the streets, yet no one does anything about it.

The last thing I wanted to mention is that I think Edina lets people build houses to close to each other. The are neighbors who literally have a house on top of them or the overhand from a roof almost to the property line. I am assuming all of these people get permits so it is legal, but I don't think it makes the neighborhood look all that great.

I ask you to open up some vote to the people of Edina at least on the hours of construction and I think you would overwhelmingly hear back from people telling you that the current hours that construction noise is allowed to take place are unreasonable. No one likes it.

Thanks, Amy Hykes

Dear Deb,

Sept 18, 2012

We are all grateful to you for speaking last Saturday at the LUV Edina unit meeting on the photo ID/elections amendment.

I think everyone who attended was educated by your explanation of the situation faced by elections officials if the amendment passes. You did an excellent job of laying out the facts, without favor to any view of the amendment.

LUV Edina is also looking forward to doing voter registration at city hall on Sept. 25.

Thank you for asking us!

Sincerely,  
Debby McNeil

**From:** Suzanne Kerwin [mailto:skerwin@comcast.net]

**Sent:** Friday, September 28, 2012 7:26 AM

**Subject:** RE: To the Mayor and City Council: Supporting our Evolving Community of Learners

### **LWV Edina October Meetings: Supporting our Evolving Community of Learners**

The public is cordially invited to League of Women Voters Edina meetings in October. Edina Public Schools Superintendent Ric Dressen will speak about "Supporting our Evolving Community of Learners". The meetings will be held Thursday, October 11 from 9:45 -11:30 at the Edina Community Center, room 349, and Saturday, October 13 from 9:45 -11:30 at Edina City Hall, community room.

For more information, please visit [www.lwvedina.org](http://www.lwvedina.org) or email [lwvedina@gmail.com](mailto:lwvedina@gmail.com).

**The League of Women Voters of Edina is a non-partisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

The following article was submitted by Dr. Dressen-

### **Supporting our Evolving Community of Learners**

As with many communities in Minnesota and across the country, Edina is changing. At the League of Women Voters Edina's October 11 and October 13 unit meetings, Edina Public Schools Superintendent Ric Dressen will provide an overview of the changes occurring in our community, including shifts in age, income, race and culture. Using Parker Palmer's book *Healing in the Heart of Democracy* as a guide, Superintendent Dressen will facilitate a dialogue about what these changes mean for the future of Edina, the role schools plays in navigating the change, and how best to engage the community in these important discussions.

To assist in participant understanding of the changes in our community, Superintendent Dressen has provided the following data, highlighting the rapid growth of change occurring in our local schools and community over the last several years:

- Student Enrollment
    - o 2012-13 kindergarten to grade 12 enrollment is approximately 8,330, a growth of about 80 students over last year. Enrollment projections indicate continued growth of one to two percent over the next five years.
    - o Nonresident enrollment accounts for approximately 14% of our student population, which is equivalent to the percent of resident students opting for educational options other than Edina Public Schools (e.g. private, homeschool, charter, other public school districts).
    - o Approximately 25% of Edina residents have school-age children that attend Edina Public Schools. Thus, 75% of Edina residents do not have a direct connection with their local schools.
  - Student Demographics
    - o *Racial Diversity* – This year, Edina Public Schools students of color represent approximately 19% of the total student population. Ten years ago the District had less than 7% students of color.
      - Our schools are considerably more diverse than the community of Edina as a whole, where only 9% of residents are identified as people of color.
    - o *Socioeconomic Diversity* – Currently, Edina Public Schools has a little over 9% of families receiving free and reduced priced lunch meals (i.e. the identifier schools use to measure poverty). This represents a growth of over five percent in the last ten years.
    - o *Language Diversity* – While the percent of students who are part of the District's English Language Learner program has remained relatively constant (this year about 4% of students), the number of languages spoken at home has grown. This fall, 44 different languages are spoken by students and their families, which is up from 33 languages just five years ago.
  - Achievement & Opportunity Gap
    - o Edina Public Schools have an achievement and opportunity gap, particularly with our students of color and students in poverty.
- Supt. Dressen's talks are open to the community. Hear him speak on Thursday Oct. 11, at the Edina Community Center, room 349 and on Saturday Oct 13 at Edina City Hall, community room. Both meetings run from 9:45 – 11:30 AM.

