

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: MAYOR & COUNCIL

Agenda Item #: IX. A.

From: Debra Mangen
City Clerk

Date: May 20, 2014

Subject: Correspondence

Action
Discussion
Information

Action Requested:

No action is necessary.

Attachment:

Attached is correspondence received since the last Council meeting.



May 5, 2014

The Honorable Jim Hovland, Mayor of the City of Edina
Ms. Joni Bennet, Edina City Council Member
Ms. Mary Brindle, Edina City Council Member
Mr. Josh Sprague, Edina City Council Member
Ms. Ann Swenson, Edina City Council Member

4801 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

RE: 66 West Apartments

On behalf of parishioners at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Edina, I am writing to express support for the proposed 66 West Apartments, which will provide much-needed affordable housing for homeless youth and young adults in the southwest suburbs.

Our congregation recently started an intentional journey to better understand the issue of youth homelessness and its root causes in our own neighborhood. We learned that youth homelessness is largely invisible in the suburbs. Yet, teachers, high school counselors, school board members, librarians, YMCA staff, and drop-in center volunteers serving homeless youth from Edina and surrounding suburbs know this issue well and have made us aware of this pressing need.

Edina has the resources and community passion to create a network of support that will launch these young people into successful futures. The location in the Southdale area will provide youth safe housing, access to first jobs with many employers, and multiple means of public transportation.

We have partnered with Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative to mentor families facing homelessness. We know the professionalism of Beacon's staff and the organization's commitment and expertise in developing supportive housing that will be an asset to our community.

The issue of youth homelessness in our neighborhood has quickly captured the hearts of many members of St. Stephen's, as evidenced by the signed petition attached. We urge you to work with Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative and approve the project proposed 66 West Apartments.

Thank you for your support,

The Rev. Rena Turnham
Deacon, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church-Edina

April, 2014

Mayor Jim Hovland and Members of Edina City Council
4801 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

We are parishioners at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Edina. We are signing this petition to express support for the proposed development of 66 West Apartments to provide much-needed affordable housing for homeless youth and young adults in the southwest suburbs.

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We urge you to work with Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative and approve the proposed 66 West Apartments.

Clare Dempsey

Cathy Bauer

Daniel

Jean Larson

W. Sullivan

Patrick Weston

Catherine Beringer

Lisa Selmer

Margaret Kurl

Tim Harstiel

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Cathleen R. Goddard
Lisa M. Noma

Steve Domb

Jykeid

Bill & Lois Clynes

J. Basil

Mike and Judy Jensen

Bob and Betsy Nelson

Debbie Belfry

Julie Weig

Frank Kohl

Wendy Gehall

Jane M. O'Leary

Pete Vorbich

Paul S. Van Donge

Yvonne Bryson

Marybeth

April, 2014

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Katie Hardy
Jimmy McNamee
Just Henry
Todd Kelly
C. Kelly
Sue Galt
Steve Flinn
Anne M. Wagner
Candice Lab

Bruce Barber
Ernst Manske
Tom Kimmel
Dandy Young
Lynn
Greg
Mary R. Galt
David E. Langr

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M. Michael
The Reverend Rena Turnham
Rev. Rena Turnham, Deacon St. Stephen's - Edina
~~Joan Ackerson~~
Clem Dankerwald
Barbara Curry
Doris Muscogay Hoyt
Joan & Larry
Peggy and George Crollich
~~John Guter Moller~~
Marie Jackson
Karel
C. V. ...

April, 2014

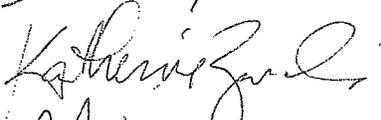
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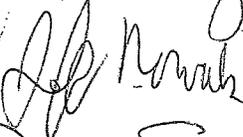
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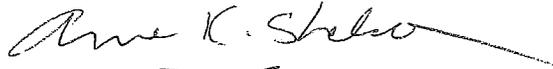

Gretchen Faust


Katherine Zuel


Jeff Kovach


Dana




Anne K. Stebo




Arthur R. Gossell

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Judy Woolverine
Jane Woolverine

George Adelt
Sue Brice
John Z. G.

Lisa Phelps
Vand A

Elizabeth Schwab

John D.

Pat Walters
Sarah Sullivan

Patricia Johnson

David D.

Neil S. Del

Reggie Alexander

Linda J. Brocker

Tim A.

Ray Burns

Ellene R. Burns

Myke Brehm

David Sudduth

Kathia Langley

John H.

Chris Fisher

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Jacqueline Sullivan	Gail Jones
Julie M. Baker	Kathleen Helms
John [Signature]	Jeff Helms
Maren Christopher	[Signature]
Lisa [Signature]	Tom Bern
Patricia [Signature]	Richard Thomas
[Signature]	Keith Skerrett
[Signature]	Barbara Skerrett
Jacqueline A. Skita	John Bull
Doug & Ann Marie Lambert	

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Janie Hansen
Mary Margaret & Ken Lehmann
Cami Owens
Lily Phelps
William Bale
Grace F. Taylor
Sue & Mark Jordan
M. J.
Saraspansee
Chris S. McK

May 5, 2014

Mr. James Hovland
City of Edina
4801 W. 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

Dear Mayor Hovland,

We are writing to you to express our displeasure with the proposed bumpouts for Xerxes Avenue. Several of us attended the meeting on April 28, 2014 with high hopes for a bumpout solution to the traffic issues on Xerxes Avenue. But we were extremely disappointed with the concrete bumpout design. We feel the length is excessive at 29 feet and the design is unsightly. We also do not like the tube delineators and the fact that the bumpouts would not start at the curb.

Another issue is emergency vehicles. How does a fire truck or ambulance get up to a house with a 29 foot bumpout? What about the snow factor in the winter? Emergency vehicles cannot pull up to any houses that have a large concrete bumpout in front of them. And they really have an issue when there is 3 to 4 feet of snow piled on it. This seems to be a serious safety issue to us.

All of us are concerned that the concrete islands would have a negative impact on our property values. Would you want to purchase a home with a huge concrete island in front of it?

One of the houses on our block of 59th and Xerxes has a driveway and many of the houses have sidewalks that go to the curb. No one wants a bumpout to block their sidewalk or make the driveway more difficult.

We have toured the bumpouts on Penn Avenue and Lyndale Avenue and we all agree that these two streets have a much less intrusive design for the bumpouts than the Xerxes Avenue option. We would prefer the smaller bumpouts on Xerxes Avenue.

While we all agree that parking on the Edina side of Xerxes Avenue is a challenge, we feel it would be more challenging with two 29 foot concrete islands. Several homes would lose any potential guest parking with the concrete bumpouts.

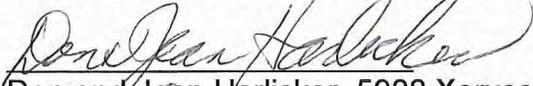
If a smaller design similar to Penn and Lyndale isn't an option then we DO NOT want any bumpouts on our block of 59th and Xerxes. We are under the impression that a solid white stripe would be painted on Xerxes Avenue similar to

the striping on France Avenue between 54th and Hwy. 62/Crosstown. While we know this isn't the perfect solution, we are hoping the stripe will make our street safer for parking and mowing lawns.

Sincerely,



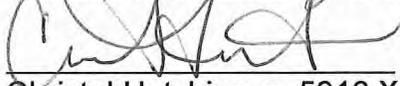
Lori McGowan 5904 Xerxes Ave. S.



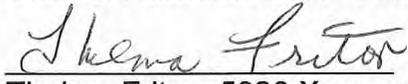
Don and Jean Harlicker 5908 Xerxes Ave. S.



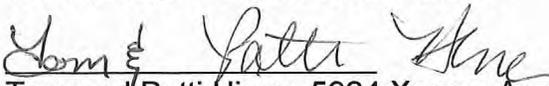
Gail and Rick Jones 5912 Xerxes Ave. S.



Christel Hutchinson 5916 Xerxes Ave. S.



Thelma Friton 5920 Xerxes Ave. S.



Tom and Patti Hines 5924 Xerxes Ave. S.



Clint and Lynn Reynolds 5928 Xerxes Ave. S.

Annie P. Baldwin, Ph.D.
5628 Xerxes Avenue South, Edina, Mn 55410-2637

May 8, 2014

Mr. Mark K. Nolan, AICP
Transportation Planner
Edina Engineering Department
4801 W. 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

Dear Mr. Nolan:

I have lived at 5628 Xerxes Avenue South for nearly 38 years. There has always been a fair amount of traffic on this street. However, since the administration installed the temporary bump-outs from 60th Street to 62nd Street, there has been the worst traffic backups that I have ever seen. The traffic congestion occurred not only during rush hours, but also at off-peak hours such as midday and weekends. It was not unusual for me to have to wait 5-8 minutes before a driver would stop and allow me to back out of my driveway. The traffic was backed up to 56th Street and beyond.

It was difficult to understand the handouts that were given to us during the April 28, 2014, meeting. Perhaps it would have been better if the information had been presented using PowerPoint slides that showed pictures of the proposed bump-outs or a prototype of what is being considered for installation on Xerxes Avenue South. It appears from the disseminated diagrams that the bump-outs will be concrete and have a 36-inch pipe on the top with an amber reflector. It also looks like there will be a drainage tray located on the side of the bump-outs next to the curbs. Was it the intention to have the water flow around the bump-outs? If so, the water may continue to flow to the present drainage system located near 5700 Xerxes Avenue South. In the past, this particular drainage seems to have been unable to handle massive water flows. Therefore water stands in pools on the street and sets up the strong possibility of cars hydroplaning after substantial downpours of rain.

Have you considered possible problems that the proposed bump-outs may create?

(1) City/County Snow Plowing

I believe that during the meeting it was mentioned that homeowners would be responsible for removing snow left by snow plows if the proposed bump-outs were installed.

However, it is the responsibility of the city/county to take care of all matters pertaining to snow removal from the pavement on Xerxes Avenue South. In the past the snow-plow drivers have done an excellent job removing snow from the street. Why create a problem when one doesn't exist?

(2) Homeowner Contracted Snow Removal

Bump-outs' placements will likely interfere with the ability of the homeowner to ensure that a private snow removal contractor will have ample space to maneuver its truck and other equipment in order to dump snow from the driveway onto the homeowner's lawn, as required by the City of Edina. Currently, the drivers do not have any difficulty making the necessary maneuvers to push snow onto the homeowner's yard. This is another example of "why create a problem when one doesn't exist?"

Mr. Mark K. Nolan
May 8, 2014
Page Two

In addition, the homeowner must not be made responsible for clearing snow that accumulates around the bump-outs, which are on the pavement, during city/county snow plowing or other. That responsibility lies with the City of Edina and/or Hennepin County.

(3) Emergency Vehicles (Police, Ambulances, Fire Trucks)

I fail to understand how the proposed bump-outs will not interfere with the safe passage of these vehicles. It seems that there would not be a place for motorists to move out-of-the-way for these vehicles to pass through to take care of emergencies, accidents and traffic stops made by the police.

(4) Mass Transit

We are fortunate to have excellent mass transit on Xerxes Avenue South (local and express). Would bus drivers be expected to wait in long traffic lines because there is no bus lane which would allow movement around the traffic, as well as to make stops to load and unload passengers, including those who are wheelchair-bound? Bump-outs can create an unnecessary problem for mass transit drivers, and most certainly the passengers who are going to work, appointments and other. The most appropriate consideration should be providing the easiest and best way for buses and emergency vehicles to reach their destinations in the timeliest fashion possible, rather creating additional bottlenecks.

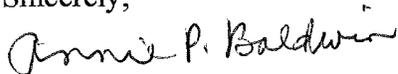
(5) Homeowners

Homeowners who exit their property onto Xerxes Avenue South should be able to do so without having a long waiting period. It is my opinion that the proposed bump-outs' plan that was presented at the April 28, 2014, meeting will not solve the traffic congestion issue. I strongly believe that this model will further exacerbate traffic jams on Xerxes Avenue South.

Perhaps the engineers could return to the drawing board and design a much better model to solve the traffic problem. The France Avenue design seems to be working well and should be given prime consideration for Xerxes Avenue South. The goal should be elimination of traffic congestion and its attendant problems rather creating additional traffic issues that impact homeowners and motorists.

In my opinion, officials from the City of Edina and Hennepin County need to have an open forum with the residents of Xerxes Avenue South where key problems are aired. Of particular importance is an examination of issues that do not appear to have been given sufficient thought, if any, heretofore.

Sincerely,



Annie P. Baldwin, Ph.D.

Cc: Joni Bennett
Mary Brindle
James B. Hoveland
Ann Swenson
Joseph Sprague

Heather Branigin

From: Lisa Kotsonas <lkotsonas@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 06, 2014 4:45 PM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: 'Keith Kotsonas'
Subject: Attn: City Council and Engineering

Re: 2014 Alley Improvements 54th to 56th St W between Xerxes and York Avenues

To Whom it May Concern:

We favor going ahead with the improvements as outlined in your May 5, 2014 letter.

Thanks,
Lisa and Keith Kotsonas
5515 York Ave S
Edina MN 55410

Heather Branigin

From: Lori_Peterson@LymanLumber.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 10:15 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Lennar Project

After attending your meeting last night I wanted to address some issues that were brought up after the public comments were closed. One item that was mentioned about this area was the dilapidated fences in the area where the homes will be torn down. If I am not mistaken these fences were built by the City of Edina and were supposed to be maintained by them. You may want to check with your staff to make sure that your property is better maintained. Also, when a sidewalk is installed, please make sure it goes to the end of the block. There was a lot of talk about driving thru the neighborhood, but did anyone get out of your car and try walking thru?

It was clear that most of you are very passionate about the trees in Edina. As a Richfield resident that is one of the reasons we moved to where we did - because of the large trees. If you look at the satellite view of the houses that are about to be demolished, there are several established trees along Xerxes that form a canopy. Maybe this would be a good time for you to insist that the builder keep at least some of these large trees. It was mentioned at one point that Evergreen trees would be a good option – that is a very bad idea for a high density area. They provide a hiding place and make the area less safe to walk in.

Lastly, when the apartments on the corner of 69th and Xerxes were built we were told that no traffic would be affecting Xerxes Avenue. Then at the last minute, the plans were changed to include the garage entrance right on Xerxes. This has created a huge quality of life issue for everyone on that block. Please keep this in mind when this project begins – carefully review any changes that come thru at the last minute to make sure they are sticking to the approved plan. Also, keep in mind that most households have more than one car, so the parking should be adequate enough to accommodate all vehicles and be included with the apartments instead of making it too expensive to rent garage spaces and therefore dump more of the parking onto Xerxes.

We have always thought that it was an advantage to have a home so near to Edina. We enjoy having everything we need so close by. Our daughter got her first job at Southdale and we buy a majority of our everyday items in Edina. After hearing your comments about the area, I get the feeling you think very little of Richfield and the residents. I don't think we have been such bad neighbors to you and I hope that you can start treating us with a bit more respect. Thanks for your time.

Lori Peterson
6912 Washburn Ave S.
Richfield, MN

Lori Peterson • Accountant • BEP Lyman LLC
520 3rd Street, Suite 200, Excelsior, MN 55331
Direct: 952-470-3683 Fax: 952-470-3610
email:Lori_Peterson@LymanLumber.com

Heather Branigin

From: tonycurry@gmail.com on behalf of Tony Curry <tony@welcome.ac>
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 11:47 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Joanna Curry; Josh Sprague
Subject: Request for Instructions for Next Steps on Ally Special Assessment
Attachments: Notice of Public Hearing - Improvement Nos. A-257 & A-258.pdf

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to learn what course of action I must follow in order to object to the 2014 Alley Improvement project in our neighborhood.

The Edina City Council will convene on Tuesday, May 20 to hear and discuss this matter.

Before I comment on the City of Edina's special assessment findings, I must first obtain the facts and understand the procedures I must work within to lodge an objection.

I look forward to your timely reply.

Sincerely,
Tony



May 5, 2014

*NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
2014 ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS
54th to 56th St. W. between Xerxes and York Avenues
IMPROVEMENT NOS. A-257 & A-258*

The Edina City Council will meet at Edina City Hall, on Tuesday, May 20, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., to consider the public hearing for the 2014 Alley Improvements. This hearing is being conducted under the authority granted by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 429.

This hearing has been called because of a petition from residents for the improvements, and staff's recommendation. The proposed project would be constructed in the summer of 2014 with the assessment hearing occurring in the fall of 2015. The estimated project cost is \$95,000. The cost of the project will be funded by special assessment. The estimated cost per assessable lot is \$1,800 per residential equivalent unit. The assessments can be divided over a five-year period with interest accumulating on the unpaid balance.

The area proposed to be assessed the cost of the proposed improvement includes the following:

3100 & 3113 56th St. W., 3100 55th St. W., 5400 to 5552 Xerxes Ave. So.,
5405 to 5553 York Ave. So.

Your receipt of this notice is an indication that property whose ownership is listed to you is among those properties which are considered to be benefited by the improvement.

The City Council can authorize the proposed project immediately upon the close of the hearing.

To comment, you may:

- **Write** to City of Edina, Attention Engineering, 7450 Metro Boulevard, Edina, MN 55439
- **Email** to mail@EdinaMN.gov, attention City Council and Engineering
- **Attend the public hearing** and offer comments.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

7450 Metro Boulevard • Edina, Minnesota 55439
www.EdinaMN.gov • 952-826-0371 • Fax 952-826-0392

Heather Branigin

From: Grace Lee <grace.lee@parktrust.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 2:22 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Countdown to Kids to Parks Day: Thank you for your support!

SAVE THE DATE FOR

Kids to Parks Day- May 17, 2014

PLEDGE TO PARTICIPATE AND ENTER TO WIN OUR GRAND PRIZE.



