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

From: H Havir [mailto:hhavir@nbs-inc.com]

Sent: Monday, July 05, 2010 5:58 PM

To: John Keprios

Subject: bike trail

I live by Countryside Park at 6108 Tracy Ave and want to convey my serious concerns regarding what the Nine Mile Creek staff explained to me about their favored route, 5F.

They told me that 5F, Olinger Blvd. and Tracy Avenue, was their suggested route because it was considerably less costly. It seems that they are not looking to use the roadway along Olinger Blvd. or on Tracy Avenue, but to use the edge of the park along those routes. I walk over to watch some of youngsters play ball sometimes and this sounds like a disaster in the making. I understand that the plan is to improve the second ball diamond to be similar to the one now on the corner, which will increase the need for parking and further confound a bike path and its' evening and weekend traffic. Whether the trail were to be on the roadway or on the parkland, the problems would be terrible.

I am really sick and tired of this penny wise and dollar foolish style of planning. I hope you will use your influence to show the City Council that we have to plan plan 10 and 20 years out. The more costly(?) route (5E, I believe) which follows the creek and crosses Tracy Avenue (Valley View Road) South of the Crosstown Highway is the only logical long range consistent plan. What the Three Rivers Park District is proposing to do is to kick the can down the road and let the City of Edina deal with the problems later. That will only cost the citizens of Edina and other taxpayers a heck of a lot more money in the long run as well as totally disrupt the current planning for Countryside Park. Even more so than the monstrosity proposed by the Colonial Church.

A seasonal crosswalk light South of the Baptist church would be the only conflict for bikers and motorized traffic if the 5E plan is implemented. It would also be a more scenic and safe ride for bikers and their children.

Thank you for listening,

Harvey Havir

152

From: Alta Fossum [mailto:altafossum@hotmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 10:27 AM

To: Lynette Biunno; rep.keithdowney@house.mn; Alta Fossum; ninemiletrail@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Subject: Three Rivers - 9 Mile Creek

We've all heard kids say, "I need..."

This grandma goes by the numbers! In my 26 years in Edina, I have passed many places a gazillion times. One route is 70th St. and the dark windows of the Gramercy real estate catastrophe are sad. You can bet I am wondering why we are even thinking of a big senior citizen housing project in the Colonial Church area. Apparently "we need it."

I no longer drive freeways, so I get to see beautiful western Hennepin County close up on beautiful county roads. About once a week in summer I drive through, and maybe once a month in winter. The best thing to observe is "Three Rivers"—yoicks! The first thing to pop up, several years ago, were many very large signs plumping the Three Rivers Project. Huh? Then came the construction—elaborate pavings and boardwalking. Huh? It soon got to be a joke since I can honestly say I have only seen a handful of solo bikers on this project and never anyone once the snow arrives (except the plowers). So I guess "we needed it," but we didn't know it. And, I plead guilty to not paying a lot more attention to this.

And now, the granddaddy of "need," the 9 Mile Creek bike path! Huh? Crime, environmental rape, destruction of great housing spots, and sheer hubris are involved in this project. The amount of money (that's our taxes, of course) alone should immediately stop this project. Luckily, all the various governmental agencies: county, state, watersheds, bridges, freeways, etc. will probably never get this one put together, but still "we need it?"

153

From: Ben Knoll [mailto:ben.knoll@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 9:24 AM
To: ninemiletrail@threerivesparkdistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Nine Mile Creek Trail

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I hope you'll direct this note to the Edina Mayor and City Council Members, the Three River Park Commissioners and Edina Parks Director, John Keprios.

I'd like to lend my enthusiastic support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While not free, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,

Ben Knoll

154

From: gr8clip@aol.com [mailto:gr8clip@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 6:03 PM
To: Lynette Biunno
Subject: 9 mile creek support

To John Keprios,
I support the trail system for 9 mile creek so it connects from Hopkins, through Edina and then on to Lake Nokomis. As a bike rider in this city, I would love to be able to bike the whole trail and lakes system and this will help make this possible
Thank You,
Nancy Peyton
25 Bello Drive
Edina, MN. 55439

155

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

From: Bob Fried [mailto:bobfried@earthlink.net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 1:04 PM

To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno

Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,

Robert Fried
4914 Bruce Ave.
Edina, MN 55424

156

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

From: Ben Franske [mailto:ben@franske.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 11:49 PM

To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno

Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina Parkland

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I am writing in support of the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina along existing parkland adjacent to the creek. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. As a lifetime resident and new homeowner in Edina I can attest to the important role of our excellent parks system in my desire to purchase a home in Edina. The continued upkeep and improvement of this system is critical in retaining housing marketability and community desirability as well as promoting a healthful and relaxing experience for residents.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise. As a recent resident of the area around Bredesen Park, currently the most significant natural trail area in Edina, I can attest to the desirability and usage of this type of natural and relaxing environment. Furthermore, I strongly believe that a route along the creek utilizing existing parkland would open this natural beauty to a much larger portion of residents than those which currently enjoy the creek and substantially increase trail usage. As a potential recreational user of the trail I must say I would be much more drawn to and likely to use a trail along the creek and natural parkland than to use one along roads. If I wanted to travel on the roads with my bike I would already do that, natural trails are significantly more appealing to recreational users and I would implore you to select a parkland route.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
Dr. Benjamin Franske
6216 Ashcroft Ln
Edina, MN 55424