Susan Howl

---

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 4:26 PM  
To: Scott Neal; Wayne Houle  
Cc: Susan Howl  
Subject: FW: Wooddale Ave

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist  
952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)  
...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

-----Original Message-----

From: Laura Hemler [<mailto:laura@hemler.com>]  
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 3:48 PM  
To: 'Mary Everett'; Edina Mail; [jonibennett12@comcast.net](mailto:jonibennett12@comcast.net); Mary Brindle; [johshsprague@edinarealty.com](mailto:johshsprague@edinarealty.com); [swensonann1@gmail.com](mailto:swensonann1@gmail.com)  
Subject: RE: Wooddale Ave

I second everything Mary Everett has said here. Within hours of the striping I was nearly in 2 head-on collisions.

Conveniently Mr. Houle and the rest of the staff in Public Works are "in a meeting" until 4:00 when their department closes at 3:30. I have left message for Wayne Houle on the recommendation of Edina Police Department who are referring the many calls they have received today re: Wooddale Ave to Wayne directly.

All people of Edina deserve to be protected! Not just a few bicyclists. The vast majority of traffic on Wooddale Ave travel in cars. And today these drivers are left vulnerable and unsafe. I too would like clarity on how this decision was made.

Laura Hemler  
[laura@hemler.com](mailto:laura@hemler.com)  
5601 Park Place Edina

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Everett [<mailto:meverett1203@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 3:40 PM  
To: [mail@edinamn.gov](mailto:mail@edinamn.gov); [jonibennett12@comcast.net](mailto:jonibennett12@comcast.net); [mbrindle@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:mbrindle@EdinaMN.gov); [johshsprague@edinarealty.com](mailto:johshsprague@edinarealty.com); [swensonann1@gmail.com](mailto:swensonann1@gmail.com)  
Subject: Wooddale Ave

To all the counsel members, Scott Neal and Wayne Houle,

I drive Wooddale Avenue each and EVERY day of the year. Today I was turning onto Wooddale and noticed an odd arrangement of markings later to find out that the solid white line on the east side is for parking, bikes next to that and then bikes on the west side. Therefore there is NOT room for 2 cars to pass each other without hitting each other which in turn means veering into the bike lane in which case if a bike is in a lane they will be hit.

I saw an older woman stop, then hesitate where to go so she choose to center her car between the curb and dotted line on the east side of the road and used the solid line as the road center. She then came up to a biker, stopped dead in the middle of the road, cars behind her, almost causing an accident.

I was driving on the west side of the road when a car coming north almost hit me head on as they were in MY lane if I have a lane.

The Edina Police Department told me that they were VERY opposed to these markings as they will be very confusing and unsafe to drivers as well as bikers.

How did this happen?

What committee approved this?

Where are we supposed to drive?

If I need to move over because a car is coming straight on into me and I need to veer over into the bike lane, but a bike is behind me, who is at fault?

I would appreciate your response and just want to have a record of my concern for all Edina residents that will be traveling on one of the busiest streets in town. AND, what if a bus needs to drive on Wooddale, where do they fit in??

This seems to be a very poorly executed project and from what I hear, city counsel is who I was pointed to to voice my concerns. The Edina Police said their phone has been ringing OFF THE HOOK all day and that they are NOT in support of this.

I will look forward to your prompt response.

Mary Everett  
952-220-5599

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Laura Hemler <laura@hemler.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 24, 2012 6:20 PM  
**To:** Wayne Houle  
**Cc:** meverett1203@gmail.com; Scott Neal; Susan Howl  
**Subject:** Re: Wooddale Ave

Wayne if that's the case then why no center lane demarcation? Because when someone is driving straight at me head-on I really don't have time to explain BikeEdina's "philosophy".

This is plain and simple a dangerous situation for drivers. I don't appreciate my family's safety being compromised in favor of some progressive experiment.

Also Wayne (or Mr. Neal) please confirm or deny that Edina Police were opposed to the center line removal. Because that is my understanding based on a call earlier today.

Laura Hemler  
laura@hemler.com

On Sep 24, 2012, at 5:56 PM, Wayne Houle <WHoule@EdinaMN.gov> wrote:

> Laura & Mary:

>

> Thank you for your emails regarding the advisory bike lane on Wooddale Avenue. You are allowed to drive in the bike lane area when passing a vehicle, unless there is a bicyclist in the bike lane, then you need to wait until you pass safely around the bicyclist.

>

> The advisory bike lanes were placed on Wooddale Avenue as part of the Bike Boulevard Project, which is part of the overall bicycle system in Edina. The choices that we had were to stripe the roadway as we are striping it or remove the parking from Wooddale Avenue to accommodate designated bike lanes. Attached is a brochure that explains the advisory bike lanes.