VISIT KIDSTOPARKS.ORG TODAY  **NATIONAL PARK TRUST**

Kids to Parks Day is 10 days away! Thank you for your support of this important national grassroots initiative. Your leadership in your community will help to get hundreds of thousands of kids and families out to parks locally and across the country.

Did you know that?

- There are 371 mayors and town councils that have proclaimed the day, representing all 50 states and D.C. It's not too late to join in on the fun. [Click here for the proclamation](#) and [here to see a list of participating cities and towns](#).
- 17 governors have proclaimed the day. [Click here for the list](#). Can you help us get your governor on board?
- KTP Day was featured in the National League of Cities April newsletter? [Click here to read the story](#).
- There are more than 1000 (!) park events registered at kidstoparks.org.
- Those that [pledge to participate](#) can access tons of free park resources and also enter to win our GRAND prize.

Can you help spread the word by?

1) Encouraging your residents to pledge to participate at kidstoparks.org.

2) Promote the day via social media:

- Pledge to get outdoors on #KidstoParks Day May 17 and enter to win cool prizes! Click here to pledge <www.kidstoparks.org>

Most of all, our huge THANKS to you for making KTP 2014 the most successful one to date! Now it's time to encourage your families to get out and go!

Best regards,

Grace Lee
Executive Director
National Park Trust
401 East Jefferson Street, Suite 203
Rockville, MD 20850
301-279-7275, ext. 14
301-279-7211, fax
www.parktrust.org

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301-279-7275

Our mailing address is:

401 E. Jefferson Street, Suite 203, Rockville, MD, 20850

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Heather Branigin

From: Carol Kaemmerer <carol@kaemmerergroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 7:02 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: support public use of public land -- Grandview site

Dear members of the Edina City Council,

We are so fortunate in Edina to have some public land at the Grandview site that could be put to use to create a multi-age, multi-use community resource. Many other municipalities -- including some neighboring suburbs -- have developed significant community buildings with amenities including art centers, theaters, and community recreational space.

I urge that the council engage a consultant who specializes in public amenities, and who does not have a financial interest in redevelopment of this land, to work with the community to identify public uses for this land. Such a consultant could be tasked to develop data regarding cost and revenue projections for specific public amenities so that the information could be shared in a series of public meetings. Through this process, the public can meaningfully have input to determine the most desirable amenities and the best use of this publicly owned land to serve the Edina community.

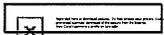
With very best regards,

~ Carol

Carol Kaemmerer

www.kaemmerergroup.com

952.927.9541



Watch my video here: <https://vimeo.com/92186656/>

Heather Branigin

From: pmatchie@iphouse.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 5:14 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview Site

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to support the use of public use of the property site - not a private development. Edina is in need of a place to create a community space - it is much too spread out to create a sense of community. I believe this is one of the last sites that will be available for that purpose.

The senior center is extremely successful, as is the public library. Please expand that model to create a community space that is welcoming and useable for group meetings and other activities. Selling the land for private development is not in our best interest.

Thank you,

Pam Matchie-Thiede

Heather Branigin

From: giovanna ingram <giovanna1963@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 7:38 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview

Please do not give up the Grandview Property for Private use. Don't let greed get in the way of making the right decision.

Please consider Grandview for Public use, like a one stop shop community center for our youth.

Thanks,
Giovanna

Heather Branigin

From: judgeardis@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 7:52 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview

I would like to offer my opinion on one of the subjects of the May 20th City Council meeting: Grandview

I am concerned with what appears to be undue haste in making decisions about this property. Once public land is gone I sincerely doubt that there will ever be an opportunity to reclaim it for the City of Edina. We pride ourselves on our willingness and abilities to be good stewards of our community resources. Making decisions on this type of available property should be a very well thought out procedures. Having a party or parties with vested interests, i.e., business and profit interests as part of the initial decision process does not make, in my opinion, good long-range planning sense.

I would therefore strongly urge the Council to engage the services and expertise of a totally independent entity (consultant) to develop (utilizing community involvement) a plan for the future use of this parcel of land. It does not appear to be a process that needs to be rushed.

Our community deserves to be a part of this process.

I would be pleased to address the Council in person but I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th.

Thank you.
Ardis Wexler
7520 Cahill Road
Edina, MN 55439
952-210-7497

Heather Branigin

From: Mark Gentry <markgentry@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 8:36 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Old public works site

Dear Council Members -

I'm writing to express my desire to have the property which formerly had our public works building be considered for a public purpose such as a community center. Please don't just turn the site into a private development. Our community could use another space for our children and families.

Thanks.

Mark Gentry
612.221.5118

Heather Branigin

From: pmatchie@iphouse.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 5:14 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview Site

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to support the use of public use of the property site - not a private development. Edina is in need of a place to create a community space - it is much too spread out to create a sense of community. I believe this is one of the last sites that will be available for that purpose.

The senior center is extremely successful, as is the public library. Please expand that model to create a community space that is welcoming and useable for group meetings and other activities. Selling the land for private development is not in our best interest.

Thank you,

Pam Matchie-Thiede

May 8, 2014

Mayor Debbie Goettel
City of Richfield
6525 James Avenue
Richfield, MN 55423

Mayor James Hovland
City of Edina
4801 W. 50th Street
Edina, MN 5542

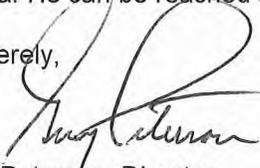
Dear Mayors Goettel and Hovland,

Council Chair Sue Haigh asked me to reach out to you. I understand that your two communities have been addressing concerns that surround the Lennar redevelopment that includes the Wickes furniture site on York Avenue in Edina. I understand that city approvals include a comprehensive plan amendment for properties along Xerxes Avenue. I encourage you to continue dialogue about matters of shared concern, regardless of the location or nature of the matter. The Metropolitan Land Planning Act indicates that communities need to coordinate and be compatible with one another, including notification requirements for overall plans. The statute also authorizes communities to establish joint planning districts (also referred to in 471.59) to address shared issues. Furthermore, communities can also address shared planning issues through the development of corridor or district plans and guidelines that inform decision making in each community.

As you know, the Metropolitan Council reviews comprehensive plan amendments prior to the City putting the amendments into effect. These reviews address policy and system concerns of a regional nature. As with all comprehensive plan updates and amendments, adjoining jurisdictions have opportunities to provide comment at that time. I want to emphasize that the Metropolitan Council does not, however, review or approve matters related to zoning or configuration of site plans.

Finally, I want to say that staff in the Council's Local Planning Assistance unit, as well as other divisions, are available as a resource to city staff that are looking for technical assistance in addressing local planning matters. Your staff is aware that Michael Larson, Senior Planner, is the Sector Representative for both Richfield and Edina. He can be reached at 651-602-1407.

Sincerely,



Guy Peterson, Director
Community Development Division
Metropolitan Council

cc: Sue Haigh, Chair, Metropolitan Council
Steve Elkins, Councilmember, District 5
Lisa Barajas, Manager, Local Planning Assistance
Michael Larson, Sector Representative
Cary Teague, Community Development Director, City of Edina
John Stark, Community Development Director, City of Richfield

5505 Brookview Avenue
Edina, Minnesota 55424

8 May 2014

Chad Milliner
City of Edina

In re: Replacement of shrubbery destroyed in the 2011
Minnehaha Woods Neighborhood Roadway Improvement project
(second request)

Dear Mr. Milliner:

Enclosed please find:

- 1) a receipt for eight Alpine Currant bushes in the amount of \$ 198.22; and
- 2) a photograph of the restored hedge of my front yard, which was destroyed during the 2011 road construction.

Although you did not reply to my initial request of 25 September 2013, I was motivated to re-submit it by the clerk at Bachman's, where I purchased the hedges. When I told her that the City of Edina replaced every brick and mortar of residents' front sidewalks, but refused to replace my hedge (nor provide any means of reporting destroyed greenery) she was quite astounded.

I therefore respectfully re-new my request to the City to reimburse me for the damaged greenery.

Sincerely,

Natalie Synhaivsky
cc: James Hovland

May 9, 2014

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

Dear Mayor Hovland:

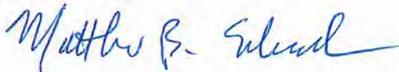
Each year, the Metropolitan Council prepares population and household estimates as of April 1 of the previous year. Local governments are invited to review and comment on the preliminary estimates. The Council will certify final estimates by July 15 for state government use in allocating local government aid and street aid.

The Metropolitan Council estimates that the City Of Edina had 49,180 people and 21,300 households as of April 1, 2013. Household size averaged 2.30 persons per household.

With this letter, the Council is reporting the data inputs used to develop the preliminary estimates for your community. The Council estimates current population and households through changes in the housing stock, occupancy rates and persons per household. Input data sources include housing stock, manufactured home parks, and group quarters data maintained by Metropolitan Council Research, as well as U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey data. For more information on the Council's population estimates model, please visit the Council's website at <http://stats.metc.state.mn.us/stats/aboutestimates.aspx> or contact Matt Schroeder at 651-602-1513.

Council staff welcomes discussion of the 2013 preliminary estimates. *Under Minnesota Statutes 473.24, the Metropolitan Council must receive your comments, questions or specific objections, in writing, by June 24.* Please send any written comments or questions to Matt Schroeder, Metropolitan Council Research, 390 North Robert Street, Saint Paul, MN 55101; or by e-mail to matt.schroeder@metc.state.mn.us

Sincerely,



Matt Schroeder
Senior Researcher

2013 Annual Population Estimates

Edina city, Hennepin County, Minnesota

Households:	21,300	Population in Households:	48,956	Average Household Size:	2.298
Housing Total:	22,736	Population in Group Quarters:	224		
Occupancy Rate:	93.68%	Total Population:	49,180		

Metropolitan Council's Annual Estimates account for housing stock changes since April 1, 2010. These include housing units permitted and other changes. Other changes are due to demolitions, building conversions (units added or lost), city boundary changes (units annexed in or out), and other changes reported by city and township staff. The Council assumes that 85% of multifamily and 95% of single-family units permitted in 2012 were completed and occupiable by April 1, 2013; the remainder are occupiable in the future.

Manufactured homes are counted each year from Metropolitan Council surveys of manufactured home park operators and local governments. Other housing (boats, RVs, etc. used as housing) is an estimate from the most recent Census ACS estimates.

	<u>Housing Stock</u> <u>April 1, 2010</u>	<u>Permitted and</u> <u>built since 2010</u>	<u>Other changes</u> <u>since 2010</u>	<u>Housing Stock</u> <u>April 1, 2013</u>
Single-family-detached:	12,861	189	-208	12,842
Townhomes:	1,326	0	0	1,326
Duplex, 3-, 4-plex units:	514	2	-1	515
Multifamily units:	7,859	194	0	8,053
Manufactured homes:	0			0
Other (boats, RVs, etc. as shelter):	0			0
Housing Total:	22,560			22,736

Each housing type will have a specifically estimated occupancy rate and average household size. Starting with the 2011-12 cycle, the primary data are the most recent American Community Survey estimates, calculated and adjusted as described in the Council's methodology, available online at <http://stats.metc.state.mn.us/stats/aboutestimates.aspx>

Definitions: A household is a group of people (or one person alone) occupying a housing unit.

The number of occupied housing units and the number of households are equivalent.

Population in Group Quarters (or institutional housing) is counted separately through an annual Metropolitan Council survey.

	<u>Housing Stock</u> <u>April 1, 2013</u>	<u>Occupancy</u> <u>Rate 2013</u>	<u>Occupied with</u> <u>Households</u>	<u>Persons Per</u> <u>Household</u>	<u>Population in</u> <u>2013</u>
Single-family-detached:	12,842	94.27%	12,106	2.740	33,168
Townhomes:	1,326	94.27%	1,250	2.740	3,425
Duplex, 3-, 4-plex units:	515	88.28%	455	1.449	659
Multifamily units:	8,053	93.00%	7,489	1.563	11,704
Manufactured homes:	0	0.00%	0	2.706	0
Other:	0	Counted only if occupied	0	1.800	0
Housing Total:	22,736		Households: 21,300	In Households: 48,956	
				In Group Qtrs: 224	
				Total Population: 49,180	

Heather Branigin

From: Louise Waddick <lawaddick@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 08, 2014 11:20 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview

To the City Council members of Edina, Regarding the Grandview city property, I urge you to please consider the following:

- Engage an independent consultant (one who specializes in public amenities and does not have a direct financial interest in redevelopment of this land) to work with the community to identify community needs and public uses for the land;
- Have the consultant provide hard data (market analysis, cost and revenue projections) for specific public amenities (e.g., basketball courts, swimming pools, fitness center, childcare center, teen activity rooms, art center, etc.); and
- Share that data with the public in a series of public meetings and press releases; let the public coalesce around the most desirable amenities.

Other communities, both nationwide and locally, are using these best practices to develop significant public amenities.

I would like Edina to keep this property for and develop a community center with many uses for all age groups. The existing community center, in my view, does not function as well as a new center could.

Sincerely, Louann Waddick

--

LouAnn Waddick
lawaddick@gmail.com
5304 Blake Rd. So.
Edina, MN 55436
cell: 612-715-3158
home: 952-935-2596

Heather Branigin

From: LAURA HOPE MELTON <hopemelton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 08, 2014 11:34 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Letter Re. Grandview Public Land Site
Attachments: Letter to City Council Grandview.pdf

Hi Debra

Please deliver this letter to the Mayor and City Council regarding the 5146 Avenue Grandview public land site.

Thank you,
Hope

May 8, 2014

Dear Mayor Hovland and Members of the Edina City Council:

I am writing to urge you to vote in favor of the Grandview Request for Interest (RFI) to hire a consultant who, working with a re-purposed Community Advisory Team (CAT), will engage the broader Edina community to define twenty-first century public uses of the 5146 Eden Avenue public land site. This should be done before hiring a private real estate developer for the following reasons:

First, this is a sizable, centrally located parcel of scarce public land, accessible to public transportation. It is therefore an ideal location for a new community center.

Second, Edina needs a new community center that will meet the needs of our much larger and more diverse twenty-first century Edina community. A weak economy that, after six years, continues to generate high levels of inequality and fails to produce enough jobs to support a robust middle class, a looming generation of retirees with insufficient savings to sustain their longevity, and the urgent civilizational challenge posed by climate change, mean that we must learn to live differently—more cooperatively, more in community—if we are to survive and thrive in this new century.

Social capital, or relationships of trust and reciprocity, will be critically important in that effort. A new community center along the lines proposed by Citizens for A Better Grandview—in addition to our Recognized Neighborhood Associations—will help grow and maintain social capital by fostering formal and informal contact across generational, racial/ethnic, and socioeconomic lines.

Third, the recent survey clearly indicates that the larger community has not had sufficient chance to consider what it would like to see, and would be willing to pay for, regarding public uses of this site. For this reason, Bill Morris' assessment that the time is not "ripe" for a referendum is correct. It is also too soon to engage a real estate developer in the planning process.

How would anyone know what a *twenty-first century* community center might offer without an assessment of demographic and economic trends and needs, contemporary examples in other cities, and more widespread public discussion?

Thank you for your consideration,

Hope Melton
4825 Valley View Road
Edina, MN
952-926-3959
hopemelton@hotmail.com

Heather Branigin

From: Sarah Higgins <higgins.family.usa@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 08, 2014 1:06 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: May 20th City Council Meeting Agenda

Dear Council Members,

We would like to sign up to present at the City Council meeting on the 20th of May. We would like to inform the council and citizens of the importance of honey bees as pollinators in Edina. We are interested in proposing projects to help the bees including planting honey bee gardens in Edina to attract the bees. We believe that residential honey bee keeping should be legal in Edina with some restrictions. How do we sign up to be included in the agenda or should we present for three minutes during open forum?

Thank you for your consideration,

Sarah Higgins & Eleanor Carlson

Heather Branigin

From: Jeff <jeffthall1@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, May 09, 2014 10:41 AM
To: jhovland@krausehovland.com; Edina Mail
Cc: lblons@beaconinterfaith.org; cbtrues@aol.com
Subject: Beacon Housing in Edina

Mayor Hovland,

I just wanted to say I was so proud to read that Edina is working with Beacon to create affordable housing near Southdale Mall. As we know, we have an acute shortage of such housing in the Twin Cities.

Several of my neighbor friends brought this up in conversation, and we are all very happy that Edina is doing its part to create affordable housing. The location seems exceptional, with easy access to jobs and transit.

We are so fortunate to have Beacon and Lee Blons heading up this project. I was on the Board of Beacon (when it was just starting, as the Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation) for many years, just before I started my work in Sierra Leone and with OneVillage Partners. Beacon is one of the best affordable housing groups in the country, and Lee is a visionary, collaborative and creative leader.

I hope Edina works proactively with Beacon to be a full partner, and consider other projects as well. Please let know if I can assist in any way.

As always, thank you for your remarkable commitment to Edina, and your very hard work on behalf of all of us.