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From: Margaret Joas [mailto:mjoas@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 8:22 PM
To: kgrissmanl@threeriversparkdistrict.org; repkeith.downey@house.mn; sen.geoffmichel@senate.mn; Lynette Biunno
Cc: Bob Lubar; rakilberg@aol.com
Subject: Mine Mile Creek Regional Trail

Dear Honorable Mayor Hovland, Council Member Brindle, Council Member Bennett, Council Member Housh, Council Member Swenson, Senator Michel, Representative Downey, and Kelly Grissman,

It is with extreme concern and most outrage that I write this letter of comment concerning the nine mile creek regional trail proposal. My family (we have three children ages 9, 11 and 13) and I reside at 6409 Biscayne Boulevard and have done so for approximately the past five years. Prior thereto, I have resided my entire life, forty seven years, in Parkwood Knolls. I have resided twice on Parkwood Road, for a period of about twenty years on South Knoll Drive and now on Biscayne. My wife and I decided to move our family from Parkwood to Biscayne because we were concerned about the speed and increased traffic as we watched our neighborhood become a "cut through" for transient commuters using Parkwood as a shortcut from Highway 169 east into Edina to connect to other road systems. We decided on the move to Biscayne as it allowed us to remain in a neighborhood that has been so important to my (our life) and have walking access to Walnut Ridge Park as well as a quiet street unencumbered by high traffic and speed.

The Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail proposal ("the proposal") as currently presented and as I understand it would change our neighborhood forever and therefore we oppose it and present comments to support that opposition. The proposal would bring unwanted biker and commuter traffic to a neighborhood that is not established in that accord. As I understand the proposal, we could have literally thousands of bikers using a residential neighborhood park as part of that trail system. I ask you a rhetorical question; would you allow your young daughter or son to go down to a neighborhood park that has has invited and provided access to people from outside the community? Clearly, this is not why we moved into this neighborhood and my guess is that it does not reflect the views of most of the people living here.

It is my understanding that there is consideration for making Walnut Ridge Park a sort of hub where bicyclists could come and park there cars and enter the bike trail from that point. This part of the proposal is completely unacceptable. As I mentioned above, the neighborhood already has a traffic issue from transient commuters entering the neighborhood off of Highway 169 to cut though to different arteries. Now, under the proposal, a new group of transients (perhaps from outside Edina) would be encouraged to drive past our house in order to access the bike trail. Walnut Ridge Park currently has parking for only about 14 cars and on any given summer night during lacrosse season we already have a neighborhood parking problem as cars park on the street along Biscayne onto Continental as they attempt to access the north side of the park. As I researched the Three River Park information, I noticed that of all the parking surveys taken, none was taken of this area. If the proposal is allowed to go through, our quiet neighborhood will forever be changed; and not for the benefit of us; the homeowners, but rather for a new class of people that do not have a stake in our residence.

I am not convinced from anything I have read that the City of Edina (and I know not Three Rivers) have contemplated the needs for additional security or monitoring of the trail system. From what I can tell from the materials on the Three Rivers website, the response to this issue seems to be that this group of people that engages in this activity are good people with little track record of illicit behavior. Living four houses from the trail system with three young children, this gives me great comfort, and I applaud the Park District for ensuring my family's well being.

It seems selfish to bring the next point up, but it is worth pointing out but I cannot see how the proposal supports the property value of my home. I could be wrong, but most people who might be the future purchasers of my house would be so for the exact reason I sought it, to have a quiet neighborhood, with little traffic and walking access to a park. That being said, the additional traffic of bicylists and commuters attempting to get the trail can only be seen as a negative and not a positive. I can see no reason why this proposal would support my property values; especially when anyone who wants to use this system can drive to it and park their car.

As I understand the proposal, there are viable alternatives. This trail system could simply use some of the existing right of ways and roads already available without impacting neighborhoods. If anyone has traveled to states and communities (such as parts of California) where bicycling is revered this is exactly what they do, people learn to share the road.

It seems important to bring up the ecological issues associated with the proposal. I have read many of the engineering studies on the Three River's website and I am skeptical at best. How is it whenever some cabin owner in the middle of nowhere in northern Minnesota wishes to do remove a wheelbarrow worth of wetland it seems like the greatest sin has been committed but when we are talking about a sixteen foot right away across a major wetland in the middle a first tier suburb all of a sudden the engineers do cartwheels to tell us this is marginal wetland. Do you really believe this? I moved to my lot because I have no one behind me and I have deer, and ducks and coyotes to name only a few as my backyard guests and you know what; they have value in the middle of suburbia and if they didn't we would be the worse. The damage this proposal will do to the little bit of natural environment we have left in Edina will be irreversible; you will never get it back. Trust me, I remember when Gleason was gravel, and the Jones farm was still a homestead in my neighborhood.

There is a scene from the movie "Field of Dreams" when the baseball spirit says "If you build it they will come." Well if you allow this to happen, they will come, and the residents and citizens of Edina who are the stakeholders will never be the same. There are alternative and solutions. Please be receptive to those alternatives and the homeowners who will be impacted by your decisions.

I appreciate your consideration.