>

> We understand that with all changes there will be a learning period. Please feel free to contact me if you would like further discussion on this project.

>

> Wayne Houle, Director of Engineering  
> 952-826-0443 | Fax 952-826-0392  
> WHoule@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov  
> ...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Lynette Biunno On Behalf Of Edina Mail  
> Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 4:26 PM  
> To: Scott Neal; Wayne Houle  
> Cc: Susan Howl  
> Subject: FW: Wooddale Ave

>

>

>

> Lynette Biunno, Receptionist  
> 952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
> lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

> ...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Laura Hemler [mailto:laura@hemler.com]

> Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 3:48 PM

> To: 'Mary Everett'; Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle; johshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com

> Subject: RE: Wooddale Ave

>

> I second everything Mary Everett has said here. Within hours of the striping I was nearly in 2 head-on collisions.

>

> Conveniently Mr. Houle and the rest of the staff in Public Works are "in a meeting" until 4:00 when their department closes at 3:30. I have left message for Wayne Houle on the recommendation of Edina Police Department who are referring the many calls they have received today re: Wooddale Ave to Wayne directly.

>

> All people of Edina deserve to be protected! Not just a few bicyclists. The vast majority of traffic on Wooddale Ave travel in cars. And today these drivers are left vulnerable and unsafe. I too would like clarity on how this decision was made.

>

> Laura Hemler

> laura@hemler.com

> 5601 Park Place Edina

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Mary Everett [mailto:meverett1203@gmail.com]

> Sent: Monday, September 24, 2012 3:40 PM

> To: mail@edinamn.gov; jonibennett12@comcast.net; mbrindle@EdinaMN.gov; johshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com

> Subject: Wooddale Ave

>

> To all the counsel members, Scott Neal and Wayne Houle,

>

> I drive Wooddale Avenue each and EVERY day of the year. Today I was turning onto Wooddale and noticed an odd arrangement of markings later to find out that the solid white line on the east side is for parking, bikes next to that and then bikes on the west side. Therefore there is NOT room for 2 cars to pass each other without hitting each other which in turn means veering into the bike lane in which case if a bike is in a lane they will be hit.

>

> I saw an older woman stop, then hesitate where to go so she choose to center her car between the curb and dotted line on the east side of the road and used the solid line as the road center. She then came up to a biker, stopped dead in the middle of the road, cars behind her, almost causing an accident.

>

> I was driving on the west side of the road when a car coming north almost hit me head on as they were in MY lane if I have a lane.

>

> The Edina Police Department told me that they were VERY opposed to these markings as they will be very confusing and unsafe to drivers as well as bikers.

>

> How did this happen?

>

> What committee approved this?

>

> Where are we supposed to drive?

>  
> If I need to move over because a car is coming straight on into me and I need to veer over into the bike lane, but a bike is behind me, who is at fault?  
>  
> I would appreciate your response and just want to have a record of my concern for all Edina residents that will be traveling on one of the busiest streets in town. AND, what if a bus needs to drive on Wooddale, where do they fit in??  
>  
> This seems to be a very poorly executed project and from what I hear, city counsel is who I was pointed to to voice my concerns. The Edina Police said their phone has been ringing OFF THE HOOK all day and that they are NOT in support of this.  
>  
> I will look forward to your prompt response.  
>  
> Mary Everett  
> 952-220--5599  
>  
> <Edina Advisory Bike Lanes.pdf>

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Friday, September 28, 2012 8:41 AM  
**To:** Scott Neal; Wayne Houle; Jeff Long  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Wooddale Ave

Good morning,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members, Scott Neal, Jeff Long and Wayne Houle.



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** Mjschleimer [<mailto:mjschleimer@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 4:04 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Wooddale Ave

I am amazed and disgusted that the Edina City Council approved such a dangerous and ridiculous notion of installing bike lanes on such a narrow street as Wooddale. It is ridiculous to expect bike riders to place themselves in such a dangerous situation between parked cars with northbound and southbound cars fighting for a spot on a street with no lane control. The city is also assuming motorists are aware of bike rules. What the city has done is create havoc and confusion and traffic jams which will ultimately result in people being involved in tragic, unnecessary accidents.

Marlene Schleimer

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Friday, September 28, 2012 9:04 AM  
**To:** Scott Neal; Jeff Long; Wayne Houle  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Transportation Commission

Good morning,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members, Scott Neal, Jeff Long and Wayne Houle.