Jeff

Heather Branigin

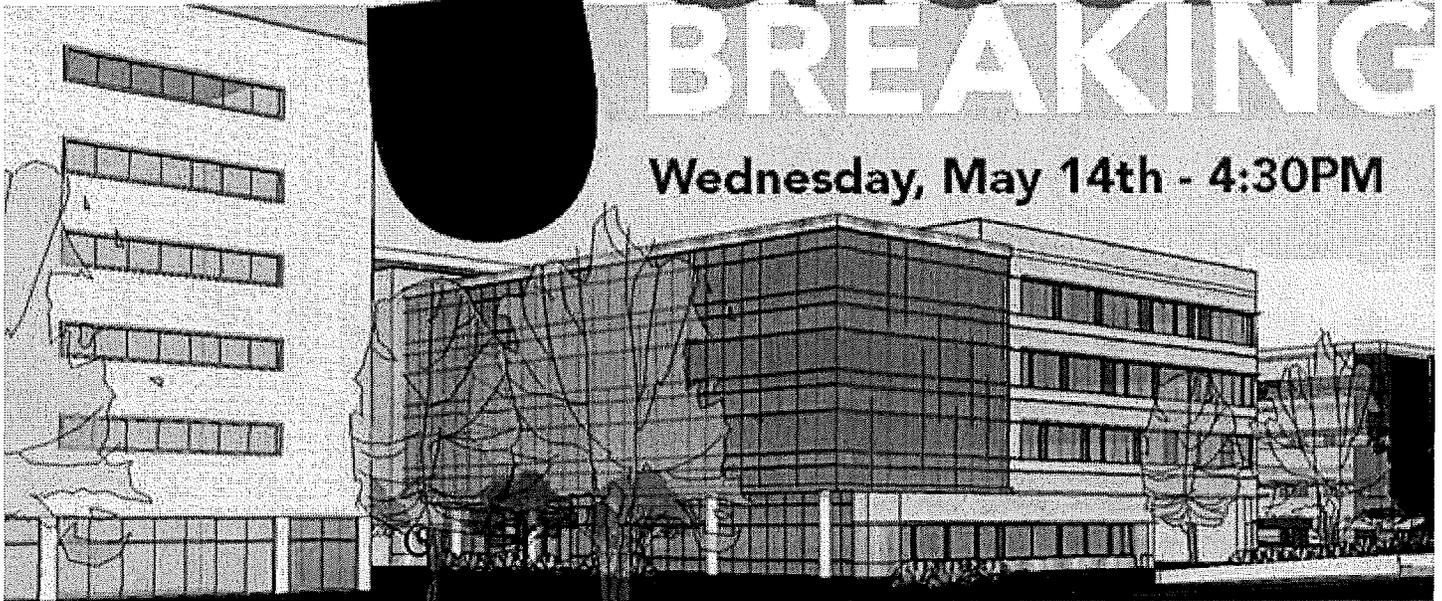
From: Dawn Grant - IRET <DGrant@iret.com>
Sent: Friday, May 09, 2014 12:35 PM
Cc: Paul Reinke
Subject: Southdale Medical Center Expansion - Groundbreaking May 14th

Presented by
IRET Properties
Silver Oak Development
The Davis Group

You're invited to the
SOUTHDAL MEDICAL CENTER
Expansion Building

**GROUND
BREAKING**

Wednesday, May 14th - 4:30PM



Ceremony will be held on the south side of the property via the 66th Street e

Dawn M. Grant, CCIM, CPM, RPA
Director of Commercial Asset Management
IRET Properties
10050 Crosstown Circle
Suite 105
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Heather Branigin

From: Ron Erhardt <Rep.Ron.Erhardt@house.mn>
Sent: Friday, May 09, 2014 4:41 PM
To: jonibennett12@comcast.net; Edina Mail; Scott Neal
Subject: Edina City Council
Attachments: SKMBT_75014050916091.pdf

We need to talk as soon as possible to organize a forum/hearing for Edina interested parties to establish guidelines etc for implementation of the MAC offer (see attached). The hearing should happen before summer vacation.

Ron

METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION

Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport

6040 - 28th Avenue South • Minneapolis, MN 55450-2799

Phone (612) 726-8100

Office of Executive Director/CEO



May 9, 2014

Representative Ron Erhardt
Minnesota House of Representatives
543 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Erhardt,

On May 8, 2014 the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) Noise Oversight Committee (NOC) passed a motion approving the measurement of aviation-related noise levels in the cities of Edina and St. Louis Park, to be completed in October 2014 with a final report to the NOC due by December 1, 2014. As you recall, the NOC is comprised of an equal number of community representatives and aviation industry representatives and serves as the primary advisory body to the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) on aviation-related noise issues.

Specific details of the NOC approval are provided below:

- The noise monitoring will be focused on assessing existing aircraft noise levels.
- The noise monitoring will be conducted for a period of two weeks in the fall of 2014.
- The monitoring will be limited to three locations in the area bound by I-494 on the south, Xerxes Avenue on the east from the intersection of I-494 and Xerxes Avenue extending in a straight line north to I-394, I-394 on the north, and Trunk Highway 169 on the west.
- Two of the monitoring locations will be within the City of Edina and one will be located in the City of St. Louis Park.
- The specific location of the monitors shall be determined by the respective cities, in consultation with MAC staff.

The NOC action is pursuant to H.F. 3219. Following the approval action by NOC, I directed staff in the MAC Noise Program Office to proceed with the necessary activities to comply fully with the noise monitoring procedures outlined above.

The Metropolitan Airports Commission is an affirmative action employer.
www.msairport.com

Reliever Airports: AIRLAKE • ANOKA COUNTY/BLAINE • CRYSTAL • FLYING CLOUD • LAKE ELMO • SAINT PAUL DOWNTOWN

Thank you for your leadership on this issue and the successful resolution of the concerns voiced by your constituents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Hamiel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a distinct "H".

Jeff Hamiel
Executive Director/CEO
Metropolitan Airports Commission

Heather Branigin

From: Susan Petersen <spetersen55436@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2014 7:54 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Bike Lane Olinger

I think we have too many bike lanes and they eat up the room that cars need. I don't think or feel it is necessary to add any more bike lanes to Olinger.

Residents of Olinger Boulevard already have a difficult time backing their cars out of their driveways, dealing with high snowbanks, additional traffic from the Waters senior housing, and visibility challenges due to the curves in the road. Adding commuter bike traffic to this situation makes an existing challenging situation even worse.

- A bike path currently exists along Bredesen Park, just 30 feet away from Olinger Boulevard. Although this path currently runs from the north to the south, consideration should be given to expanding it to allow two way traffic along Olinger Boulevard before taking parking away from area residents.
- Has a study been done to determine how many bike commuters use this route, compared with the current use of this land for parking?

I agree with all of the above You have already built up Edina enough you are destroying the character of Edina. Please stop trying to change what is already good

The Petersens

Heather Branigin

From: ankideverdier@alumni.stanford.edu on behalf of Ann-Kristin de Verdier
<ankideverdier@stanfordalumni.org>
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2014 9:07 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Olinger Boulevard/Jeff Place pedestrian crossing

Edina City Council,

I fully support the proposal to create a pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Olinger Boulevard and Jeff Place. Cars tend to drive too fast on Olinger Boulevard (which curves on both sides of this intersection) and there is clearly a safety hazard crossing Olinger to the park from Jeff Place. The creation of a safe crossing is especially important with the increasing number of children living in this area.

Yours sincerely,
Ann-Kristin de Verdier
5825 Jeff Place

Heather Branigin

From: FranzSr@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Fwd: Olinger Blvd. bike lane

Help save lives of occasional bikers. Keep bike lanes off Olinger Blvd.

From: FranzSr@aol.com
To: Christine.Henninger@genmills.com
CC: mnolan@edinamn.gov, cmillner@edinamn.gov
Sent: 5/10/2014 10:45:59 A.M. Central Daylight Time
Subj: Fwd: Olinger Blvd. bike lane

Christine;
Thanks for your efforts. Nolan and Milner did not respond to my note. There is not one good reason to have a bike lane on Olinger. Edina city employees do not have the same interests as Edina residents. If a bike lane is established on Olinger, Edina residents will once again be the victims of City Hall incompetence.
Franz and Joanie Burris

From: FranzSr@aol.com
To: mnolan@edinaMN.gov
CC: cmillner@edinaMN.gov
Sent: 4/29/2014 3:09:01 P.M. Central Daylight Time
Subj: Olinger Blvd. bike lane

Mark and Chad;
Thank you for the notice on paving and bike lanes on Olinger Blvd. We plan on attending your meeting, May 1. Please be prepared to answer some questions we have concerning the bike lanes. As we have talked to several of our neighbors, we wonder why bike lanes are necessary. We cannot find any folks living on Olinger who ride bikes on our street. Who requested the bike lanes? What is the cost? What is the anticipated use. We counted 3 bikes on Olinger last Saturday. We have had a home on Olinger for 47 years and have noted very minimal daily bike traffick.. Are you aware of the heavy auto traffic on Olinger during morning and evening rush hour? Bike lanes would not prevent accidents. On street parking is important only during Holidays and when used by service companies. Do bike lanes provide any advantages for Olinger residents? When 99.9% of wheeled traffic on Olinger consists of automobile use, how can you justify setting aside 1/2-1/3 of the Olinger roadbed to bike use? We look forward to your response May 1.
Franz and Joanie Burris
5832 Olinger Blvd.

Heather Branigin

From: H Havir <hhavir@nbs-inc.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 11, 2014 1:19 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Premature bike lanes on Olinger Boulevard

To the City Council:

We live on Tracy Ave one lot away from Olinger Boulevard and drive Olinger and on to Blake Road on a pretty regular basis. I also ride my bike around the park and use either the roadway or the trail for access depending upon the traffic conditions.

I want to state that there is NOT a traffic problem for bikes on the current trail on the Bredeson property. I often use the street for access to the park when traffic is minimal but never experience congestion on the trail parallel to Olinger. I use the street during times of light traffic because there are often walkers and dog walkers and I feel that this is in respect for them.

To us, the bottom line is that the council considering creating a bike lane on Olinger when there is not a demonstrated need, -- this looks like Edina is contemplating a downsized Bridge to Nowhere, a waste of taxpayer money in an effort to appear biker friendly. It may be appropriate someday, but on-street parking should get the nod for the time being.

Harvey & Mary Ann Havir
6108 Tracy Ave.

Heather Branigin

From: Laura Nisi <lnisi@me.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 11, 2014 9:54 AM
To: Edina Mail; Scott Neal
Cc: Josh Sprague; Mary Brindle (Comcast); swensonann1@gmail.com swenson; James Hovland; bennett joni; ALANKOEHLER@comcast.net Koehler; Kurt Nisi
Subject: Real Estate Education Forum

Dear Council and City Manager

I recently learned of the Real Estate Education Forum occurring Monday the 12th. I noticed that the City and The Edina Public Schools are both sponsors of this event. Missing from this event is any mention of the other school districts that serve the City Of Edina.

You are no doubt aware that 27% of the households in the City of Edina are outside the limits of Edina Public Schools*. Yet the City and the District act as if they are one. You enter into Joint Ventures where the city invests in school buildings. You put on events together (including the "State of the Community") and continually represent "Edina" with the impression that the municipal and district borders are one and the same. And now you are marketing the City and the District together.

This concerns me.

You're probably aware that the other school districts in the city limits are not considered to be as desirable as Edina Public Schools. (Whether or not they actually provide a lesser education is debatable and not actually relevant to this issue.) The reason I assume you know that is that otherwise you would be including those "other" districts in your efforts to reach realtors.

Do you know that Edina city residents outside Edina Public Schools' limits have no priority whatsoever to open enroll into the district? In fact, you may be interested to know that Edina City residents are actually LAST on the existing priority list for open enrollment as set forth by the School Board, and have no more access than residents of other suburbs.

This occurs even though our municipal tax dollars directly and indirectly benefit EPS.

You are also probably aware that our property values are negatively impacted by this situation. This is more true now than when my husband and I bought our house, because at that time open-enrollment priority was given to Edina City Residents. Now things are different and people know that open-enrollment is not guaranteed.

People looking to live in Edina want access to Edina Public Schools. Which is something that you are perpetuating with your joint marketing program.

Do you realize that you are actually harming 27% of your own residents with this effort? By holding up Edina Schools as definitive of the Edina residential experience you are devaluing those homes outside of that boundary. We are your current taxpayers and voters. You are supposed to be acting in service for us, not in service against us.

I would like to see the Council stand up for this group of residents by publicly supporting our efforts to obtain equal access to the Edina Public Schools as long as our municipal tax dollars are being used to support the same.

Respectfully yours,

Laura Nisi

* Households in EPS: 15,051 (Source: [file:///Users/lnisi/Desktop/Work/Edina273/Edina%20Public%20School%20District,%20MN%20\(2711250\)%20DP2%20Social%20Characteristics.webarchive](file:///Users/lnisi/Desktop/Work/Edina273/Edina%20Public%20School%20District,%20MN%20(2711250)%20DP2%20Social%20Characteristics.webarchive))

Households in City of Edina: 20672 (Source: City of Edina Website)

Heather Branigin

From: DKO777 <dko777@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 11, 2014 3:28 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Fwd: "The Fred"

Hello Mr. Mayor!...thought I would copy you on the message below to the Sun Newspaper. I really appreciate the stand you have taken

on "The Fred". Lets hope that all sides can be heard in a responsible manner and the right decision for our fair

city is the result.

Duaine Olson

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: DKO777 <dko777@comcast.net>
To: lisa kaczke <lisa.kaczke@ecm-inc.com>
Sent: Fri, 09 May 2014 20:02:10 -0000 (UTC)
Subject: "The Fred"

The letter to the editor in last week's edition, regarding "The Fred Richards Golf Course" really hits home and it ties in with the opinion

of our Mayor, James B. Hovland. We need to slow down!...What will happen with the Braemar study and renovation?

"The Fred" is one of our remaining "patches of green" we have left in our fair city. Keep it alive until all the dust clears.

I say "green". Lets sit up and take notice of what remains "green" in our fair city. If the final decision is made to close

down "The Fred", shortly thereafter, the machines will go to work and eliminate another patch of green and folks, our fair

city is running out of "patches of green".

Edina is boxed in, all four sides, with major highways and freeways. Think of the pollution emitting from the automobile traffic

that surrounds us. And the never-ending traffic traveling our own roads north and south, east and west...I wonder what the pollution

count would be, around us and above us, if we checked?

If "The Fred" is closed down and yet more condos and apartments are built in our fair city, that just brings in more people, more cars

and more pollution.

If "The Fred" is closed down, where do our "Juniors and Seniors play golf at a very reasonable fee?

One thing for certain, the citizens of Edina who play at our two private courses need not worry. They are not shutting down!

Let's sit up and take notice of what our Mayor, Mr. Jim Hovland and last weeks writer, Dick Erlandson have to say!...Slow Down!

Save the Green!, Save the Green!, Save the Green!

Duaine Olson
7601 Edinborough Way, #6301
Edina, Mn. 55435
dko777@comcast.net

Heather Branigin

From: MDAdavis@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 11, 2014 11:14 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: community needs re Grandview

Hello members of the City council:

I think related to the parcel of land on Grandview that it is critical that we consider first what the needs of the community are prior to actually turning the property planning over to a real estate developer.

I would support having a study done and community task force meetings held to determine what the primary needs of the community are. Engaging a real estate developer makes this kind of a done deal with only one or limited, solution for the parcel.

Please embark on a study process before making a decision about this land.

Thank you,

Sandra Davis
6405 Harold Woods Lane
Edina, MN 55436

Heather Branigin

From: Barbara Hoganson <barbara.hoganson@hardeninc.com>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 8:59 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Olinger Blvd Bike Bath?

Hello Mayor Hovland, City Council, and City Manager,

Would you please provide me the reason why a bike trail is being considered on Olinger Blvd at the expense of resident's parking being minimized?

What is rationale to justify this?

Who is asking for this to be considered?

How many bikers are expected to use this?

Why not allow for Bredesen park be two way?

Why not let biker's use Tracy and Vernon, it is not that far away and a lot of money was already put towards this? Don't see a lot of bikers using Tracy bike trails.

How is this expected to be paid for initially and ongoing?

Thanks for the information.

Barbara Hoganson
5724 Duncan Lane
952-926-9190

Heather Branigin

From: Don and Nancy Hutchison <ndhutchison@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 9:22 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: dhutchison@hutchfinancial.com
Subject: Richard Ash, Honor Flight

Dear Mayor Hovland and City of Edina:

Would you be so kind as to send a letter to a former distinguished Edina resident and WWII War Hero, Richard H Ash? We have just learned that my 92 year old father, Richard Ash, will be on **Honor Flight Chicago on June 4**. The **deadline for receiving mail is May 31**. There will be a Mail Call and I would appreciate it if the City of Edina would honor him for his service. My Dad had to interrupt his college studies to enter the Army in WWII. He was in the 106th Division that fought in the Battle of the Bulge in Europe in 1944-45. After the war, he completed his studies at Bucknell University, graduating with a degree in Engineering in 1948. He went on to a distinguished career in the FBI, including the years we lived in Edina, where I graduated from EHS class of 1969. When we lived in Edina, my father was the Assistant Agent in Charge of Minnesota/South Dakota with main office in Minneapolis. While working in the FBI in Minneapolis, he had many friends and colleagues in the Edina Police and Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, including Don Omodt. For many years, even into the 1990s when my Dad would come back to Edina to visit, he and a number of ex-agents and police would meet for breakfast at the only recently closed Pearson's Restaurant on 50th Street. My Dad retired from the FBI in 1977 at Headquarters (Washington, DC) as the Assistant Director of the FBI and head of the Identification (fingerprint) Division. He has 3 daughters (I am the second) and 7 grandchildren. He has a great affection and admiration for Edina, where all of my own daughters graduated from high school and my Dad attended many plays and Current Jams! In 2011 he came back to Minnesota to commission his granddaughter, Catherine Hutchison, an EHS Graduate (2007) as an Army officer at graduation from U of MN ROTC. You may recognize my name and Catherine's as being related to Don Hutchison who is currently active in the Edina Chamber of Commerce and Rotary. So, Don is son-in-law to Richard Ash, who is being honored.