Respectfully,

Bill Joas

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From: Laura Nisi [mailto:lnisi@mac.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 8:12 PM
To: Lynette Biunno; NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org
Subject: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Laura Nisi
5201 Blake Road
Edina MN 55436
lnisi@mac.com

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From: Linda Stanch [mailto:linda736212@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 9:43 PM

To: ninemiletrail@threeriversparkdistrict.org; Lynette Biunno

Subject: Edina needs to be part of the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through the Parkland we already have

Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners
Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Mayor Hovland, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment (I understand through federal funds already allocated), I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

Unfortunately Edina is also known as being somewhat "bubble-like", NIMBY, and frankly, stuck-up. The connection of our community to the whole Metropolitan area would surprise many in the Twin Cities and rid us of some of these misgivings. The opponents are a group of people who own property that is next to the now unused thin segments of Three Mile and have derived direct improvements to their property as a result of this lack of use. A trail would upset this "give away" that now improves the value of their property. I have talked with some of this landowners and they truly believe it is their property, although I did notice on Fox News that one owner had an eight foot barbed wire fence between the park and his property. Ironically, I believe the trail itself would improve the value for any future landowners as this is the wave of the future, recreation and commuting by bicycle and foot.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers. Again how ironic these people would realize.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise. In addition using existing roadways is a safety issue for car drivers and for users of the trail. Completely defeats the purpose of a continuous trail to be back, battling traffic.

In conclusion, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Yours,
Linda Stanch
3121 69th Street West, Apt. 126, previously of 5216 Grandview Lane, Edina, MN

160

From: GRANT_BRAASCH@NATUREWORKSLLC.COM
[mailto:GRANT_BRAASCH@NATUREWORKSLLC.COM]
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 1:24 PM
To: Lynette Biunno
Subject: Nine Mile Creek Trail Feedback

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

My family just moved to Edina last September and our home overlooks Nine Mile Creek in segment 11 of the proposed trail alternatives. I'm writing to provide my feedback and to request clarification on a number of points regarding the trail. When we decided to buy the home last year, the beautiful open space of Abercrombie Park and the creek were major selling points for us but we also understood the possibility that a trail would be constructed in that space. I'm an avid cyclist and enjoy the Three Rivers Trail system throughout the Twin Cities so I understand the value of the regional trail system. I've followed the process of segment analysis, I attended last week's open house, and I've read everything I've been able to find regarding the proposals and I have maintained a pretty neutral position regarding where the trail goes. While I love the beauty and quietness of the open space in our backyard, I also understand the rationale for running a trail through city owned land.

As we're approaching the end of the open comment period, I wanted to reach out to you regarding some unanswered questions and concerns I now have about segment 11 and specifically the portion of the trail proposed for Abercrombie Park. I had a conversation yesterday with our segment representative, Pete McCarthy, and was very concerned with what he shared so I wanted to come to you for clarification. I understand he has been heavily involved with this process through the CAT team meetings so I expect he has as much information about this as any resident. He shared that the plan for the entire segment 11 section is to run a raised boardwalk, 8 feet high and 10 feet wide through this area and that the boardwalk would likely run on or near property lines to stay as far away from the creek as possible. I find this very hard to believe and wanted to address this directly with you so that I make sure I have the right information prior to the open comment period being over.

As I noted above, I have been pretty neutral regarding where the trail runs and I can even envision some scenarios where I could be relatively happy with the trail running through Abercrombie Park behind our property. (See the attached email I sent last week to Three Rivers.) One of the main points I wanted to make in my letter to Three Rivers is that wherever the trail ends up going, I think it's important to give the impacted residents the ability to provide feedback regarding the actual construction of the trail in situations where there are multiple options. He also shared that after the open comment period ends on July 14 and once the vote is made at that time, the land will be turned over to Three Rivers and the city council and residents will have lost any power to control what happens in this area. Is this accurate? If so, that makes me believe there is not much time left for residents to weigh in on how the trail should be constructed. If what Pete shared with me is true in that the entire trail through segment 11 will be raised boardwalk, I have a number of concerns as listed below.

- Boardwalk is not a good surface for a recreational trail. The key stated purposes for the trail are for commuting and recreation. As an avid cyclist, I know that riding on boardwalk is not pleasant and that commuters would likely revert to street routes on the section of the trail that are boardwalk. Pete also shared that there would be a 10 mph speed limit on the boardwalk which is also unreasonable for commuters.
- Regarding recreation as a key function, boardwalk is also not pleasant for kids and families on bikes or for rollerbladers and my understanding is that if the trail is raised boardwalk, there will be very few access points. This makes recreational use by local residents and neighbors very challenging if they're not able to readily access it and if it's a difficult surface to navigate. Pete shared that the closest access point for us would be Heights Park which is about a mile away from our house. It's not most residents' first choice to have a trail running behind their homes but it would add insult to injury if these

residents have to look at an 8 foot high wooden structure that they aren't even able to easily access. In addition, a boardwalk trail is extremely noisy which will cause additional concerns and complaints from the homeowners who are adjacent to the trail. Finally, it's hard for me to imagine such a huge structure would be run through the entire segment. This would be a massive construction undertaking and I find it hard to believe that the construction estimates for this route are accurate relative to the road based route. The trail based route is estimated to only be marginally more expensive than the alternative road based route which doesn't seem to make sense to me if it's true that all or most of segment 11 will be raised boardwalk. We've only been in our house for several months, but I understand that the creek floods very rarely in Abercrombie Park so having a boardwalk through that area, especially 8 feet high, seems to be unnecessary. A paved asphalt trail would be significantly preferable and would only rarely be unusable.

- From a property value standpoint, having an 8 foot high raised boardwalk on the property line or anywhere in Abercrombie Park would create a terrible eyesore blocking views of the creek and significantly detract from the value of the homes directly adjacent. I agree with the analysis that having a trail through Edina will generally be positive for property values but I don't think that will be the case for the residents whose homes back up to an 8 foot tall boardwalk.
- As you can see in my attached message to Three Rivers, I have a few suggestions for how the trail could run through Abercrombie Park that could be very aesthetically pleasing to both homeowners in the area and to trail users. Specifically, I think an asphalt trail at grade that runs through the tall grassland would be very pleasing both to homeowners and to trail users. My hope is that options such as this will be considered if segment 11 is chosen.

