

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: Edina Transportation Commission

Agenda Item #: VII. A.

From: Wayne D. Houle, PE, Director of Engineering

Action

Date: March 21, 2013

Discussion

Subject: Correspondence Relating to Transportation Issues

Information

Action Requested:

No action requested.

Information / Background:

Attached is correspondence from the latest City Council packets and other sources relating to transportation issues.

Attachments:

Correspondence

Subject: MN State Passenger Rail Transit/Street Cars/Light Rail

To Whom it may concern:

Please support (Politically & Financially) the effort for affordable fast State of Minnesota Rail Transit.

Welcome to the Vented Frustrations of a DAILY COMMUTER and LONG TERM MINNESOTA RESIDENT, PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS!!!!

-NLX to Duluth (So we can help the Duluth economy, UMD and attend the Duluth Maritime Festival) We can call it the Herb Brooks Train, since real people, really do DIE on our crap MN roads.

-Zip Rail to Rochester, so my friends and I who end up taking our parents to Mayo don't have to take that death trap known as HWY 52

-Fast Train to Fargo, So Minnesotans can better benefit from the Oil Boom in North Dakota and not worry about being snowed in a ditch off of HWY 94

-Northstar Rail to St. Cloud (So my friend's kids can go to St. Cloud State w/o having to pay for room and board & I won't have to sit on 494N for two hours trying to reach my cabin) And then maybe you'll be able to get the freaking NorthStar Passengers stats up!!

-SW Light Rail, Dan Patch Corridor and a light rail line that runs west on 394 or Hwy 55.
Every Morning and every Evening I can litterally hold a picnic on the hood of my vehicle as I wait in traffic.
The Byerly's fried chicken smells really good as I sit there and wait on HWY 100 !!!

-Dan Patch would also get to Northfield which would allow Minneapolis students to attend Carleton College & St. Olaf without have to pay a King's fortune in Room & Board. By the way another one of my friend's sisters DIED on the freeway trying to get back to St. Olaf

- A street car from the central corridor to the State Fair Grounds (Seasonal) and Hamline, Mac, UST and the other St. Paul colleges. ITS ONLY THE GREAT MN GET TOGETHER, I THINK IT WILL GET USED!!!!!!

-Street Cars in all of South Minneapolis and the first ring suburbs such as St. Louis Park, Richfield, Edina, Unless of course the game plan is to take out thousands of homes worth Multiple Millions of dollars in order lay more concrete that MN DOT won't plow in the winter. That first snow fall this season was the worst performance I've seen in my 20 plus years of driving

Well there you have it, said my peace, as a taxpayer I'm fine with increasing the sales tax, the gas tax, the income tax, & the internet sales tax, just give me something tangible that I can see, and that gives long term benefit to us all.

I'm tired of waiting and watching my life go past my eyes on MN Highways at 5 miles per hour and in other cases seeing my friends die from crap infrastructure.

PS: 5 minutes slower and I would have been dead at the bottom of the 35W bridge collapse, just trying to get from work at Honeywell to home that day.

Sincerely,
Andy Brown
5512 Park Place
Edina MN 55424
612-220-3045

Subject: Bike Lanes on Wooddale Ave. No driver's lanes?

Three times while driving down Wooddale Ave. at night I narrowly missed running into a car. The first, I reported to an Edina Police Officer. He said they had nothing to do with the parking lane, and the bike lanes painted on Wooddale. He said he had heard of several people concerned about this. He said the "project" was passed by the Edina City Council. My question is: what happened to a YELLOW line being painted down the middle of Wooddale?

I have never seen a bike rider on Wooddale the last 30 times I drove down Wooddale. (I've seen one on 70th.) I would think the LEAST the Council could do was to have included a YELLOW line down the middle. My wife and I have lived in Edina for 47 years. Our son and his wife have lived in Edina for 25 years, their children, 14 to 22 years) We have all been bike riders at one time or another. (My wife, Pat, used to ride from Bruce Avenue over to Lake Harriet, around part of Lake Calhoun, around Lake of the Isles, and back home. Don't recall many bike lanes along the way.) Now when I drive down Wooddale at night I drive about 5 miles an hour when another car is approaching me while I try to figure how much space I have. Someone told me that I could drive in the Bike Lane if no bike riders are present. Or in the parking lane.

HELLO! You couldn't afford a YELLOW line?

Jack, Sr. & Pat Mertes
6730 Vernon Ave.
pmert4620@yahoo.com

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2013 8:24 AM
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Edina council



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

From: Dxbell@aol.com [<mailto:Dxbell@aol.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 25, 2013 6:03 PM

To: jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com; Edina Mail

Subject: Edina council

Yesterday when I opened my gas bill I was informed that once again Edina is imposing a new tax on its citizens with a "franchise fee" This latest fee has finally made me so fed up with all the latest proposals that I must write to the council and express how unhappy I am with what all the new changes that recently have been created by this council.

It started with the ruining of 70th Street. The stop light on West Shore Dr stops traffic every 1 minute whether there is cross traffic or not. It is completely energy inefficient. Slowing the speed limit to 25mph is forcing cars to use side streets because the traffic backs up on 70th St in part because of the needless stop lights and roundabouts. There are other streets with bike paths but they are not at 25 MPH. Maybe the speed limit is set at 25 mph because one of you lives on that street.

Wooddale is a complete disaster and it should be changed back to the way it was before there are more accidents. Streets have been ground out to change the lane markings and just left that way. It is not a quality look for Edina.

Recycling has now been reduced to twice per month. Yet the citizens are still charged the same weekly fee. This is just another example of cutting services and not passing the savings on to the citizens. Now my cell phone has a city tax. There is also a bike path maintenance tax,

This council should be looking at ways to reduce spending not looking to create new taxes. We have enough of that problem with the Federal Govt, Why can't Edina lead by example and try to reduce expenses rather than create new taxes?

Dede Darling Ries