My Dad, Richard Ash, and my mother, Mary, currently live in a Senior Facility in the Chicago area near my sister, Susan. He has suffered from neuropathy of his feet ever since his feet were frozen in the Battle of the Bulge. But he has otherwise had an active life and continues to be fairly healthy for his age. I am thrilled that he was chosen to go on this Honor Flight on June 4 and I would appreciate it very much if the City of Edina would recognize him and send him a letter for the Mail Call. (If you want to know more about Honor Flights, please see info on their website <http://www.honorflight.org/>). Sample letters are in the attached Mail Call document **Here is the address:**

Honor Flight Chicago Mail Call
Attn: Richard H. Ash, June 4th, 2014
6688 Joliet Road
Indian Head Park, IL 60525

Thank you very much for taking the time to consider this request!
Sincerely,
Nancy Ash Hutchison, MD

Nancy Hutchison, MD | Medical Director for Cancer Rehabilitation and Survivorship

Allina Health | Courage Kenny Rehabilitation Institute
Allina Health | Virginia Piper Cancer Institute

MR 12109 | 800 E. 28th Street | Minneapolis, MN 55407
Phone: 612.863.4495 | Fax: 612.863.8942 | Email: nancy.hutchison@allina.com

Heather Branigin

From: RayVoss@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:04 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Old City Maintenance site....

Edina City Council Members:

I don't know if I have the wisdom to tell you what SHOULD be done with old City maintenance site. But I think I know what should NOT be done with this site: that is it SHOULD NOT be turned over to private ownership. The City of Edina has a limited amount of publicly owned land. We have no idea of the City's land needs in the future, so I would strongly suggest that neither this nor any other City owned land be turned over to private ownership. Once gone from City ownership, it would be very difficult and expensive, if not impossible, to recapture the land to public use.

If there isn't consensus on how to use the property for public use, then clear it, put down some topsoil, plant it with grass and some bushes and trees and put in a walkway with a few benches. When in the future consensus is decided on a public use for the property it will still be owned by the people of Edina who paid for it in the first place!

Thanks,

Raymond Voss

Mailing address: 5021 Vernon Ave. So. #312, Edina, MN 55436
Residence address: 5210 Villa Way, Apt. 356, Edina, MN 55436

952-927-0448
rayvoss@aol.com

Heather Branigin

From: MARY WERBALOWSKY <mwerbal@me.com>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 11:35 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: mary werbalowsky
Subject: Grandview Public Land

Dear City Council,

I am writing in support of incorporating a community center into the plans for the Grandview site. I am hoping that you can work with the public to identify community needs which I feel a community center would fill. We have an old community center which does not fill any of the amenities that a new one would such as a fitness center, art center, swimming pool, teen activities, childcare, yoga, etc.

I would love to see a great, healthy new restaurant in the center along with a fitness clothing store and possibly a couple other health related retail stores.

I hope you will consider the Request for Interest by Citizens for a Better Grandview to have a consultant lead, community based process to make sure that we provide the best possible scenario for the entire community and not driven primarily by economic concerns and a development partner.

Thank you,
Mary Werbalowsky

Heather Branigin

From: Becky Houdek <BHoudek@minnehahacreek.org>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 5:24 PM
To: tfurlong@ci.chanhassen.mn.us; tgerhardt@ci.chanhassen.mn.us; Terry Jeffery (Chanhassen); PaulSkrede@mchsi.com; DanaYoung@mchsi.com; Gus Karpas (Deephaven, Greenwood, Woodland); Laura Adler; Ross Bintner; Edina Mail; Scott Neal; Mayor Mark Gaylord (mgaylord@ci.excelsior.mn.us); kluger@ci.excelsior.mn.us; dwisdorf@ci.excelsior.mn.us; tburt@ci.golden-valley.mn.us; eeckman@goldenvalleymn.gov; sharris@goldenvalleymn.gov; administrator@greenwoodmn.com; dkind100@gmail.com; John Bradford (Hopkins); emax33721@aol.com; Manager Michael Mornson (mmornson@hopkinsmn.com); Tari Hirsch (Independence); marvdjohnson@gmail.com; dkoch@ci.independence.mn.us; thultmann@longlakemn.gov; Administrator Scott Weske (sweske@longlakemn.gov); Marv Wurzer (Long Lake); cityhall@mapleplain.com; cityhall@mapleplain.com; jziemer@mapleplain.com; Dusty Finke (Medina); scott.johnson@ci.medina.mn.us; Elizabeth.Weir@ci.medina.mn.us; Lois.Eberhart@ci.minneapolis.mn.us; steven.kotke@ci.minneapolis.mn.us; jeremy.hanson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us; gbarone@eminnetonka.com; tschneider@eminnetonka.com; Liz Stout (Minnetonka); info@ci.minnetonka-beach.mn.us; Susanne Griffin (Minnetonka Beach); Diane Tiegs (dtiegs@ci.minnetonka-beach.mn.us); dabel@ci.minnetrista.mn.us; cfischer@ci.minnetrista.mn.us; mfunk@ci.minnetrista.mn.us; KandisHanson@cityofmound.com; mahanus@frontiernet.net; CarltonMoore@cityofmound.com; Sarah Smith (Mound); Mike Gaffron (mgaffron@ci.orono.mn.us) (mgaffron@ci.orono.mn.us); jloftus@ci.orono.mn.us; lmcmillan@ci.orono.mn.us; Jesse Struve (Orono); Derek Ashe; Manager Dave Callister (dcallister@plymouthmn.gov); kslavik@plymouthmn.gov; Kristin Asher (Richfield); sdevich@ci.richfield.mn.us; MEastling@cityofrichfield.org; citycouncil@cityofrichfield.org; Larry Brown (Shorewood); Administrator Bill Joynes (bjoynes@ci.shorewood.mn.us); Scott Zerby (szerby@ci.shorewood.mn.us); dj6590@mchsi.com; sgreinhardt@hotmail.com; DTolsma@ci.spring-park.mn.us; Brenda Fisk (St. Boni); Brenda Fisk (St. Boni); tharmening@stlouispark.org; jacobsjeffrey@comcast.net; pedman@stlouispark.org; rbowman@cityoftonkabay.net; gerryd@terradek.com; Joe Kohlmann (jkohlmann@cityoftonkabay.net); Holly Kreft (Victoria); Mayor Mary Hershberger Thun (toconnor@ci.victoria.mn.us); Don Uram (duram@ci.victoria.mn.us); Mike Kelly (Wayzata); HNelson@wayzata.org; KenWillcox@wayzata.org; jdoak.woodland@hotmail.com; shelley@cityofwoodlandmn.org; Karen McMullen (Laketown Township); Karen McMullen (Laketown Township); Ann Bruner (watertowntownship@gmail.com)
Cc: James Wisker; David Mandt; Brett Eidem
Subject: Notice of Public Hearing for MCWD Projects

Dear Interested Parties,

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) Board of Managers will hold Public Hearings at their regular meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2014 at 6:45 p.m. for two MCWD projects: the MCWD Building Landscaping Project and the 54th Street Fish Bypass Project.

MCWD Building Landscaping Project

The MCWD Building Landscaping Project will treat urban stormwater runoff, improving the quality and quantity of water discharged to Minnehaha Creek. The proposed project's stormwater management practices will also serve as water resource education and demonstration elements, supported by education programming to benefit the broader community. The total estimated cost for the project is \$500,000. A project description can be found on the District's website at: <http://minnehahacreek.org/mcwd-building-landscaping-and-stormwater-management-demonstration-project>.

54th Street Fish Bypass Project

The purpose of the project is to provide fish passage around an existing grade control structure in Minnehaha Creek located at the crossing of West 54th St. near Arden Park in Edina. The project would be completed in coordination with the City of Edina's reconstruction of West 54th St. The total estimated cost for the project is \$118,750. More information on the project can be found at: www.minnehahacreek.org/54thStFishBypass.

Both projects would be funded through the MCWD's ad valorem tax levy allocated between Hennepin and Carver Counties on the basis of tax capacity. The scheduled public hearings are being held in accordance with Minnesota Statute §103B.251. If, after considering comments, the Board of Managers finds that the projects are conducive to public health, promote the general welfare, and are consistent with the MCWD watershed management plan, it may order and formally authorize the projects.

The meeting will be held at the MCWD Offices, 15320 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, MN 55345. If you have any questions regarding the MCWD Building Landscaping Project, please contact Brett Eidem at 952-641-4523 or beidem@minnehahacreek.org. For questions regarding the 54th St. Fish Bypass Project, please contact Becky Houdek at 952-641-4512 or [bhoudk@minnehahacreek.org](mailto:bhoudek@minnehahacreek.org).

Thank you,

Becky Houdek
MCWD Planner
15320 Minnetonka Blvd.
Minnetonka, MN 55345
952-641-4512
www.minnehahacreek.org



MINNEHAHA CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT

Heather Branigin

From: Edina Give and Go <paperlesspost@paperlesspost.com>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:44 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Edina Give and Go Fundraising Celebration

SEE GUEST LIST

For: Jim Hovland

[click to view the card](#)



With your help, we are making summer a season of opportunity for under-served youth in Edina.

Please join us in hearing more at a fundraising celebration.

Cocktails at the home of
Dario and Jeanne Anselmo
Friday, May 16, 7:30 - 9:30
4924 Green Farms Rd
Edina

View invitation:

www.paperlesspost.com/events/7236195-be634f54/replies/131873109-54e73ad5

View guest list

Add to Google Calendar, Outlook, iCal, Yahoo
Calendar

Access event on the go: Get the iPad and iPhone
app

Edina Give and Go Fundraising Celebration
Friday, May 16th from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM
The Home of Dario and Jeanne Anselmo
4924 Green Farms Rd, Edina, MN



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View the Paperless Post [privacy policy](#).



Heather Branigin

From: Steven J. Timmer <stimmer@planetlawyers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:09 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: FW: 54th Street fish bypass

Mayor Hovland and Members of the Council,

A copy of this was probably forwarded to you. It now seems that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District has a plan to construct some kind of a fish sewer where once hope arose that there would be a canoe portage. A blight of a different kind on the creek, perhaps, but probably still a blight, and perhaps a safety hazard for kids as well. It doesn't seem there is much time for citizens to try to figure this out.

It does appear that the plan will require a longer bridge than would otherwise be needed.

One really good reason to oppose the idea, though, is that it is a (water) bridge to nowhere. There is simply no good place in the stretch between 54th Street and 50th Street for fish to live, as outlined below. When the dam was constructed, by the WPA in the 30s, I think, nobody understood that it would consign a section of the creek to a kind of slow death, but it did. Since the dam is staying (a decision that I don't fault; I've been having fun watching people shoot the "rapids" for several days now), we are pretty much stuck with the consequences.

If the watershed had come out and said, "This how we're going to improve the habitat, modify the stream bed to improve the flow and the scouring of silt, create places with holding water for fish, and create places for in-stream aquatic vegetation," I'd be for it. But this is just ill-conceived.

I hope everyone on Council thinks this is a really good idea, and if not, apply the brakes until it's aired.

Thanks, Steve Timmer

From: Steven J. Timmer [<mailto:stimmer@planetlawyers.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: bhoudek@minnehahacreek.org
Cc: 'Scott Neal'; 'mail@EdinaMN.gov'; 'Chad Millner'; 'Toby Muse'; 'Sharon Allison'
Subject: 54th Street fish bypass

Ms. Houdek,

I wrote earlier about the fish bypass plan and the fact that it was essentially just sprung on the neighborhood; I received a *functioning* link to the plan this morning.

It is, in the very most literal sense of the term, a pipe dream. You could as well build a freeway to the middle of a trackless desert. Building a fish bypass without creating habitat for them to live in is foolish and wasteful.

As the watershed acknowledges, a substantial portion of this area of the creek is silted and does not support aquatic vegetation, and therefore not aquatic invertebrates, and therefore not fish. The upper portion, in Utley park, does have some gravel bottom, which the watershed optimistically calls "spawning habitat," but it is too shallow to be holding water for most of the year. And there is very little in in-stream vegetation, either (again, therefore no bugs, and no fish). Here's a photo from last November of the bridge over Wooddale Avenue at the edge of Utley Park. The water inches deep. There is no cover for fish, and it freezes solid in the winter. This is the condition through most of Utley Park.



Organizations like Trout Unlimited spend hundreds of thousands of dollars and hundreds or thousands of hours of volunteer labor to improve habitat of streams. But the watershed's "plan" is virtually void of planning or thinking about the improvement of the habitat itself.

Well, what's the harm, you say? It's only \$120,000!

As I observed earlier, the harm could be a diminution of the already low water in the stretch for most of the year. I imagine that it would require a longer bridge over the creek at 54th Street, at a cost to the city, and at a cost to the aesthetics of the creek valley.

I protest again in the most strenuous terms the treatment of the public in this plan. I got a post card a couple of days ago with a link that didn't work; I got a link from Sharon Allison this morning. There is a public meeting scheduled for the 20th, and a "formal meeting" to approve the plan on the 22nd. It sounds like a Ukrainian election.

This is especially galling to me because I personally asked watershed representatives at meetings at city hall last fall to keep me apprised of its plans for the creek and handed out business cards to insure it.

I am going to ask the Edina City Manager and the City Council to refrain from letting contracts for the street and bridge until this foolishness is thoroughly aired.

Sincerely, Steve Timmer

Steve Timmer
stimmer@planetlawyers.com

mail@edinamn.gov: Please forward to members of the council and the Transportation Commission.



May 12, 2014

Ross Bintner
City of Edina
7450 Metro Blvd
Edina, MN 55439

Re: Public Hearings for MCWD Building Landscaping Project and 54th St. Fish Bypass Project

Dear Mr. Bintner,

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) Board of Managers will hold Public Hearings at their regular meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2014 at 6:45 p.m. for two MCWD projects: the MCWD Building Landscaping Project and the 54th Street Fish Bypass Project.

MCWD Building Landscaping Project

The MCWD Building Landscaping Project will treat urban stormwater runoff, improving the quality and quantity of water discharged to Minnehaha Creek. The proposed project’s stormwater management practices will also serve as water resource education and demonstration elements, supported by education programming to benefit the broader community. The total estimated cost for the project is \$500,000. A project description can be found on the District’s website at: <http://minnehahacreek.org/mcwd-building-landscaping-and-stormwater-management-demonstration-project>.

54th Street Fish Bypass Project

The purpose of the project is to provide fish passage around an existing grade control structure in Minnehaha Creek located at the crossing of West 54th St. near Arden Park in Edina. The project would be completed in coordination with the City of Edina’s reconstruction of West 54th St. The total estimated cost for the project is \$118,750. More information on the project can be found at: www.minnehahacreek.org/54thStFishBypass.

Both projects would be funded through the MCWD’s ad valorem tax levy allocated between Hennepin and Carver Counties on the basis of tax capacity. The scheduled public hearings are being held in accordance with Minnesota Statute §103B.251. If, after considering comments, the Board of Managers finds that the projects are conducive to public health, promote the general welfare, and are consistent with the MCWD watershed management plan, it may order and formally authorize the projects.

The meeting will be held at the MCWD Offices, 15320 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, MN 55345. If you have any questions regarding the MCWD Building Landscaping Project, please contact Brett Eidem at 952-641-4523. For questions regarding the 54th St. Fish Bypass Project, please contact Becky Houdek at 952-641-4512.

Cc: Manager Scott Neal
Mayor James Hovland

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District is committed to a leadership role in protecting, improving and managing the surface waters and affiliated groundwater resources within the District, including their relationships to the ecosystems of which they are an integral part. We achieve our mission through regulation, capital projects, education, cooperative endeavors, and other programs based on sound science, innovative thinking, an informed and engaged constituency, and the cost effective use of public funds.

3 portable parks set for Minneapolis this summer

Article by: Emma Nelson

Star Tribune

May 13, 2014 - 9:03 PM

This summer, plants, tables and chairs will sprout up in parking spaces around Minneapolis.

The city is following in the footsteps of cities including New York, San Francisco and Seattle and building parklets — small public spaces often built as temporary expansions of city sidewalks.

A \$75,000 city pilot program will fund the parklets in the Third, Fifth and 10th wards. Sites were pinpointed in commercial areas that already have a lot of pedestrian traffic.

"We're looking for bustling areas where people would like to congregate but don't necessarily have the space and structures available," said City Council Member Jacob Frey.

The parklet in Ward 10 will cover two parking spaces outside Gigi's Cafe on 36th Street. Exact locations in the other two wards have yet to be determined. They'll be installed in July or August and dismantled by the end of October, weather permitting.

Though the parklets will be dismantled for the winter, they won't be discarded. Minneapolis pedestrian coordinator Mackenzie Turner said in the future, they'll move around the city so other neighborhoods can have a chance to test drive them.

Turner said the full Minneapolis parklet program is planned to roll out in late fall. Lacy Shelby, the principal urban designer working on the pilot, said businesses, neighborhood groups and other community members will be able to apply for parklets. The spaces will vary in design; some may include public art, for example.

The prefabricated pilot parklets will be built adjacent to sidewalks and cover less than 200 square feet. Each will include native plants, movable tables and chairs and a modular hardwood deck, a design proven successful in other cities.

Nearby businesses will lose some parking space, Frey said, but will also get a free seating area, something he expects will be a particular boon to restaurants and coffee shops.

Turner said outreach to neighborhood organizations and businesses adjacent to the proposed parklet sites has been positive.

"Generally, everybody's pretty excited about these," she said.

The first parklet was built in San Francisco in 2010. Today the city is home to 45, with another 40 to 45 in the works.

These kinds of temporary, unexpected public spaces have a long history in San Francisco, including a makeshift park built beneath a freeway overpass in the 1970s.

Ilaria Salvadori, a San Francisco urban designer, said the city's parklet program, like Minneapolis', began with a few pilot installations. The full program rolled out soon after, she said, and has been a success.

"They become like centers for the community," she said.