I've read and heard many comments for and against the trail and know that much of the negative reaction is driven by NIMBY thinking. As expressed, I'm not necessarily opposed to this trail running behind my backyard but I have serious concerns if it is going to be constructed as Pete shared. My request for you is to provide me the details on how the trail will be constructed through segment 11. This is a very important detail that has not been shared yet and critical for homeowners to understand if they are going to be able to intelligently weigh in on the situation.

Thanks for your time in reading and addressing each of my comments. I look forward to hearing from you either by email or by phone.

Regards,
Grant Braasch

952-334-4357

5177 Abercrombie Drive
Edina, MN

161

5700 Tucker Lane
Edina, Minnesota 55436
952-930-9040

July 7, 2010

Mr. John Keprios
Director, Edina Parks and Recreation
Edina City Hall
4801 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

Dear John:

As you know, Edinans especially love trees for shade, a buffer and aesthetics, not to mention their ability to absorb CO₂. Indeed, when I was on the Council, the principal objection to the installation of curbs and gutters in the Country Club was the adverse affect the installation would have on the boulevard trees. That objection was resolved by avoiding the removal of virtually all of those trees. Too, the City acquired the heavily treed "Krahl's Hill" (on Vernon Avenue across the street from Fountainwood) solely and exclusively because of Karl Krahl's proposed residential development would have required cutting down too many trees.

In any case, trees, or rather the cutting down thereof, also relates to the TRPD's proposed bike trail. Here is how: the Nine Mile Creek Watershed immediately east of that part of Lincoln Drive from Duncan Lane (the entrance to our townhouses) north to Dovre Drive is heavily treed and the proposed route would involve cutting down a lot of those trees as well as the construction of a retaining wall.

I have suggested to Kelly that to avoid the problem of cutting down the trees and constructing a retaining wall that the TRPD use the easterly part of Lincoln Drive for all of the trail at that location because: (a) Lincoln Drive is 60 feet in width and ends at the cul-de-sac north of Dovre Drive; (b) that part of Lincoln Drive is used principally and relatively infrequently for vehicular traffic serving the offices adjacent to the west side of Lincoln Drive; and (c) it would save most of the \$1.6 million in construction costs for Route 1.

Kelly, however, has proposed a design recommendation using 10'6" of the easterly most part of Lincoln Drive and 5'6" of the Watershed. The problem with that design is that because the Watershed drops off sharply from the street, a retaining wall would have to be constructed for the trail, which means that instead of 5'6" it would require 15' to 20' of the Watershed to provide enough room for workers to construct the retaining wall. That, of course, means felling all of the trees in that area.

The solution is to use the easterly 16' of Lincoln Drive for the trail from Duncan Lane to the cul-de-sac. Using the public right-of-way for the trail would not be unique for the TRPD. They are recommending a similar design using for Route 8.

Mr. John Keprios
July 7, 2010
Page 2

I would appreciate it, John, if when the Park Board and the Council meet jointly to discuss the proposed trail, you would weigh in on my suggestion if the Council decides to proceed.

Very truly yours,


Richard E. Johnson

RCJ/tlt

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From: Karl Grindal [mailto:karl@grindal.org]
Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2010 7:29 PM
To: NineMileTrail@threeriversparkdistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: I Support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:
Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners
Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edinas parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community and region.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
Karl Grindal

Karl T. Grindal
MPP Grad Student, Georgetown
Cell: 952-250-7466
Website: www.karlgrindal.com

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From: Annie Kennedy [mailto:anniebkennedy@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2010 1:53 PM
To: 'Commissioners and Planners'; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:
Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners
Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
Annie Kennedy
4024 Grimes Ave S
Edina, MN 55416

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From: Bob Lubar [mailto:rlubar@comcast.net]

Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2010 4:44 PM

To: Lynette Biunno; NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; polly.bowles@metc.state.mn.us; rep.keith.downey@house.mn; jeff.r.johnson@co.hennepin.mn.us

Subject: Edina Portion of proposed Regional Bike Trail -- misguided analysis and inappropriate spending

The argument that "Edina deserves a project constructed within its boundaries because it sends \$3.5 million (in tax revenue) annually to Three Rivers Park District (3RPD)" is misguided.

3RPD was created and designed to serve many of the park and recreation needs within the greater metro area. Sometimes the projects are close to our homes and sometimes the projects are anywhere within 3RPD's taxing jurisdiction (Hennepin and Scott counties with the exception of the City of Minneapolis). 3RPD receives its annual revenues based upon property taxes in these communities. The amount collected from Edina property owners is about \$3.5M annually. 3RPD also owns facilities in five adjacent counties: Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Ramsey and Wright.

The regional park system was designed so that Edina citizens (and everyone else) benefit by using the services offered at one or more of 3RPD's many locations. To say that Edina is getting nothing in return is a very self centered view of the world. To me, it is like wanting to burn your house down so that you directly receive the benefits offered by the local fire department. After all, you've probably been paying property taxes for police and fire services for many years.

We as citizens need to judge a project based on its merits. This means we have a responsibility to look at a project based on its costs, what it brings to the community and rank it against alternative uses of limited funds. There must be a way to achieve the bike trail's objectives at a more reasonable cost. Remember, cost was never included as a route selection criterion when 3RPD and the City of Edina came with this proposal.