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist  
952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)  
...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business -----Original Message-----

**From:** Sally Mays [<mailto:techlms@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 5:28 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Transportation Commission

I would just like to say that your plans to mix cars and bikes on the same road, and worse, the same lane is a bad idea. You are going to get people seriously injured and killed. You will say it is the drivers fault, but it will be your fault.

We quit riding our bikes on edina roads many years ago. It isn't safe. Your perspective that a little white line is going to make it safe is sadly naive.

When i mentioned my concern to a friend, their reaction was "where have you been? There are lots of accidents now."

Why when you talk about this don't you talk about the danger?  
How will this affect car insurance liability rates? You will say it won't, of course.

At least, start enforcing driving laws on bicyclists. They break the law all of the time. In so doing they create risk for me. I have no desire to kill some one on a bike because they assume i can watch out for them.

Gary mays

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 1:42 PM  
**To:** Wayne Houle; Scott Neal  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Wooddale Av

Good afternoon,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members, Scott Neal and Wayne Houle.

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist  
952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business -----Original Message-----

**From:** Metil [<mailto:metil@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 1:09 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Wooddale Av

To Engineering Dept and City Council Members and Mayor Hovland:

Your changes to Wooddale Ave traffic are crazy! Someone will be hurt on that road as it is. I drive down it frequently and did so yesterday with cars coming at me, weaving in and out, and of course there were NO bikes as there are rarely any bikes on that road but always lots of cars. It isn't safe for anyone. Don't do this. I do hope it is an "experiment" as your article said and that it is not a permanent change.

Thank you for keeping us safe and not bending to extremist bike enthusiasts!  
Luana Metil

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 9:14 AM  
**To:** Wayne Houle; Scott Neal  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Contact Us form submission

Good morning,

This message is being forwarded to the Mayor and Council members, Scott Neal and Wayne Houle.



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** [mail@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:mail@EdinaMN.gov) [<mailto:mail@EdinaMN.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 26, 2012 4:07 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Contact Us form submission

Name: Matt

Organization:

Website:

Address\_1: 5629 Chowen Ave. S

Address\_2:

City: Edina

State: MN

Zip\_Code: 55410

Email: [mphansen6@gmail.com](mailto:mphansen6@gmail.com)

Phone: 612-281-3918

Referrer: other

Message: Please forward to anyone responsible for the shared bike lanes on Wooddale Ave. These are a horrible idea and I've already seen two cars almost get in an accident. Is there really a need? Can the bikes not share the road with one of the largest shoulders in the city? It's confusing, unnecessary and someone will be killed. I think there's better uses of our resources. Thanks, Matt

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 9:20 AM  
**To:** Scott Neal; Wayne Houle  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Advisory Bike Lanes on Wooddale

Good morning,

This message is being forwarded to the Mayor and City Council members, Scott Neal and Wayne Houle.



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** Kathy Dahlheimer [<mailto:kdahlheimer@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 26, 2012 4:55 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Advisory Bike Lanes on Wooddale

Hello...Just a comment regarding the recent changes on Wooddale. Most confusing and counter intuitive mess I have seen lately. I use this street frequently during the day...and did a bit of investigating online to see what these were about. Seems popular in Europe and Portland is looking at them...it says:"With the bicycle areas on each side, the remaining "automobile zone" would be wide enough for only one car at a time. Unlike standard bike lanes -- which cars are prohibited from entering -- cars could enter the bicycle zone when no one is present. " What it looks like is way more space for bikes than cars on this busy street with each car operating differently. Some just come straight down the center, some drive in the parking lanes and a few drive in the bike lanes of lack of space for two cars in the middle. While Edina residents who frequent this street may get it eventually I just don't see enough bike riders to have warranted such a change. In the photos from Europe there are clearly a parade of riders with the cars in the minority. In our climate this is not realistic. Other that I have spoken to that have experienced these new "lanes" are equally confused. Just wanted to provide input...my guess is the confusion will not slow traffic but rather result in some accidents. I am a biker but would much rather use a side street than jockey that jungle.

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 27, 2012 9:22 AM  
**To:** Scott Neal; Wayne Houle  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Wooddale Traffic

Good morning,

This message is being forwarded to the Mayor and Council members, Scott Neal and Wayne Houle.



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

**From:** [Krugrsales@aol.com](mailto:Krugrsales@aol.com) [<mailto:Krugrsales@aol.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 26, 2012 5:32 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Cc:** Jeff Long  
**Subject:** Wooddale Traffic

The traffic lane routing on Wooddale Ave. is a joke and is creating problems. Is this how we run our city around bike lanes ??

Another bad decision by your council and I am going to vote all of you off the counsel.