Frey said he thinks the parklet program fits with the increasingly widespread vision of Minneapolis as a pedestrian-friendly and community-oriented city.

"Is it going to change the world? No," he said. "But it could change a small pocket of it."

Emma Nelson is a University of Minnesota student reporter on assignment for the Star Tribune.

Heather Branigin

From: Steven J. Timmer <stimmer@planetlawyers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 4:27 PM
To: James Hovland
Subject: RE: 54th Street fish bypass

Jim,

I know, but nothing will get built, especially on city property, without its say so, especially if bridge money is involved. And I'll bet lunch that engineering at the city is up to speed on this flight of fancy, too.

It was my sense, starting last year, that the watershed district was itching to take out that dam. It is, in fact, a creek killer. Probably not as much as the one on Browndale, but never mind. We both know that one isn't going anywhere.

I would like to see the creek be healthier. I would love to see the upstream approach to the bridge be beautified. I asked to be involved. It is clear that the people working on this have never walked a stream looking for fish.

Fixing this part of Minnehaha Creek is a way bigger job than a fish passage. This is a complete waste of money. Here's what the watershed says about habitat improvement:

Implementation of the fish bypass channel would provide fish passage for an average of 223 days/year, allowing access to an additional 1.15 miles of creek (up to Browndale Dam). Although the habitat immediately upstream of the impoundment is relatively poor quality due to sediment accumulation, good fish spawning habitat exists further upstream near Utley Park just below Browndale Dam. Further habitat improvements could be made in this stretch by incorporating in-stream woody debris and working with the City and residents to improve streambank vegetation in Arden and Utley Parks and the residential neighborhoods in-between.

The planning is breathtaking, isn't it? The "good spawning habitat" has three inches of water in it most of the summer and fall.

And there will be an "ad valorem tax" imposed to pay for it. That means property tax, I suppose.

Who does the watershed report to? Or is it sovereign?

The way this was dumped on the public is the part that really frosts me.

S

From: James Hovland [mailto:JHovland@EdinaMN.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 3:03 PM
To: 'Steven J. Timmer'
Subject: RE: 54th Street fish bypass

Steve, in the hierarchy of government decision making the water shed comes first before the city.

Ann
Sent from my iPad

From: Steven J. Timmer [<mailto:stimmer@planetlawyers.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:09 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: FW: 54th Street fish bypass

Mayor Hovland and Members of the Council,

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Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: bhoudek@minnehahacreek.org
Cc: 'Scott Neal'; 'mail@EdinaMN.gov'; 'Chad Millner'; 'Toby Muse'; 'Sharon Allison'
Subject: 54th Street fish bypass

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Steve Timmer
stimmer@planetlawyers.com

mail@edinamn.gov: Please forward to members of the council and the Transportation Commission.

Heather Branigin

From: Steven J. Timmer <stimmer@planetlawyers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 4:32 PM
To: James Hovland
Subject: RE: 54th Street fish bypass

Jim, moreover, here's what the watershed says about the project:

About this project:

The MCWD has partnered with the City of Edina to explore opportunities to improve fish passage in Minnehaha Creek in coordination with the City's reconstruction of West 54th Street from Wooddale Ave to France Ave.

Steve

From: James Hovland [mailto:JHovland@EdinaMN.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 3:03 PM
To: 'Steven J. Timmer'
Subject: RE: 54th Street fish bypass

Steve, in the hierarchy of government decision making the water shed comes first before the city.

Ann
Sent from my iPad

From: Steven J. Timmer [mailto:stimmer@planetlawyers.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:09 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: FW: 54th Street fish bypass

Mayor Hovland and Members of the Council,

A copy of this was probably forwarded to you. It now seems that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District has a plan to construct some kind of a fish sewer where once hope arose that there would be a canoe portage. A blight of a different kind on the creek, perhaps, but probably still a blight, and perhaps a safety hazard for kids as well. It doesn't seem there is much time for citizens to try to figure this out.

It does appear that the plan will require a longer bridge than would otherwise be needed.

One really good reason to oppose the idea, though, is that it is a (water) bridge to nowhere. There is simply no good place in the stretch between 54th Street and 50th Street for fish to live, as outlined below. When the dam was constructed, by the WPA in the 30s, I think, nobody understood that it would consign a section of the creek to a kind of slow death, but it did. Since the dam is staying (a

decision that I don't fault; I've been having fun watching people shoot the "rapids" for several days now), we are pretty much stuck with the consequences.

If the watershed had come out and said, "This how we're going to improve the habitat, modify the stream bed to improve the flow and the scouring of silt, create places with holding water for fish, and create places for in-stream aquatic vegetation," I'd be for it. But this is just ill-conceived.

I hope everyone on Council thinks this is a really good idea, and if not, apply the brakes until it's aired.

Thanks, Steve Timmer

From: Steven J. Timmer [<mailto:stimmer@planetlawyers.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: bhoudek@minnehahacreek.org
Cc: 'Scott Neal'; 'mail@EdinaMN.gov'; 'Chad Millner'; 'Toby Muse'; 'Sharon Allison'
Subject: 54th Street fish bypass

Ms. Houdek,

I wrote earlier about the fish bypass plan and the fact that it was essentially just sprung on the neighborhood; I received a *functioning* link to the plan this morning.

It is, in the very most literal sense of the term, a pipe dream. You could as well build a freeway to the middle of a trackless desert. Building a fish bypass without creating habitat for them to live in is foolish and wasteful.

As the watershed acknowledges, a substantial portion of this area of the creek is silted and does not support aquatic vegetation, and therefore not aquatic invertebrates, and therefore not fish. The upper portion, in Utley park, does have some gravel bottom, which the watershed optimistically calls "spawning habitat," but it is too shallow to be holding water for most of the year. And there is very little in in-stream vegetation, either (again, therefore no bugs, and no fish). Here's a photo from last November of the bridge over Wooddale Avenue at the edge of Utley Park. The water inches deep. There is no cover for fish, and it freezes solid in the winter. This is the condition through most of Utley Park.



Organizations like Trout Unlimited spend hundreds of thousands of dollars and hundreds or thousands of hours of volunteer labor to improve habitat of streams. But the watershed's "plan" is virtually void of planning or thinking about the improvement of the habitat itself.

Well, what's the harm, you say? It's only \$120,000!

As I observed earlier, the harm could be a diminution of the already low water in the stretch for most of the year. I imagine that it would require a longer bridge over the creek at 54th Street, at a cost to the city, and at a cost to the aesthetics of the creek valley.

I protest again in the most strenuous terms the treatment of the public in this plan. I got a post card a couple of days ago with a link that didn't work; I got a link from Sharon Allison this morning. There is a public meeting scheduled for the 20th, and a "formal meeting" to approve the plan on the 22nd. It sounds like a Ukrainian election.

This is especially galling to me because I personally asked watershed representatives at meetings at city hall last fall to keep me apprised of its plans for the creek and handed out business cards to insure it.

I am going to ask the Edina City Manager and the City Council to refrain from letting contracts for the street and bridge until this foolishness is thoroughly aired.

Sincerely, Steve Timmer

Steve Timmer
stimmer@planetlawyers.com

mail@edinamn.gov: Please forward to members of the council and the Transportation Commission.

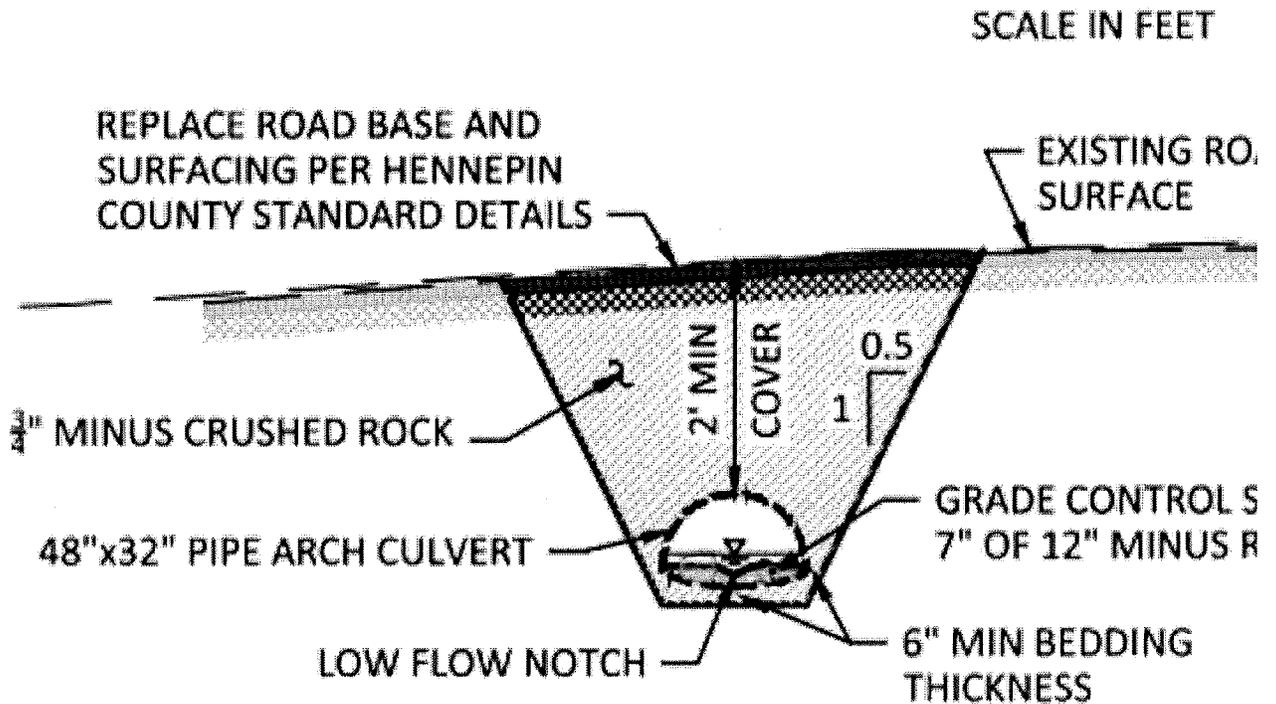
Heather Branigin

From: Steven J. Timmer <stimmer@planetlawyers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 7:02 PM
To: James Hovland
Subject: RE: 54th Street fish bypass

You have to wonder how long it will be before the Edina Fire Department has to fish somebody, or his body, out of that one. Steve

From: Steven J. Timmer [mailto:stimmer@planetlawyers.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 6:59 PM
To: 'James Hovland'
Subject: RE: 54th Street fish bypass

Here the culvert that is proposed:



A three hundred foot long 48 inch culvert. Think about that. Steve

From: James Hovland [mailto:JHovland@EdinaMN.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 3:03 PM
To: 'Steven J. Timmer'
Subject: RE: 54th Street fish bypass

Steve, in the hierarchy of government decision making the water shed comes first before the city.

Ann
Sent from my iPad

From: Steven J. Timmer [<mailto:stimmer@planetlawyers.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 2:09 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: FW: 54th Street fish bypass

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Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 1:14 PM
To: bhoudek@minnehahacreek.org
Cc: 'Scott Neal'; 'mail@EdinaMN.gov'; 'Chad Millner'; 'Toby Muse'; 'Sharon Allison'
Subject: 54th Street fish bypass

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Sincerely, Steve Timmer

Steve Timmer
stimmer@planetlawyers.com

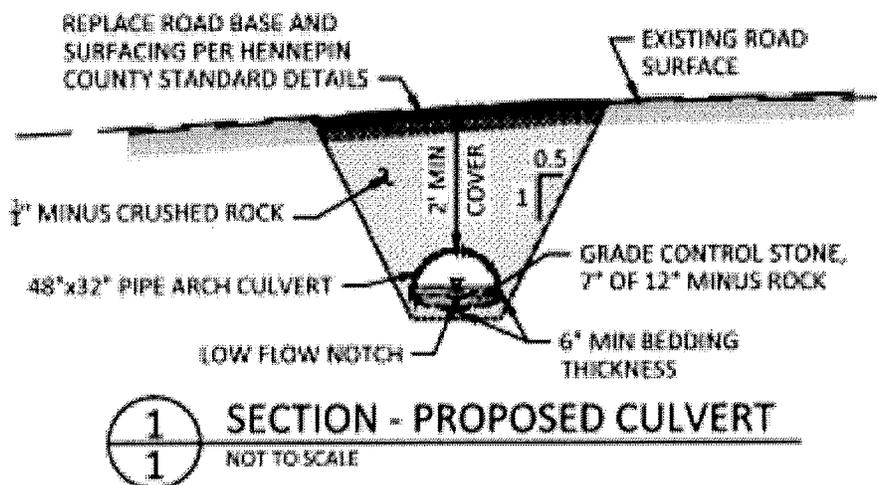
mail@edinamn.gov: Please forward to members of the council and the Transportation Commission.

Heather Branigin

From: Steven J. Timmer <stimmer@planetlawyers.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:44 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Scott Neal; Chad Millner; 'Toby Muse'
Subject: the fish "bypass"

Mayor Hovland and members of the City Council, (Lynette, please forward. S)

This is part of the detail of the proposed "fish bypass" for Minnehaha Creek at 54th Street. I'll have more about this sketch later, but please keep the dimensions of the bypass in mind.



As I mentioned in a previous message, a [functioning link to the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District's plan for a fish bypass at 54th Street](#) was distributed yesterday by Sharon Allison of the Engineering Department; I was grateful to get it, because a link supplied by the Watershed in a postcard that arrived a couple of days ago didn't work.

The same post card announced that the District would hold a public information meeting about its plans on Tuesday, May 20th followed by a public hearing (presumably to approve the plan just revealed to the public) two days later at the District's offices: a careful deliberative process for everybody!

I have had a chance now to look at two attachments to the web page description of the plan linked above. The first is a consultant's [discussion of alternatives](#) for the "grade control structure," that is, the dam or "rapids." Interestingly, it is dated January of this year, more than a month after it was represented to the Council that that the grade structure was not slated to be removed.

Its date is interesting because the report offers four alternatives for the grade structure: 1) do nothing, 2) just remove it, 3) create a roughened channel ([something I proposed last fall, by the way](#)), or 4) create a fish bypass.

A fish bypass was never mentioned to the public in the fall as something that might be included as the price of keeping the impounding dam in place as it is. And I believe residents of the area might have had a different view if they knew what the District would come up with.

A schematic for the fish bypass is linked on the District's site; [here it is](#). The sketch above is taken from this document. **The fish bypass would be four feet tall, about three feet wide, and would be a sloping, underground tunnel running for over 300 feet from about where Park Place meets 54th Street to below the dam.** In low water, it would be empty (and in high water, it would probably flow too fast for fish to use). It would siphon off water from the pool above the "rapids," making them un-runnable, if that is a word, for more days of the year. All at a cost of a mere \$120,000. For which the District would levy an *ad valorem* tax.

One wonders how long it would be before the Edina Fire Department was called on to rescue someone, or recover his or her body, from this irresistible tunnel. Or, how many cubic yards of concrete will be required to seal it up after that happens.

Well, just put screens over the openings, you say. Screens would just collect debris and plug up the bypass (and perhaps the screens would prevent fish, as well as people, from making it through). If the bypass plugged up in the middle, because of the inevitable collection of sticks, trash, leaves, and other organic matter, somebody would have to go in and clean it out. Whose job would that be?

I know that the Watershed District has the lead on this, but it calls the city its "partner" on the project. As a partner, I think the Council ought to ask, "Are you going to build this thing and then walk away?" I would also make very sure that the Fire Chief and the Director of Public Works sign off on the plan. It is perhaps unnecessary to say that there is material liability risk here.

The really galling thing about this dangerous and expensive idea is that it is so useless. The idea that a passage like this will encourage legions of homesteading fish to move in to the area between 54th and 50th Street is a laughable, utopian dream. There really is no habitat, little in the way of in-stream aquatic vegetation, and therefore aquatic invertebrates that fish feed on. The District's report talks about pike and bass as the top predator species in the watershed, but there is nothing in the section for them to practice their predatory skills on, since there isn't anything for minnows, chubs, etc. to eat.

And that won't change with a fish bypass. There isn't enough flow most of the year to overcome the siltation. The Watershed District says that it could put "woody debris" in the stream (to alter the flow and create higher flow in spots to scour the bottom of silt).

That's really unlikely to do it, but there is another term for "woody debris." Submerged logs. River boaters call them "deadheads." Not exactly what recreational tubers and canoeists need.

Based on the schedule laid out by the Watershed District, I am sure this is a done deal as far as it is concerned. But, Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council, as leaders of the District's "partner" in this, I think you need to be asking some serious questions.

Thank you, Steve

Steve Timmer
stimmer@planetlawyers.com

Heather Branigin

From: Loring, Deborah <Debby.Loring@metrotransit.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:10 AM
To: Edina Mail; James Hovland
Cc: Lamothe, Craig; Carlson, Charles
Subject: May 21st TAB Pre-Meeting Briefing – 2017 CMAQ Transit Capital Project Selection
Attachments: Letter_LambtoHargis_Rev03_20140512.pdf

Sent on behalf of Craig Lamothe, Deputy Project Director – Southwest LRT and Charles Carlson, Senior Manager - BRT Small Starts

Dear Mayor Hovland,

In the meeting packet expected to be issued tomorrow for the May 21st Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) meeting, there will be two motions for TAB's consideration regarding the 2017 CMAQ Transit Capital Project Selection. One of the motions reflects a funding allocation proposal put forth by Metro Transit (see attached letter). Craig and Charles would like to offer you an approximately 30 minute briefing on the proposal before the TAB meeting where we could walk you through the proposal and answer any questions you may have. Below are some dates and times for your consideration. If none of the dates and times below work for you, please let me know and we will look for alternative dates and times. For an in person briefing, we are assuming that we would come to your office unless you would like to meet elsewhere.