Moreover, the proposed project will be largely funded by long term bonds – meaning that Edina (as well as other citizens within the taxing jurisdiction[s]) will be paying for this project for years to come. In addition to paying for the construction of the trail, we will obligate ourselves to pay for future maintenance on a very expensive and high maintenance project. With property values declining, or remaining flat, it is not altogether clear that 3RPD will have the funds available to pay for the operation of the trail into the future.

The ultimate source (federal, state or local) of the construction funds does not matter. It is still the peoples' tax dollars being spent in a frivolous manner.

It is time to demonstrate responsibility to taxpayers and to take steps to live within our means. How about finding a lower cost solution and paying down some of the \$85 million in long term debt currently on 3RPD's books?

That's a big piece of the finance issue. And, we have not yet talked about higher priorities for government spending such as education, first responders, roads and bridges, etc.

Now, do you want to talk about the environmental impact and the wisdom of building a combined 6,000 foot bridge across a “high value wetlands” ...

Clearly 3RPD and the City of Edina did not do its homework on this issue. Please appoint a new team and send this proposal back for a meaningful analysis.

Regards,
Bob Lubar

Robert N. Lubar
Segment 2 Lead - Community Assessment Team
6619 Londonderry Drive
Edina, MN 55436
Phone: 612-396-3285
Fax: 866-521-6018
Email: rlubar@comcast.net

165

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

From: Nancy Kirkbride [mailto:fied0016@umn.edu]

Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2010 7:33 PM

To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno

Cc: kgrissman@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Subject: Proposed Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail

Three Rivers Park District and Edina City Council elected officials; We are writing as voting citizens to voice our EXTREME OPPOSITION to the proposed seven mile bicycle trail through Edina.

With the existing financial deficits facing all branches of our local, regional, state and federal governments - the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail should be voted against by all responsible elected officials.

Any elected official who would approve such a frivolous 'want' by so few individuals should be voted out of office! Please realize the many citizens that are impacted by job loss, the loss of health care benefits and are trying to meet basic needs.

Let me net this out:

- 1.) Our economy is in a deficit, NOT a surplus.
- 2.) The Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail is a 'want' by a few, NOT a need.
- 3.) It is important to note that grants from other public agencies and stimulus funds are funded with our Hennepin county, State, or Federal tax dollars - there are no free public dollars!!!

Vote responsibly, say no the the proposed seven mile bicycle trail through Edina.

Concerned Voters,
Nancy Kirkbride
Mark Kirkbride
5929 Tamarac Avenue
Edina, MN 55436
952-944-9875

166

July 8, 2010

Three Rivers Park District
Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail
3000 Xenium Lane North
Plymouth MN 55441

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you this letter to protest the use of Valley View Road as an alternative trail route in Edina. I also want you to know I am an avid bicyclist and have over 50 years of experience riding parks, trails and roads. I look forward to a bike trail in Edina but I strongly believe Valley View Road is a poor choice.

I live at the corner of Susan Avenue and Valley View. I have been here for 25 years and I am very familiar with the hazards that exist on this route.

Valley View is a main thoroughfare for Edina and is heavily traveled by all sorts of automobiles, trucks, semi-trucks, city buses and school buses on a daily basis. Studies by the City of Edina have proved Valley View as one of the busiest residential streets in the city.

Proposed section seven of Valley View is a treacherous, one-half mile hill. Although the speed limit is 30 mph, cars and trucks carelessly travel down this hill often reaching speeds of 50 or 60 mph before reaching the bottom. This is the rule rather than the exception.

To make matters worse, in one block intervals, Valley View is intersected in the one-half mile by five side streets on the side of the proposed trail. They are Susan Avenue, Lois Lane, Grace Terrace, West 66th Street and Valley Lane. All day long cars and trucks dart out onto Valley View from the side streets and often fail to stop at the stop signs. The trail would cross all of these side streets.

It is also noted Valley View is a major bus line with two stops in section seven.

Because of the hill, the speed and the congestion, there has been all manner of motor accidents at Valley View and West 66th Street. The accidents have endangered not only the passengers but also the bicyclist and pedestrians.

Motor vehicles are not the only victims of Valley View. Bicyclists that coast down the hill often reach speeds in excess of 50 mps without pedaling. I have witnessed at least one child who spilled their bike on Valley View carried away by an ambulance due to injuries. It is my impression that most parents from this area will not let their children bike on Valley View because of the dangerous conditions.

I expressed dangers of Valley View to a representative at a recent public meeting for the trail. The answer from him was "we will have to control the speed". As a long time resident, I can tell you this has been tried and does not work. Despite complaints from neighbors, the Edina police have neither the time nor the manpower to slow this traffic all day long.

I have heard comments that Valley View would be a good choice for a trail because the folks that live there are already used to high congestion traffic of motor vehicles and people. This logic is preposterous. We already have a lethal mix of traffic and people and adding a trail would only make it worse.

Residents at the public meeting talked about alternative routes like section nine and eleven, a route that follows the creek. They expressed concern that the trail would affect wildlife and their privacy. But, since when does wildlife and privacy trump human safety? For this reason, I believe following the creek a better choice.

On a final note, when I bicycle I like to take in the scenery and relax. What is scenic about Valley View with high privacy fences? And, what is relaxing about dodging cars and trucks traveling at high speeds?