Thursday, 5/15	1:30 – 3:00 (in person or conference call)
Friday, 5/16	2:00 – 3:00 (conference call)
Monday, 5/19	3:00 – 4:30 (in person or conference call)
Tuesday, 5/20	10:30 – 11:30 (in person, or could do conference call 10:00 – 12:00)

Thank you,

Debby Loring

Sr. Administrative Specialist | SWLRT Project Office

Metro Transit
Southwest Light Rail Transit Project Office
6465 Wayzata Boulevard, Suite 500
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

debby.loring@metrotransit.org
P. 612.373.3928 | F. 612.373.3899



Heather Branigin

From: Erica Nowak <erican1919@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:47 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,
Erica Nowak
6009 Halifax Ave
Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: Rouleau, Jeff, Ph.D. <jeff.rouleau@medtronic.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:48 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Proposed City of Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a member of the community and an active member of Edina Swim Club I request that the City Council carefully review the proposed use of 5146 Eden Avenue as a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private uses for the land. Further, I ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Jeff Rouleau

Jeffrey P. Rouleau, Ph.D.
Technical Fellow and Materials Director
Medtronic Cardiac Rhythm Disease Management
8200 Coral Sea St NE
Mail Stop MVN-51
Mounds View, MN 55112
+1-763-505-4585 desk
+1-651-367-8095 fax

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<http://emaildisclaimer.medtronic.com>

Heather Branigin

From: mark.biscan@thomsonreuters.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:53 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: 5146 Eden Avenue

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Mark Biscan

Heather Branigin

From: Blanchett, Neal <nblanchett@CarlsonRezidor.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:59 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Grandview Area Community Center

Dear Edina Mayor and City Council Members,

My family and I are residents of Edina, members of Edina Swim Club, and frequent users of Edina's parks, libraries, and other wonderful public spaces. We think it's a good idea for the City to focus on the proposed state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private uses for the land. We see outstanding community centers in several communities, which become real community hubs for the best kind of family-friendly healthy activities, and drawing people into nearby businesses.

We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated. If the City later decides to go forward with an RFI eventually, it will have better information on whether to request that private developers include certain public elements. Edina has a wonderful reputation as a city with outstanding public amenities, in keeping with our outstanding residential neighborhoods, schools, and business community. In order to keep that reputation, we ought to thoroughly evaluate the community center option.

Thanks For Listening,

NEAL BLANCHETT,
4737 Hibiscus Avenue
Edina, 55435
m: +1 (763) 438-0208 | nblanchett@carlson.com

Heather Branigin

From: Rogers, Stacy <Stacy.Rogers@medica.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:15 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully

Best Wishes,

Stacy Rogers
Outreach and Medicare Sales Executive -SNP
State Public Programs
Mail Route CP340
952-992-3166 Phone
952-992-3166 Fax
stacy.rogers@medica.com

Please be aware that we are mandated by HIPAA and Compliance Regulations to protect members Personal Health Information this includes and is not limited to Member Name, DOB and Demographics. Please ensure you are sending PHI through Medica Secure Mail. To sign up, please visit Medica.com.

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Heather Branigin

From: Daniel Norling <dan.norling@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:40 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com; Ann Kattreh
Cc: Jaime Norling
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Dan and Jaime Norling

5606 Sherwood Ave

Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: Rick Julkowski <rickjulkowski@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:44 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Edina community center

I am not a resident of Edina but am currently looking for a new residence in Edina, and starting last month I became an active member of Edina Swim Club.

We want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Rick Julkowski

763-350-5792

Heather Branigin

From: Margaret Berdelman <mberdelman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:54 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshssprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Edina Community Center at 5146 Eden Avenue

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Margaret A. Berdelman

6916 Hillcrest Lane

Edina, MN 55435

Heather Branigin

From: USCM/Tom Cochran <actionalert=usmayors.org@mail189.atl81.rsgsv.net> on behalf of USCM/Tom Cochran <actionalert@usmayors.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 4:43 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Mayoral Sign-on Letter on Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

1620 EYE STREET, NORTHWEST
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
TELEPHONE (202) 293-7330
FAX (202) 293-2352
URL: www.usmayors.org

TO: The Mayor

FROM: Tom Cochran, CEO and Executive Director

I am writing to share a brief update on the status of Congressional action on legislation renewing the federal surface transportation law (MAP-21), including a request for mayoral support from Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman Barbara Boxer (CA). In late April, the Administration unveiled its 4-year renewal plan boosting annual funding substantially; leaders of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, led by Chairman Bill Shuster (PA), have not yet developed their renewal proposal. The MAP-21 law, which provides federal funding for highways, bridges and transit, among other purposes, expires September 30th.

Chairman Boxer intends to bring her bipartisan leadership proposal before her Committee beginning tomorrow, offering up a renewal plan that calls for a 6 years of funding at roughly inflation-adjusted levels. The leadership plan includes a new freight program, and also directs slightly more funding to MPO areas of 200,000 or more people under the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).

Specifically, Chairman Boxer has asked mayors and other local elected officials to signal their support of her efforts to protect and expand the TAP Program. At a recent hearing, Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard, who was delivering testimony before her panel, was asked to help gather signatures on a letter in support of the TAP Program. The Conference of Mayors and the National League of Cities have joined together on this effort, and are requesting mayors and other local

elected officials to join as signatories to the joint USCM/NLC letter.

To add your signature in support of the TAP Program, please go to this link -- <http://usmayors.org/transportationalternativesletter/> -- by Friday COB, June 6. Once on the page, you can also view the sign-on letter.

Thank you for responding to this request, and for your continuing support of the Conference and its efforts. If you have any questions, please contact me at 202 293-7330 or Assistant Executive Director Kevin McCarty at 202-861-6728 or kmccarty@usmayors.org.

United States Conference of Mayors
1620 I St., N.W.
4th Floor
Washington, DC 20006

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Heather Branigin

From: Colleen Zvosec <czvosec@bolinmarketing.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 4:44 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Community Center including pool for vacant land

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club , I request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the vacant 4 acre public land (5146 Eden Avenue.) toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. Please postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,
Colleen Zvosec

7204 Fleetwood Drive, Edina

Heather Branigin

From: Qiang Fu <qiangfu62@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:52 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Qiang Fu
4623 Bruce Ave
Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: Qiang Fu <qiangfu62@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:52 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Lisa Ge
4623 Bruce Ave
Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: Qiang Fu <qiangfu62@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:52 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Fu
4623 Bruce Ave
Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: judgeardis@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:25 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Beacon Housing Project

Jim:

Nice to see you at the League meeting last week.

This project sounds like something the City should be have a hand in--very worthwhile and needed in the area.
I urge your support.

Thanks.

Ardis

Heather Branigin

From: Jane <Jane@ellingsoncpas.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 8:08 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Jerrys Ramp

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello Chad - I am writing this note as an advocate to decrease the number of 3 hour parking spots in the ramp connected to Jerry's.

As a long-time tenant in the Jerry's tower we have seen the long-term parking spots (especially underneath) be taken by the bus commuters. As a tenant, I assume the rent we pay help to pay maintenance and upkeep of the ramp yet the commuters are taking the most favorable spots. I generally get to work around 7:15-7:30 on bad weather days the vast majority of the spots (non-3 hour) have already been taken. Another frustration this past Winter was that for a long time a large amount of the tenants would park in the 3 hour spots without being assessed tickets, then all the sudden the Police Department began to ticket. I think your proposal of removing 17 - 3 hour spots will definitely help the situation.

Thank you for your assistance on the matter.

Jane

Jane Ehresmann, CPA

Ellingson & Ellingson, Ltd.

Phone - 952-929-0315

Fax - 952-929-1974

jane@ellingsoncpas.com

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Heather Branigin

From: sallyeuson@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 9:04 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grand View property

Dear Mayor Hovland and Council Members Joni Bennett, Mary Brindle, Josh Sprague and Ann Swenson,

I am so proud to call Edina home. The same goes for my husband, Dave, and our girls who are now launched. Our city government runs like clockwork because we have people, like you, who have an unflappable commitment to the residents' best interests. I have been aware of the land under review and ask you to strongly consider this space for redevelopment of community space in lieu of residential space.

Edina's government thinks broadly and I hope that you will review the many reasons why Edina residents would benefit if this centrally located space were developed to better serve our residents, of all ages. Strong government, strong schools are Edina's legacy. We have wonderful community programs, as well, but they would and should be even stronger with the proper facilities to accommodate our growing youth population as well as our continued aging population.

Thank you for your consideration and time. I am most grateful for all you do to make this such a special place to live.

Sincerely,

Sally Euson
5720 View Lane
Edina, MN 55436

Heather Branigin

From: Cathy Fuller <catful22@lycos.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 9:39 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Edina Community Center

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council Members:

I am writing to you in support of continuing to explore the possibility of building a community center at the old public works site. I was one of the citizens randomly chosen to participate in the recently conducted opinion survey about development options for the site. I was pleasantly surprised to be chosen to participate, and also pleased that the survey was being conducted at all. The site has been vacant for a long time, and while I know there has been some work done regarding the ultimate disposition of the site, I did not feel at all connected or informed as to the options being considered. I cannot recall an instance of any in-depth coverage of this issue in the About Town Magazine, which I believe is the primary communication vehicle for the City of Edina.

As the parent of two high school aged children, it has become more and more apparent to me that there is not much for older kids to do in the way of entertainment within the city limits of Edina. I do not consider dropping my kids off at Southdale, to see a movie and then roam the mall, to be a good option! We do not belong to Edina Country Club or Interlachen so do not have dining, sports or entertainment options available to us through those venues. I would love to see a multi-purpose gathering space, with areas for indoor farmers/craft markets (winters kind of long here!), community theatre groups, and maybe even a space for teens to gather and have dances on weekend nights with a DJ. (again, winter gets a little long here when you spend every weekend night in someone's basement).

I am not sure at this point what level of amenities would be appropriate for this community center, and think it would be really important not to duplicate what is already available - e.g., already have a pool at Southview (open to the public?), and Edinborough. Maybe it would make sense to look at community facilities in totality and "re-brand" those that are underused - e.g., Senior Center in basement of library, consider opening it up to more diverse groups so it gets used more frequently.

The final disposition of this site, as a very strategically located piece of publicly owned land, should be done with a lot of community input and thoughtful discussion. I would be happy to be a part of that discussion, and look forward to hearing more about the Grandview site in future city communications.

Best Regards,
Catherine Fuller
5401 W 60th Street

Heather Branigin

From: Cathy Bergman <cb@edinalaw.com> on behalf of Joseph J. Christensen <jjc@edinalaw.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Bob Laue; Joseph J. Christensen
Subject: Jerry's Parking Ramp
Attachments: 20140515104615555.pdf

Dear Mayor Hovland:

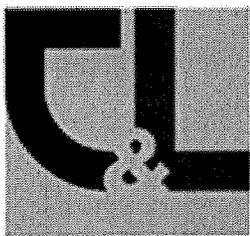
Please see our letter attached.

Very truly yours,

Joseph J. Christensen

Cathy Bergman for Joseph J. Christensen
Christensen & Laue, P.A.
5101 Vernon Avenue South, #400
Edina, MN 55436
Telephone: (952) 927-8855
Facsimile: (952) 927-5427
(800) 958-8855

Joe's Lake Office: 1(888) 353-8855
Lake Fax: (218) 543-5352



**CHRISTENSEN
& LAUE P.A.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

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CHRISTENSEN & LAUE, P.A.

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CHARLES A. DELBRIDGE
LUCAS J. FRASZ
CHRISTOPHER J. MCNULTY

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SUITE 400
5101 VERNON AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55436

TELEPHONE (952) 927-8855
FACSIMILE (952) 927-5427

WALTER C. GUSTAFSON
OF COUNSEL (1981 - 2004)

†REAL PROPERTY LAW SPECIALIST
CERTIFIED BY MINNESOTA STATE
BAR ASSOCIATION

*ALSO ADMITTED IN WISCONSIN

May 15, 2014

VIA E-MAIL

Mayor James Hovland
and the Edina City Council
C/O Engineering Department
7450 Metro Boulevard
Edina, Minnesota 55439

RE: Jerry's Parking Ramp/Proposed Signage Changes

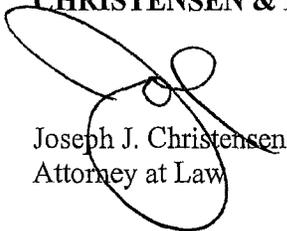
Dear Mayor Hovland and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of Bob Laue, myself, and all of us here at Christensen & Laue, I am writing to express our full support of the proposed parking signage changes at the Jerry's Parking Ramp and appreciate the efforts your engineering department has made in connection with this question. We believe these changes will allow for better utilization of the ramp for the businesses located in the adjoining facilities and their respective customers, as well as members of the public utilizing the ramp for park and ride purposes. We are hopeful that you will approve this change as recommended in the Staff Report from the City Director of Engineering, Mr. Chad Millner.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

CHRISTENSEN & LAUE, P.A.



Joseph J. Christensen
Attorney at Law

JJC/cb

cc: Bob Laue

Heather Branigin

From: bettyworkinger@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 1:18 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: yes to 66 West

Geof and I both agree that Edina needs supportive housing for homeless youth. The location is perfect. Please say yes.
Betty Workinger 5224 Kellogg Ave.S. Edina, 55424

Heather Branigin

From: Sara Dare Biscan <saradarebiscan@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 2:20 PM
To: Edina Mail

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

**Respectfully,
Sara Biscan
Zenith Avenue South
Edina, MN**

--

sara dare biscan
art director | graphic designer
612.384.3772

Heather Branigin

From: Ted Adams <tadams6@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 3:22 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: for the City Council

Re: the Eden Ave public works site

The letter in the Edina Sun by Kim Montgomery advocates hiring an outside consultant to figure out some public need for the site. I'm totally opposed to such nonsense. Why would we need a consultant to recommend something we should be able to see ourselves? If there was a real public need, it would be obvious. If it isn't obvious what the public need is, there clearly isn't one. To spend public money on a consultant to find reasons to further reduce our tax base makes no sense. The land should be developed and taxed. That in itself is a public use.

Ted Adams
4618 Edgebrook Place
Edina

Heather Branigin

From: Katie <kbredesen@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 4:40 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Public Works site

Hello Mayor Hovland,

I strongly endorse the use of the Public Works site as a community center, including a championship pool.

Thanks, Jim. Katie Bredesen

Heather Branigin

From: huntley711@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 5:56 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview site development

To Edina City Council:

As an Edina citizen, I am writing to express my support for responsible development of the Grandview site and especially the former Public Works site. I believe partnering with a developer is the best approach to the future development of this site.

I do not support the concept of a "Community Center" on this site. The size of the site and its lack of good exposure do not fit the proposed use:

- * The site of 3.3 acres is just not large enough to contain all the spaces, activities and parking that have been proposed by proponents of a community center.
- * The site is surrounded by the backside of a grocery store with exposed trash and loading docks, a large parking ramp, and the backside of a strip shopping area -- nothing very appealing to look at.
- * Even if the adjacent School District bus garage site is included, the site still poses several design challenges.

Edina already has many of the amenities that are being discussed for a community center. New pools, gymnasiums, auditoriums and performing arts venues already exist within our award-winning schools. The existing Edina Community Center contains many classrooms and spaces for community use. Several health clubs exist within the surrounding area. We do not need even more of these in this area, and I certainly do not want to see my taxes raised even higher in order to pay for and to operate such unneeded facilities. Just because the site is city-owned is no valid reason to insist on a public use for its future.

Please do not back down from a reasonable approach to development of this site. Please do not cave in to a few vocal persons who have a narrow agenda and focus for this site. We deserve more.

Regards,

Robert Huntley
4505 Andover Rd.
Edina MN 55435

Heather Branigin

From: Andrea Knoll <aknoll1@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 9:17 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Beacon Development

Dear Mayor:

I hope this finds you well. Leslie Stiles and I were talking the other day and we thought it might be good for us to touch base with you. I know how busy your schedule keeps you, so thought I would just send a quick email now. If your schedule allows we would enjoy the chance to meet you for a cup of coffee or breakfast/lunch again at Edina Grill or Eden Avenue.

We wanted you to know that we support the housing that Beacon is proposing. Earlier this year we had hoped that the project might be able to include our Oasis Resource Center services and a broader spectrum of housing on the site. I think perhaps that was where we were the last time we spoke. For funding reasons and site parameters, this is not going to be an option. However, we still are supportive, as young adults need more affordable housing options. We are hopeful that we might be able to refer some of the youth we work with into 66 West, as we do other housing projects in the metro area.

While we support the Beacon project, we also know it will not meet all the needs of youth in our community. There will still be a need for shelter and transitional living beds to support the spectrum of need we see in our communities. Many of the youth we support at Oasis are full-time students and/or would need more supportive housing options. Oasis hopes to develop, or work in partnership to develop, such housing in the future. We think the 10-14 bed shelter/transitional living program that Avenues for Youth is creating with the City of Brooklyn Park is a great model for our area, perhaps best sited in East Bloomington or Richfield. There will also be a continued need for the prevention and school-based outreach that Oasis is doing in our area high schools, and for the support we provide unstably housed youth that are parenting.

We continue to be impressed and grateful for the leadership you provide our communities. If we can help in the dialogue in any way, please let us know. We would welcome it.

Thanks and best regards,

Andrea Knoll and Leslie Stiles
Board Members
Oasis for Youth
612-751-1515 cell
952-512-2062 office

Heather Branigin

From: Thompson, Teresa <TThompson@fredlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 7:41 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear City Council -

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club, I request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. I ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

**Teresa M. Thompson
5805 Shannon Drive
Edina, MN 55439**

Heather Branigin

From: Kersten Elverum <kerverum@hopkinsmn.com>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 10:37 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Mike Mornson
Subject: Hopkins CMAQ application

Mayor Hovland-

Thank you for your support of Hopkins' CMAQ application and the proposed relocation of funds. The following are a few of the reasons why we think it is a valuable project –

The location of a Park and Ride at the Downtown Hopkins Station:

- Supports ridership of LRT: location just off Hwy 169 and Excelsior Boulevard provides great access for park and ride
- Provides for additional redevelopment potential at both the Shady Oak and Blake stations, bringing additional riders to the Green Line
- Assures opening day redevelopment of a critical site
- Supports Hopkins Mainstreet by making the Artery possible
- Creates private development opportunities that off-set the tax base loss of the OMF

If you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks again!

Kersten Elverum
Director of Planning & Development
City of Hopkins
952/548-6340

Heather Branigin

From: Jeff Saunders <JeffSaunders@Savvysherpa.com>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 11:10 AM
To: Edina Mail; Mary Brindle (Comcast)
Cc: Karol Saunders
Subject: Water Damage Caused by City Draining of Pond [no-encrypt]
Attachments: Saunders Yard 1.jpg; Pond.jpg

Jim and Mary,

I hope you are both doing well.

I apologize for bothering you with an issue we are having, but the City staff we have been dealing with have been far from helpful and I'm not sure where else to turn at this point.

A large portion of our yard is underwater as a result of the City pumping water from a pond up the hill from our house in response to a homeowner complaining that the pond level is too high and threatens her house. From the attached photos, you can see this is not the case. City employees, however, decided to pump water out of the pond using two high capacity lines and let the water cascade down the street, causing erosion of yards and pavement, with the water ultimately pooling in our yard, leaving significant standing water and threatening several mature trees (and this after we spent substantial amounts re-doing that portion of our yard).

I am completely at a loss to understand why it is acceptable for the City to decide to convert a perceived water problem for one homeowner into an actual water problem for another homeowner who lives over a block away. The City employees we have talked to have refused to acknowledge that their actions were ill-advised or that they have any responsibility for damage we have suffered (and will suffer when the full effects of the flooding on our trees manifest in the next year or two). They have also refused to do anything to prevent further damage from pumping (such as installing sandbags to divert the water into the storm sewer).

I also question whether the City obtained the proper permits from the DNR to pump out a wetland.

I would be very appreciative if you could help me get this situation corrected as quickly as possible without having to escalate what I have to do to fix damage that would not have happened if some simple common sense had been used.

Thank you in advance.

Best regards,

Jeff



Jeffrey N. Saunders
Principal
jeffsaunders@savvysherpa.com
(763) 566-1700 X 8111 (office)
(612) 801-2790 (mobile)
www.savvysherpa.com

Savvysherpa, Inc.
6200 Shingle Creek Parkway, Suite 400
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55430







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DERMATOLOGY &
COSMETIC
INSTITUTE, P.A.

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M. ELIZABETH BRIDEN, M.D., FAAD
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

MELISSA WATERMAN, PA-C

DENISE BARNHARDT, PA-C

May 15, 2014

Mayor Hovland & City Councilmembers
City of Edina
4801 W. 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

Re: Strengthening the Edina Regional Medical District

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

We are writing this letter on behalf of the medical office property owners and tenants of the area north of 66th Street West and East of France Avenue in the City of Edina, known as the Edina Regional Medical District. We are proud to be a part of one of the premier medical office districts in the entire State of Minnesota and, as a group and individually, we have spent considerable resources to locate, build, and expand our businesses in this district. We hope that the City will continue to encourage this type of development and protect the investments that we have made in the community, and further attract new investments to the Edina Regional Medical District. In light of this, we strongly encourage the City to strengthen and protect the integrity of the Edina Regional Medical District and deny any request to rezone the property, located at 3330 66th Street West (formerly TCF Bank), to allow a lower-density multi-family development.

Premier Regional Medical District

The Edina Regional Medical District is one of the premier medical districts in the state. The City has a history of supporting this district where medical and dental offices and clinics, laboratories, and other health service-related businesses can thrive. The City's commitment has helped to attract a range of health services-related businesses to the area. With every one of these businesses comes a significant investment in building and staffing our offices and clinics. We attract an educated, highly-paid workforce, many of whom establish roots in the City and make Edina their home. Our investments have, in turn, attracted further investments into the district, as other businesses seek to take advantage of the central medical office location, suitable infrastructure, and nearby amenities. We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the Edina Regional Medical District.

Opposed to Comprehensive Plan Amendment/Rezoning

If the proposed residential project proceeds, it would require a rezoning of the property and an amendment to change the City's policy set forth in the Edina Comprehensive Plan. We strongly oppose any change that would erode the zoning integrity of this district, negatively impact ongoing investments

CHASKA
111 HUNDERTMARK ROAD #220
CHASKA, MN 55318

MAIN OFFICE
6525 BARRIE ROAD • EDINA, MN 55435
PHONE: 952-915-6000 FAX: 952-915-6100

SHAKOPEE
1515 ST. FRANCIS AVENUE #250
SHAKOPEE, MN 55379

Mayor & Councilmembers
May 15, 2014
Page 2

that we have made in this medical office district, and discourage future investments from other medical offices that would otherwise locate in the community. If the Comprehensive Plan is amended to allow

lower-density multi-family residential uses, such as the proposed housing project, it would permit any type of lower-density multi-family residential development to occur in the Edina Regional Medical District. In light of the current development pressures, this slippery slope could quickly attract further lower-density multi-family residential development, and eventually eliminate the significance of the Edina Regional Medical District; thus, discouraging future growth and investment in the area from the medical industry.

Approval Would Discourage Future Investment

A rezoning and Comprehensive Plan amendment to allow the proposed lower-density multi-family development would destabilize and create zoning uncertainty in the Edina Regional Medical District. The Comprehensive Plan is a policy document that we, as medical office building owners and tenants, have relied upon to guide and protect the integrity of the City's vision for this medical district. Changing the Comprehensive Plan to cater to the pressures of added lower-density multi-family development in the City would have a chilling effect on future investment in the Edina Regional Medical District. It would send a message that the City has abandoned the vision of making the area a premier medical office center, in favor of attracting lower-density multi-family development. The prosperity of the businesses in the Edina Regional Medical District requires confidence that encourages growth and investment, and approving this development would raise significant concerns and discourage future investment by the medical industry in the district.

Loss of Property Tax Base Due to Rezoning

As property owners and business taxpayers in the City, we are concerned that any rezoning from commercial to residential districts would erode the tax base and decrease revenues for the City. The inevitable outcome would be that the deficit would fall upon us, the existing taxpayers, to make up the difference. This would be a bad precedent. Other cities have seen the impacts of an eroding tax base and gone to great lengths to preserve existing businesses and business districts. We feel strongly that the City should protect the Edina Regional Medical Center District and any action to rezone a portion of this district would be the beginning of a downward trend. Moreover, there are numerous sufficient areas zoned as multi-family in the city that would allow the proposed residential development to proceed without damaging the integrity of the district and the commercial tax base. We encourage the City to work with the developer to find an appropriate location already zoned and guided for such residential development.

Detrimental Parking and Traffic Impacts of Proposed Development

We also strongly oppose any development that could not meet the requirements of the City's Ordinances. As it is currently proposed, the building would nearly double in size and eliminate existing surface parking. Despite the creation of 39 new dwelling units, there would only be 25 surface parking stalls on site. The proposed parking is not nearly enough to accommodate the overflow for both the residents and

Mayor & Councilmembers

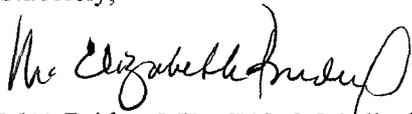
May 15, 2014

Page 3

visitors. This will increase traffic and, with no on-street parking in the vicinity, it will create conflict with neighboring properties, who maintain parking for customers and employees.

We strongly encourage you to strengthen the integrity of the Edina Regional Medical District as a premier regional medical destination and deny any request to amend the City's existing policy to allow lower-density multi-family residential development in the district. We have made significant investments to establish and build our businesses in this district in reliance on the City's commitment to preserving the area's medical-centric character. Any decision to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan and rezone the property for residential development would be a reversal of course and put future investment in this district in question.

Sincerely,



M.E. Briden, MD CEO & Medical Director
Advanced Dermatology & Cosmetic Institute PA
6525 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-915-6000



Jim McBride, President
Advanced Skin Therapeutics
6515 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-915-6000

Tony Davis, Clinic Administrator
Dermatology Specialists, PA
3316 West. 66th Street #270
Edina, MN 55435
952-920-3808

McBride Properties
6515 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-915-6000

Thomas M. Keane, DDS, Owner
Esthesia Oral Surgery Care PA
3400 West 66th Street #270
Edina, MN 55435
952-920-3844

Thomas Jetzer, MD, Owner/President
Occupational Medicine Consultants
6515 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-920-5663

Carol Jetzer, Owner/President
Employee Health Assessment Professional Services
Association
6515 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-920-5663

Nikki Potter, Communications Rel. Director
Chiropractic Health & Wellness
3400 W. 66th Street #128
Edina, MN 55435
952-835-6750

CC: Sen. Melissa Franzen 651-296-6238 sen.melisa.franzen@senate.mn
Rep. Paul Rosenthal 651-296-7803 rep.paul.rosenthal@house.mn
Rep. Ron Erhardt 651-296-4363 rep.ron.erhardt@house.mn

Hh

House of History

Make A Better Future-Learn From The Past

Hi Jim

Is This Hypocrisy?

A handwritten signature in pink ink, appearing to be 'Bob', written in a cursive style.

Wickes: Proposed six-story building on

site

Wickes Furniture site

Council green-lights building on border

Richfield residents concerned about height

BY LISA KACZKE
SUN CURRENT
NEWSPAPERS

A six-story apartment building on the border of Edina and Richfield will create a "wall" between the two cities, Richfield Mayor Debbie Goettel said.

Richfield residents told the Edina City Council they're opposed to the

proposed building on the Wickes Furniture site, sharing their concerns about the shadows of the building, the impact it could have on the Richfield school district, and the overall disconnect between the building and the surrounding landscape of single-family homes.

The Edina City Council approved in a 4-1 vote an amendment to the city's Comprehensive Plan and preliminary rezoning of the site at 6725 York Ave., on Tuesday, May 6. Council members said developer Lennar Corporation has done every-

thing the city of Edina has asked it to do on the site to appease Richfield's concerns.

Councilmember Joni Bennett was the lone opposition, saying she was voting no because the setback of the building from the Richfield homes was less than the required setback if the homes were located in Edina.

Lennar Corporation has purchased the site — most recently housing the Borofka's Furniture store — and the five single-family homes to the east of the site along Xerxes Avenue. It is planning to tear

them down and construct an apartment building with 242 units and 11,000 square feet of retail that will include a restaurant. The cost of the project is estimated at \$60 million.

The building will have a podium along the bottom two stories so the upper four stories will be setback 8 feet from the bottom two stories.

"We believe this project is overbearing, too large of a scope on the Richfield border and cuts out sun and the view of the sky," Goettel told the

WICKES - TO PAGE 16

FROM PAGE 1

Edina council. She added that Richfield isn't against redevelopment, but the project isn't a good project as it's proposed.

Edina Councilmember Mary Brindle said she doesn't see the project as a "wall" between the two cities because neighboring York Place Apartments and Cub Foods are built closer to the street than the proposed apartment building. Councilmember Josh Sprague said the project will create holes in the wall because it pro-

vides green space and pedestrian sidewalks to get around the building.

Edina Councilmember Ann Swenson said she wouldn't have supported the project last year based on the original sketch plans shown to the council in September 2013, but she supports the changed project.

"I think it's a great project and I think it'll be a great asset, so I'm in support of it," she said.

Edina Mayor Jim Hovland echoed that, comparing it to the "deteriorat-

ing" Wickes Furniture that exists today.

Edina has cared about Richfield during the process, saying no to a grocery store on the site and a loading dock on Xerxes Avenue, he said.

"I think that Edina has treated Richfield well here. We've tried to work hard to try to make this building move as far west as it can and I'm going to support this as well," he concluded.

Following a sketch plan review by the council in September 2013, Len-

nar decreased the number of units from 273 to 242, eliminated the loading dock and affiliated traffic on Xerxes Avenue, created the podium height, moved the building's setback back 12 feet and improved the pedestrian connections on the site, Edina Planning Director Cary Teague said.

The Comprehensive Plan amendment was needed because the maximum height for the site is four stories and the five homes on the east side of the site were changing from low-density residential to community action center. The rezoning will change the site to a planned urban development district.

Richfield's concerns

Edina's heard a lot of concern from Richfield regarding the setback of the building, Teague said.

"If those houses were located in Edina, we would require a setback from any building that's taller than four stories to be twice the height of the building, so this building would be 70 feet tall so, again, if those homes were located in Edina, we would require 140-foot setbacks from the six-story portion of the building to adjacent property line. What's proposed here is 122 feet," he said.

Following the Edina Planning Commission's recommendation of denial for the rezoning due to setback concerns in April, Lennar moved the building 10 more feet west on the site. The distance from the ground floor of the proposed buildings to the houses across Xerxes is 150 feet, said Peter Chmielewski of Lennar.

"In terms of being fair to Richfield, we've got this building pushed back almost five times further than your own ordinance would require," Hovland said about Richfield's setback requirements.

Swenson noted that Lyndale Gardens has a six-story building across the street from single-fam-

setback, although Goettel clarified that Lyndale Gardens is a phased project.

Vernon Terrace in Edina is a six-story building with a 35-foot setback to the property line for single-family homes and the four-story York Place Apartments down the street from the proposed property has a 35-foot setback, Teague said in response to council members' questions.

Richfield residents requested the building be decreased from six stories to four stories. Chmielewski said the number of stories was based on the financial reality of the site.

"There is a certain density that needs to be met for this area to be redeveloped. Several other developers have come to this site in the past and been unsuccessful because they have not been able to get to that level of density or creativity that we were able to do with the homes to make sure that we could make this a viable opportunity," he said.

Richfield City Council member Pat Elliott, who represents the Richfield side of Xerxes, said he was concerned that a "Plan B" wasn't being presented to the Edina council.

"They knew exactly what they had to do, and what they had to do was come in front of this council and get some changes in your Comp Plan and some rezoning to make that work for the price they were paying," Elliott told the Edina council members. "There was a willing seller, a willing buyer. Lennar's overpaid for this, knowing the mountain they had to climb was the policy presentation they had to make to you to get you to change your Comp Plan. I think what we're looking at is the slippery slope when the developers can come before a city council, whether it's here, Minneapolis, Richfield; Minnetonka, and overpay for a piece of land and indicate to the policymakers that if you don't go along

do, we're not going to develop it. Developers like Lennar have a Plan B. My suggestion is make them tell you the Plan B."

Hovland pointed out that the project is in Edina's commercial area that has the city's most expensive land. Edina wants the density in this area because if not, it'll end up with the "same old, same old one-story sprawl," he said.

Residents also said they were concerned about shadows or an inability to see the sky from their property if the project is built. A study of the proposed building's shadows on the single-family homes across the street shows that in the worst-case scenario, on Dec. 20, the first shadows would impact the houses at 2:37 p.m. and sunset would occur at 4:34 p.m.

The council decided to remove the requirement that 10 percent of the building be affordable housing.

Richfield residents said they were concerned because the affordable housing is located in the Richfield school district.

Chmielewski told the council Lennar has no plans to have affordable housing in its proposed building. Other apartment buildings in the area weren't required to have 10 percent affordable housing and Lennar doesn't want it to have a negative impact on the Richfield school district, he said.

In terms of property taxes the project will generate, City Manager Scott Neal drew up a hypothetical situation if the property was assessed \$25 million. If that were true, he estimated that about \$200,000 would go to the city and between \$175,000 and \$250,000 would go to the Richfield school district.

Contact Lisa Kaczke at lisa.kaczke@ecm-inc.com or follow her on Twitter @ [EdinaSunCurrent](#)

Not
OK
Problem

COPY

Gordon Johnson

From: Gordon Johnson <gjjohnson3@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 4:15 PM
To: 'Mark Nolan'
Subject: Olinger Boulevard Bicycle Trail
Attachments: Nolan - City of Edina .PDF

Mr. Nolan:

I am writing in response to the May 12, 2014 letter to Edina Residents which I received yesterday. Unfortunately, I won't be able to attend the Transportation Commission meeting so I am attaching my response to this email. It would be appreciated if you'd present this email as an exhibit at tonight's meeting of the Transportation Commission. If you have questions, please call me. Thanks.

Gordon Johnson

5/15/14
Jim - Here's a copy
of a letter I sent to the
Transportation Commission.
I'm copying you for Tuesday's
Council meeting in case
Mark Nolan didn't receive
this in time for tonight's
meeting. Thanks.
Gordon Johnson

Gordon V. Johnson
Attorney at Law
5837 Jeff Place
Edina, MN 55436-1937
Telephone: (952) 925-1016
Fax: (952) 926-3826
Email: gjjohnson3@comcast.net

May 15, 2014

Mr. Mark K. Nolan, AICP
Transportation Planner
Engineering Department
City of Edina
7450 Metro Boulevard
Edina, MN 55439

COPY

RE: Proposed Bike Path for Olinger Boulevard

Dear Mr. Nolan:

I have just received your May 12, 2014 letter in which you describe the proposed bike path installation for Olinger Boulevard. Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend the Transportation Commission meeting this evening so I would appreciate having you enter this letter as an exhibit at both tonight's meeting and the City Council meeting on May 20th.