Sincerely,


Brian Hallock
Resident

Copy to:

John Keprios
Edina Parks and Recreation
4801 W. 50th Street
Edina MN 55424

Diane Fansler
5709 West 66th Street
Edina MN 55439

About Town Magazine
4801 West 50th Street
Edina MN 55424

167

From: Thompson, Matthew L. [mailto:MThompson@faegre.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2010 10:39 AM
To: 'kgrissmanl@threeriversparkdistrict.org'; 'repkeith.downey@house.mn';
'sen.geoffmichel@senate.mn'; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Proposed Bike Trail Through Walnut Ridge Park
Importance: High

TO SENATOR MICHEL, REPRESENTATIVE DOWNEY, HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT BOARD, MAYOR HOVLAND AND HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE EDINA CITY COUNCIL

My family and I reside at 5700 Camelback Drive in Edina, approximately 2½ blocks from Walnut Ridge Park. I am writing again to express my deep concerns regarding the proposed bike trail that (as currently conceived) will cut through Walnut Ridge Park and its adjacent neighborhoods.

What is most alarming to my family (as well as our neighbors) is the impact that this trail may have on our neighborhood streets on which our kids play and ride their bikes and our neighbors gather, visit, walk dogs, etc. I am very concerned that this trail will result in a material increase in non-resident traffic into what is entirely a residential area. Our streets have no sidewalks, and people using the streets therefore walk on the streets themselves.

A very good share of the people (other than those coming from the West off Hwy 169, trail users who could greatly impact our neighbors on Londonderry Road, Dovre Drive, Continental Drive, etc.) will likely use Schaefer Road, View Lane, Stauder Circle, Deville Drive, Biscayne Blvd, Continental Drive, and Camelback Drive to access the trail from the South or East. Whether such users park on our residential streets or simply use them to drop off bikers is unimportant, as in either event, it would increase traffic on our residential streets. **This translates into a safety issue that “No Parking” and/or “Drive Slowly” signs, or other “traffic calming” measures will not address.** Given the estimates of trail usage that I have seen, I am very fearful that the impact on our neighborhood traffic will be material.

Walnut Ridge is a cherished part of our neighborhood. Throughout the year, kids of all ages meet and play there, and neighbors meet there and visit. Turning this park into a magnet for hundreds of thousands of bikers each year will spell the end to what is currently a safe, guarded and much loved neighborhood haven for our kids. Walnut Ridge is a quiet neighborhood park today that would be converted into a busy regional park.

Trails of this nature, with the degree of projected traffic and the planned parking and “staging” areas, should not be placed inside residential neighborhoods. This proposal isn’t just adjacent to a residential neighborhood – it cuts directly through a residential neighborhood. This plan as it currently is conceived presents material and avoidable safety issues and would be highly irresponsible.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Thank you.

Matt Thompson

LAWYER BIOGRAPHIES | PRACTICE EXPERIENCE | CONTACT US



Matthew L. Thompson, Partner

Faegre & Benson LLP

2200 Wells Fargo Center

90 South Seventh Street

Minneapolis, MN 55402-3901

612-766-6854 / FAX 612-766-1600

MThompson@faegre.com

Biography | Download My Contact Info as V-Card | www.faegre.com

COLORADO | MINNESOTA | IOWA | LONDON | SHANGHAI

168

From: doctc@comcast.net [mailto:doctc@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2010 6:01 PM
To: Lynette Biunno
Subject: support for nine mile creek regional trail through parkland

Dear Mr Mayor and Council Members and Mr John Keprios:

My wife and I strongly support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. We understand the due diligence/EIS of the Three Rivers Park District is supportive of this development. We are residents of this fine city for 34 years and utilize the amazingly vast and beautiful resources of dedicated biking trails in our area. We believe Edina needs to join in linkage with this trail network. We understand the concerns of some property owners adjacent to the proposed trail, but also believe these concerns are overstated, a bit selfish, and will ultimately witness significant benefit to all of us

Sincerely,

Tom and Sue Christiansen
7701 Stonewood Court
Edina, MN 55439
952 946 6976
doctc@comcast.net

169

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

From: Jared Frandson, MD [mailto:jfrandson@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 8:35 AM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly
Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

As a frequent user of the Minneapolis, Regional and State bike trail system, I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina.

While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus running on existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust, noise and a lack of rider and jogger safety. Out of town visitors who I take riding in our great metro area are amazed by the extent of our off-street trail system and wish they had something like that in their city. When I can, I avoid using trails that run on roadways whenever possible. Although roadway trails are cheaper, they do not confer a much of a benefit over the bicycle use of city streets without trail markings, and so in that respect you get far less value for your money.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
Jared Frandson, MD
3330 Columbus Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55407

170

From: Jenn Edwards [mailto:jae950@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 9:56 AM
To: Lynette Biunno
Subject: Attention: Mayor James Hovland--Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed route of the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail--especially segments 9 and 11. Edina should be linked to the regional trail system, but there is no reason to disrupt these two extremely narrow wild corridors that act as a floodplain. It is clear that Edina residents, not just recreational bike riders, will be better served by alternate, on-road routes. These routes will cost less initially, be easier and less costly to maintain, and be usable more months of the year--and, therefore, more appealing to those who commute by bike and favor an accessible, direct route. These alternate routes will also have fewer lighting, flooding, security, and safety issues. In addition, the City of Edina has gone on record as committed to preserving its vanishing wild areas from development and pollution. Please honor this commitment. Reevaluate the trail's routes and costs. Hold public hearings. Get it right. Edina deserves nothing less!

Sincerely,

Jenness Edwards
6605 Cahill Rd., Edina 55439
612-730-9825

171

From: Guy Costa [mailto:gscosta@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 6:09 AM
To: Commissioners and Planners; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners
Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman
Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina, which provides a natural setting for recreational strolling and biking instead of a commercial street. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
Guy Costa
2297 Manuela Dr.
Chaska, MN 55318

172

From: Leslie Helou, Pharm.D. [mailto:lhelou@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 7:10 AM
To: John Keprios
Subject: Edina Resident: Opposition to Route 5F, Regional Trail

Dear Mr. Keprios,

As a thirty-plus year resident of the city of Edina, I am writing in opposition to Route 5F of the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail portion of the Three Rivers Park Trail. I was surprised to learn that Route 5F is strongly being considered without the pertinent group having completed a thorough community impact assessment, as stated in official documentation sent to us by mail. Why is a route that was not originally considered, and has no community representative assigned to it, now a preferred route? Route 5F is being proposed due to issues with all the alternative routes, but it has significant resident-impacting and trail-user safety issues that cause me to strongly oppose it.

Route 5F runs directly behind my family's home on the south-east side of the Hwy 62/Tracy Ave interchange, where we have lived for over 30 years. It also impacts our neighbors' homes. Edina homes are universally valued partly due to the privacy they secure, while simultaneously providing close proximity to metropolitan Minneapolis. Route 5F invades our privacy as well as that of our neighbors, by offering strangers a balcony view into our homes and our yards from atop an unassumingly steep hill.

Major issues with the trail running on the East side of Tracy Ave. and South of Hwy 62, are:

- 1) Due to all area trees being leaf-bearing, there will be no view-obstructing tree coverage for approximately three quarters of the year, and passers-by will have a clear vantage point into the yards, bedrooms and living areas of our homes. Does Edina wish to invite strangers to look directly into my family's home? Will Edina plant a barrier wall of tall evergreens to prevent strangers from seeing our house or coming down the hill to our house if they have a problem? This is a significant security issue for us as residents. Our backyards should be private and secure havens for us to enjoy in peace. A path approximately two stories above our yards allows strangers to peep down on us and invade our privacy.
- 2) The hill is extremely steep and there is clearly not enough room for a 2-way bike and pedestrian path. Will Edina build a fence to provide a barrier that prevents or mitigates accidents? There is no room for a path of sufficient width, let alone for a barrier/fence. This would have been recognized had a proper assessment been conducted.
- 3) How will pedestrians/bikers cross over Hwy 62? There is no existing sidewalk on Tracy Ave. nor available space to pave one, contrary to what was stated by Dave Henry (Route 5D and 7 representative; Meeting 5 minutes, May 17, 2010). Any proposed, newly constructed pedestrian bridge that will span across Hwy 62 on the east side of the Tracy Ave. overpass will provide a direct vantage point into our front yard and both our neighbor's deck (back yard) and front yard. Will Edina also plant a wall of tall evergreens to obstruct this 2nd vantage point? This vantage point was not accounted for in any assessment of resident property affected by this route.

- 4) Tracy Ave. is an extremely busy, hilly street. For ten months of the year, school buses from the senior high, junior high, and elementary schools, as well as cars operated by teenagers and parents, drive North and South along the road, and frequently turn onto Hwy 62 and Valley Lane. Why would a recreational, usually scenic trail run along such a traffic-heavy street? If the trail needs to cross from the North side of Hwy 62 to the South side, a pedestrian bridge should be built somewhere West of Tracy Ave. and East of Gleason Rd., avoiding Tracy Ave. altogether. There are many scenic points along this newly proposed stretch that would mitigate the hazards of traffic on Tracy Ave., as well as span across a stretch of Hwy 62 that contains no adjacent homes. For example, if a newly proposed trail continues from Bredeson Park onto Colonial Way, a newly proposed pedestrian bridge could be constructed on the West side of the Tracy Ave. fire station, avoiding the children's playground. These newly proposed adjustments would allow the trail to continue along the creek and utilize city land behind Creek Valley Church.

Although there are recreational benefits to having proximate access to the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail, it is in the best interest of Edina residents to have the trail run as close along the perimeter of Edina as possible, discretely around residential homes, instead of directly through the middle of our private neighborhoods.

As was indicated in the May 17th meeting minutes, it seems that arbitrary new alternate paths can be proposed for consideration at the last minute without having endured the proper and necessary assessments. I therefore propose the following for consideration. Since it is obviously Route 5F's intent to divert the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail away from its namesake, Nine Mile creek, in order to both utilize the existing Bredeson Park pathway as well as satisfy environmental concerns associated with a creek path, this deviation from the creek can be further maximized by the following:

- the trail continuing Northeast along Vernon Ave., since this does not implicate residential front or back yards, and there is an existing wide street containing a sidewalk and ample, available space
- the trail crossing from the West side of Hwy 100 to the East side, utilizing either Eden Ave. or one of the two existing pedestrian/bike bridges
- the trail continuing South along the East side of Hwy 100, utilizing the frontage road
- the trail continuing East along the North side of Hwy 62, utilizing the city land that exists around the Hwy 100/Hwy 62 interchange, and crossing over Hwy 62 on a pedestrian bridge, connecting to the Rosland Park/Lake Corneila path
- the trail connecting with the new pathways being constructed in the Southdale area and Centennial Lakes Park

In conclusion, I firmly oppose Route 5F of the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail portion of the Three Rivers Trail in Edina. Its incomplete assessment did not consider the multiple, balcony view, vantage points created by the trail into the yards and homes of all Doron Drive residents, particularly our home at 5616 Doron Dr. I have been a resident of Edina for over 30 years and, until now, have been proud of the privacy that Edina ensures for its residents. Route 5F was admittedly, as stated in the May 17 meeting minutes, not well thought out and was not even

proposed with all of the other preliminary alternatives for thorough consideration. Instead, it was rashly conceived with little foresight, and was hastily thrust upon us, giving us very little time to react and resist its approval.

Protect the privacy of the residents of Edina and vote NO on Route 5F.

Sincerely,

Leslie Helou, PharmD, BCPS
Resident of 5616 Doron Dr., Edina, MN 55439

173

From: tketl tds.net [mailto:tketl@tds.net]
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 9:54 AM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support the Nine Mile Creek RegionalTrail

Dear Sir or Madaam,

I support the NIne MIle Creek Regional Trail through Edina. !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We load our bikes on the car and head to the Minneapolis for a day of riding, dining and enjoyment.

Tom Kotschevar
Monticello, MN

174

From: Ted Adams [mailto:tadams6@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 9:38 AM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

I am a 67 year old 15 year resident of Edina. I am also a bike rider and given my age I like to avoid riding on city streets. I use the 3 rivers trail system nearly every day (when I'm not playing golf). I strongly support building a trail through the park in Edina. The park is for all residents to use, not for the private use of local homeowners. I live on Minnihaha creek and many canoeists float through my back yard. Keeping bikes off trails in the park is akin to telling canoeists that they can't use the creek in my back yard. Lets get the trail built through the park for both my safety and my enjoyment.

Ted Adams
4618 Edgebrook Place
Edina, MN 55424

175

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

From: Wilbur Ince [mailto:wilbur@wilbur.us]

Sent: Friday, July 09, 2010 6:20 PM

To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno

Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. Although I am not an Edina resident, I do regularly use the trails here.

While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Wilbur Ince

Twin Cities Resident

176

From: Glenn Nemec [mailto:nemec002@umn.edu]
Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2010 12:12 AM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for 9 mi trail

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

Everywhere bike trails have been created they have been shown to stimulate use of the involved areas and bring economic benefit to nearby businesses. Detailed information is available at through Rails to Trails and the League of American Bicyclists.

Furthermore, the intersections where bike trails along roads intersect with those roads, are high risk areas for vehicle vs bike and vehicle vs pedestrian accidents. They are sometimes cheaper to build there, but they are a known and proven danger. I refer you to the book "The Effective Cyclist" for detailed information on this subject.

Sincerely,

Glenn Nemec M.D.

177

From: Ramona Johnson [mailto:ramonas_tango@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2010 12:52 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org
Cc: Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners
Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks. I have lived in the Edina area for several years and enjoy biking in the area. I would bike there more often if there was a nice trail to ride on.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
Ramona Johnson
3858 Stevens Avenue
Minneapolis MN

178

From: Dianne Plunkett Latham [mailto:Dianne.Plunkett.Latham@Comcast.net]

Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2010 2:30 PM

To: NineMileTrail@THreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno; Claire Bleser; Corrine Lynch; Geoffrey H. Nash; Kevin Bigalke; LuAnn Tolliver; Steve Kloiber

Subject: Please Support the 3 Rivers Trail Creek Alignment

7-11-10

Dear 3 Rivers Pk Dist., Edina City Council and 9MCWD Managers,

I want to compliment the Three Rivers Park District for the excellent presentation on the Edina segment of the 9 Mile Creek Regional Trail, which I attended on June 30th. It was well organized and informative. Three Rivers has put much research and planning into making the trail an outstanding amenity for Edina residents. As a cyclist I am writing to ask you to support the creek alignment of the trail. This provides the safest and most scenic option for cyclists, which will do much to encourage cycling in Edina. Increased cycling will yield better health among Edina residents. It will also result in more cycling commuters to work and to school, which will reduce carbon emissions and its consequent air pollution and global warming. I appreciate all your work to help make this trail a reality for Edina!

Dianne Plunkett Latham
7013 Comanche Ct
Edina MN 55439-1004
952-941-3542

179

From: dwight [mailto:fellmad@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2010 6:25 AM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina.

I don't live in Edina, but I grew up there (1957 to 1974) and lived on the Nine Mile Creek at 6801 Limerick Lane.

Today I live in St. Louis Park. I am a bicycle commuter that rides through Hopkins every day. I live next to the North Cedar Lake trail...and use it for my commute. In 1999 this trail was still in planning stages...and we moved here to be next to a trail.

I am perplexed as to why Edina never "got with the program" and developed trails throughout the city. Better late than never.

Do your best to get east/west and north/south trails on the map in Edina. There will be lots of vocal "not in my backyard" complaints...I saw that here also. However, once the trails are in...*everyone is happy*. The trail next to our townhome development has indeed added value to our property; it's a selling point.

Dwight Fellman
7909 Victoria Curve
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

180

From: Paul Yaggie [mailto:paul-yaggie@vjaa.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2010 8:37 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Tracy/Valley View route

Dear 3 Rivers Park District Commissioners Woodbeck, Wyatt, Corcoran, Haggerty, Franzese, Blackstad, and Kinsey, also Senior Planner Kelly Grissman, Mayor Jim Hovland, Council Members Bennett, Swenson, Housh, and Brindle, and Edina Parks Director John Keprios,

Please consider locating the proposed bike path on the west side of Tracy/Valley View between HWY 62 and the High School. As a resident of this street I witness that most bicyclists use the west side because it does not bisect so many side roads. Many bikes reach 40 mph because of the hill. The east side is dangerous because of the pedestrians and traffic.

Thank you for your consideration,

Paul and Doreen Yaggie
5712 Grace Terrace
Edina, MN 55439