First, I have some confusion as to how far east this plan is proposed to run. You indicate approximately 2/3 of a mile east of Olinger Road. This measurement would appear to take you from Olinger Road to the entrance to Nine Mile Village. What happens between Nine Mile Village and Tracy Avenue? Are you proposing road stripes on both sides of Olinger Boulevard?

Second, I believe the need to stripe Olinger Boulevard north of Nine Mile Village's entrance to be unnecessary "overkill" for a couple of reasons: (a) there is a perfectly useable bike path in Bredesen Park from Vernon Avenue to Nine Mile Village. This portion of the Bredesen Park bike path could be designated as a two way path without difficulty [it is already a dual-use path from Nine Mile Village to Jeff Place], (b) the bike traffic on Bredesen Park's path is minimal a large percentage of the time. I live about 150 feet east of Bredesen Park and ride the bike path several times each week at varying times of the day and/or early evening. On many occasions, I'm the only one on the bike path. At other times, I may encounter 1 to 3 other bikers, and (c) I don't wish to see any parking reduction along Olinger Boulevard for the residents living there, the Bredesen Park cutout, or the Countryside Park cutout.

The City needs to promote biking as a health-oriented event, but the biking needs to be "balanced" with automobile usage of the street. It also must be "balanced" with the demand by bikers. The City recently striped part of Tracy from Vernon to Benton and

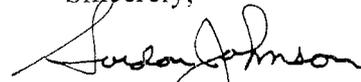
Mr. Mark K. Nolan
May 15, 2014
Page 2

reduced parking on Tracy at the same time. I travel up and down Tracy several times each day at various times per day. I seriously doubt that I have encountered 10 bikes cumulatively since the road work was finished. If there is no demand (i.e., high usage), then there is no need to provide additional bike lanes.

Although I have been "out-of-office" for about 10 years, I did serve as a member and/or chairman of the Edina Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals for 33+ years. During my tour of duty, I, and others, spent a considerable amount of time, mulling over traffic usage and need in our community. I'm not claiming to be "thee" expert on the subject, but I've had more experience than many of our fellow citizens.

I trust that the Transportation Commission will render a learned opinion with its recommendation to the city council. Thanks for reviewing my viewpoints.

Sincerely,



Gordon V. Johnson
Attorney At Law

GVJ: s

Heather Branigin

From: Judith Andersen <judyandy@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 7:18 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Yes to 66 W

hi Jim - We are about the project for homeless youth that is being planned for the existing bank building on 66th. I know you will support these efforts as our mayor. These apartments will provide a home and services for young people who have been homeless and who need some assistance to get a good start in life.

Thanks!

Judy Andersen and Kay Larsen

6313 Halifax Ave S

Edina, MN

Heather Branigin

From: Lori comcast <urbanlk@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 7:47 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Public Works site

Please add to the green space and senior and family activity in Edina by creating a community garden and organic cafe on the Public Works site. The proximity to the senior center, senior housing and public library will sustain the garden and cafe. The library houses the education for planting, growing, and cooking and planning opportunities, senior housing and center is the hub. Jerry's foods could contribute to cafe grocery needs through distribution channel sharing and gain publicity. This creates a continual group effort to work as a community now and for the future.

Sent from my iPhone

Heather Branigin

From: Jenny Chapman <ja.chapman@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 5:22 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Support 66 West

Hello,

Please support this much needed service to our youth.

I have been an Edina resident for 10 years and there are numerous opportunities and resources available in Edina to assist these youth with life changing opportunities.

I reside at 5721 Kemrich Drive
Edina, MN 55439

Thank you.

~ Jenny Chapman
612-325-1363

Heather Branigin

From: janski123@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 4:59 PM
To: Edina Mail; sen.melisa.franzen@senate.mn; rep.paul.rosenthal@house.mn;
rep.ron.erhardt@house.mn; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast);
joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Edina Regional Medical District Rezoning
Attachments: EdinaRegionalMedicalDistrictRezoning.pdf

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please see the attached letter from concerned medical community members regarding the 3330 66th Street plan development.



ADVANCED
DERMATOLOGY &
COSMETIC
INSTITUTE, P.A.

M. ELIZABETH BRIDEN, M.D., FAAD
MEDICAL DIRECTOR
MELISSA WATERMAN, PA-C
DENISE BARNHARDT, PA-C

COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL, SURGICAL AND COSMETIC DERMATOLOGY

May 15, 2014

Mayor Hovland & City Councilmembers
City of Edina
4801 W. 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

Re: Strengthening the Edina Regional Medical District

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

We are writing this letter on behalf of the medical office property owners and tenants of the area north of 66th Street West and East of France Avenue in the City of Edina, known as the Edina Regional Medical District. We are proud to be a part of one of the premier medical office districts in the entire State of Minnesota and, as a group and individually, we have spent considerable resources to locate, build, and expand our businesses in this district. We hope that the City will continue to encourage this type of development and protect the investments that we have made in the community, and further attract new investments to the Edina Regional Medical District. In light of this, we strongly encourage the City to strengthen and protect the integrity of the Edina Regional Medical District and deny any request to rezone the property, located at 3330 66th Street West (formerly TCF Bank), to allow a lower-density multi-family development.

Premier Regional Medical District

The Edina Regional Medical District is one of the premier medical districts in the state. The City has a history of supporting this district where medical and dental offices and clinics, laboratories, and other health service-related businesses can thrive. The City's commitment has helped to attract a range of health services-related businesses to the area. With every one of these businesses comes a significant investment in building and staffing our offices and clinics. We attract an educated, highly-paid workforce, many of whom establish roots in the City and make Edina their home. Our investments have, in turn, attracted further investments into the district, as other businesses seek to take advantage of the central medical office location, suitable infrastructure, and nearby amenities. We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the Edina Regional Medical District.

Opposed to Comprehensive Plan Amendment/Rezoning

If the proposed residential project proceeds, it would require a rezoning of the property and an amendment to change the City's policy set forth in the Edina Comprehensive Plan. We strongly oppose any change that would erode the zoning integrity of this district, negatively impact ongoing investments

CHASKA
111 HUNDERTMARK ROAD #220
CHASKA, MN 55318

MAIN OFFICE
6525 BARRIE ROAD • EDINA, MN 55435
PHONE: 952-915-6000 FAX: 952-915-6100

SHAKOPEE
1515 ST. FRANCIS AVENUE #250
SHAKOPEE, MN 55379

Mayor & Councilmembers

May 15, 2014

Page 2

that we have made in this medical office district, and discourage future investments from other medical offices that would otherwise locate in the community. If the Comprehensive Plan is amended to allow

lower-density multi-family residential uses, such as the proposed housing project, it would permit any type of lower-density multi-family residential development to occur in the Edina Regional Medical District. In light of the current development pressures, this slippery slope could quickly attract further lower-density multi-family residential development, and eventually eliminate the significance of the Edina Regional Medical District; thus, discouraging future growth and investment in the area from the medical industry.

Approval Would Discourage Future Investment

A rezoning and Comprehensive Plan amendment to allow the proposed lower-density multi-family development would destabilize and create zoning uncertainty in the Edina Regional Medical District. The Comprehensive Plan is a policy document that we, as medical office building owners and tenants, have relied upon to guide and protect the integrity of the City's vision for this medical district. Changing the Comprehensive Plan to cater to the pressures of added lower-density multi-family development in the City would have a chilling effect on future investment in the Edina Regional Medical District. It would send a message that the City has abandoned the vision of making the area a premier medical office center, in favor of attracting lower-density multi-family development. The prosperity of the businesses in the Edina Regional Medical District requires confidence that encourages growth and investment, and approving this development would raise significant concerns and discourage future investment by the medical industry in the district.

Loss of Property Tax Base Due to Rezoning

As property owners and business taxpayers in the City, we are concerned that any rezoning from commercial to residential districts would erode the tax base and decrease revenues for the City. The inevitable outcome would be that the deficit would fall upon us, the existing taxpayers, to make up the difference. This would be a bad precedent. Other cities have seen the impacts of an eroding tax base and gone to great lengths to preserve existing businesses and business districts. We feel strongly that the City should protect the Edina Regional Medical Center District and any action to rezone a portion of this district would be the beginning of a downward trend. Moreover, there are numerous sufficient areas zoned as multi-family in the city that would allow the proposed residential development to proceed without damaging the integrity of the district and the commercial tax base. We encourage the City to work with the developer to find an appropriate location already zoned and guided for such residential development.

Detrimental Parking and Traffic Impacts of Proposed Development

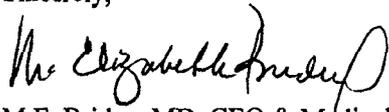
We also strongly oppose any development that could not meet the requirements of the City's Ordinances. As it is currently proposed, the building would nearly double in size and eliminate existing surface parking. Despite the creation of 39 new dwelling units, there would only be 25 surface parking stalls on site. The proposed parking is not nearly enough to accommodate the overflow for both the residents and

Mayor & Councilmembers
May 15, 2014
Page 3

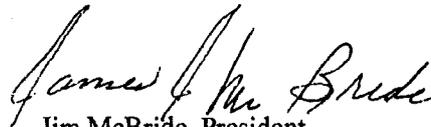
visitors. This will increase traffic and, with no on-street parking in the vicinity, it will create conflict with neighboring properties, who maintain parking for customers and employees.

We strongly encourage you to strengthen the integrity of the Edina Regional Medical District as a premier regional medical destination and deny any request to amend the City's existing policy to allow lower-density multi-family residential development in the district. We have made significant investments to establish and build our businesses in this district in reliance on the City's commitment to preserving the area's medical-centric character. Any decision to amend the City's Comprehensive Plan and rezone the property for residential development would be a reversal of course and put future investment in this district in question.

Sincerely,



M.E. Briden, MD CEO & Medical Director
Advanced Dermatology & Cosmetic Institute PA
6525 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-915-6000



Jim McBride, President
Advanced Skin Therapeutics
6515 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-915-6000

Tony Davis, Clinic Administrator
Dermatology Specialists, PA
3316 West. 66th Street #200
Edina, MN 55435
952-920-3808

McBride Properties
6515 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-915-6000

Thomas M. Keane, DDS, Owner
Esthesia Oral Surgery Care PA
3400 West 66th Street #270
Edina, MN 55435
952-920-3844

Thomas Jetzer, MD, Owner/President
Occupational Medicine Consultants
6515 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-920-5663

Carol Jetzer, Owner/President
Employee Health Assessment Professional Services
Association
6515 Barrie Road
Edina, MN 55435
952-920-5663

Nikki Potter, Communications Rel. Director
Chiropractic Health & Wellness
3400 W. 66th Street #128
Edina, MN 55435
952-835-6750

CC: Sen. Melissa Franzen 651-296-6238 sen.melisa.franzen@senate.mn
Rep. Paul Rosenthal 651-296-7803 rep.paul.rosenthal@house.mn
Rep. Ron Erhardt 651-296-4363 rep.ron.erhardt@house.mn

Heather Branigin

From: Cheryl Pedrolie <pedrolie@earthlink.net>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 10:46 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Chris and Cheryl Pedrolie

6307 Colonial Court, Edina MN 55436

Heather Branigin

From: Jackie Sullivan <sullivan6832@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2014 10:33 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Yes to 66 West

Mayor Hovland,

I want you to know that I support 66 West Apartments. Luckily, the issue of youth homelessness in the West Metro is no a longer hidden problem. Now identified, it is important to use the resources, passion, and commitment to youth in our community to create much-needed affordable housing in Edina. The location in the Southdale area will provide youth with safe housing, access to first jobs with many employers, and multiple means of public transportation.

I urge you to work with Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative and approve the proposed 66 West Apartments.

Jackie Sullivan
6832 Gleason Road, Edina
952.941.4153

Heather Branigin

From: ROBERT P KEARNEY <kearney3845@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2014 1:51 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Please use a consultant to guide the GrandView process

Dear Council Members:

I am writing to urge you to enlist the services of an independent consultant to guide the development of the former public works site (now commonly referred to as the GrandView property). This is a unique and valuable piece of real estate. It is one of the few remaining parcels of public land in our city and should be preserved as such.

Instead of enlisting the participation of a private developer, the Council should contract with a consultant, as recommended by the Citizens for a Better GrandView. A private developer will come to the project with a limited set of skills and interests that will immediately shape the end result. A consultant, in contrast, will be able to look at the project--and solicit public input--with an open mind and less self-interest.

Edina is an excellent city with a superb school system, but its public amenities frequently lag behind nearby suburbs. The old public works site gives us an opportunity to address some of these gaps. If funds are not available today to invest in a community center or other public purpose for this site, please find an interim use for it until such funds are available. Please don't let this opportunity slip away.

Thanks for your time and attention.

Robert Kearney
4226 Grimes Ave. South
Edina, MN 55416

Heather Branigin

From: Gbriggs63@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2014 3:18 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Contact Us form submission

Name: Gerry Briggs

Organization:

Website: Gbriggs63@aol.com

Address_1: 7208 Fleetwood Drive

Address_2:

City: Edina

State:

Zip_Code: 55439

Email: Gbriggs63@aol.com

Phone: 952-944-0071

Referrer:

Message: Re-Grandview Here's a household favoring a real estate developer and opposing a community center. Some supporters of a community center want a health club- we don't. We have a health club membership already and would choose not to have our taxes subsidize a club for others. Other amenities would seem to duplicate facilities that are already available in the community. So let's start paying a little more attention to city taxpayers and not look for adding unneeded services.

Heather Branigin

From: Liz Matassa <liz.matassa@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2014 7:49 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Public land - 5146 Eden Avenue

As a resident of Edina, I ask that you please consider using this land for the good of the community in a way that benefits the widest group of people. I don't know what would be the best use of the land, but I'm sure given a little time, the council could come up with a solution that would benefit the community and not just the few who would choose to purchase and develop this land for their own personal benefit. Please give this decision some serious thought. Having more community space like a Rec center or childcare center would really benefit our community as a whole.
Thank you for your time.

--
Liz

Heather Branigin

From: Laura Nisi <lnisi@me.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2014 10:02 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Fwd: Thoughts on the Community Space at Grandview

Just wanted to forward this, originally sent to you all last fall, as you approach your vote this upcoming week as to from whom to solicit an RFI re: Grandview.

I am now, and have always been, of the mind that the entire parcel which is the old Public Works should be 100% for community use.

Way back in the Grandview Advisory Process I communicated this, and I continue to believe that we are lacking a "true" community center.

I hate to see us being shown up by our neighboring suburbs, when we have such a great opportunity.

My vote is for you to vote the "Consultant Route" not the "Developer Route" on Tuesday.

Laura Nisi

Begin forwarded message:

From: Laura Nisi <lnisi@me.com>
Subject: Thoughts on the Community Space at Grandview
Date: September 2, 2013 at 8:41:11 PM CDT
To: mail@EdinaMN.gov
Cc: Josh Sprague <joshsprague@edinarealty.com>, James Hovland <jhovland@krausehovland.com>, ann swenson <swensonann1@gmail.com>, Mary Brindle <mbrindle@comcast.net>, bennett joni <jonibennett12@comcast.net>

Hello City Council Members:

I am writing this letter to share my thoughts on the ongoing discussion regarding the public space planned for the former Public Works Site.

In March of 2012 I submitted my thoughts to the City Council on the importance of a significant community building as part of the Grandview District Small Area Plan. As the planning process continued, the public building remained a part of it, although as only one component of a larger, mixed-use concept.

As the months have gone by, I see that the public building's role in this plan seems to be getting smaller and smaller, while I continue to feel, even more than before, the need for a Community Building to serve this city.

Now I understand that the question is how and when to define the type and scope of civic building. Scott Neal asks this question in a memo to City Council: "Understanding that it is important to have both a "catalyst" development project and a well-loved community space, which need trumps the other as we prioritize resources for the project?"

I believe that the need for a relevant community space trumps the development project. In fact, I regret that the Public Work Site in total has not been envisioned as a “crown jewel” Community Center for our city. We have no shortage of commercial development in this town, but we are sorely lacking an actual Community Center.

The building known as the “Edina Community Center” does not serve as a true community center for many reasons. First, most of the space is neither intended nor available for community use, as it is a School District Building. Secondly, the building itself is cumbersome, confusing, and very outdated. Third, parking is a problem, especially if any school activities are happening. Last, there are little to no “open” times in the building, which is compounded by the fact that the building is closed on Sundays.

Our city has many public facilities, to be sure. But not one, with the possible exception of the Art Center (a facility itself sorely in need of upgrade), exists solely for the use and benefit of the community at large and on a year-round basis. Both the Aquatic Center and Braemar have prescribed uses and seasons. The space at Edinborough offers limited opportunities, and is shared with residential and commercial entities. The Library/Senior Center is constrained by virtue of its audience and the limited hours and space the library has. The space at Arneson Acres is limited in focus and times of use as well.

In short, what we have are disparate facilities that each serve a segment of the community with a special interest. What we lack is a central place to gather, to exchange ideas and information, to learn, to play and to connect. We are running out of space to create one, and it will be a great shame if the Grandview development goes forward without letting this opportunity lead the process.

Laura Nisi
lnisi@mac.com
612.834.4034

Laura Nisi
612.834.4034

Heather Branigin

From: Strut Your Mutt- Twin Cities <sym.twincities@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 17, 2014 10:36 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Fwd: Emcee Request for Homeless Animal Fundraiser
Attachments: Minneapolis Strut Your Mutt Flyer.pdf; James Request.pdf

Dear Mayor Hovland,

My name is Adrienne Prettyman and I am the Entertainment Chair in Minneapolis for Best Friends Animal Society. I am writing to inquire about your availability to appear at the Sept 27th **Strut Your Mutt** fundraiser that will be held at Rosland Park to raise money for Twin City area rescue groups and animal shelters.

Please kindly review the attached appearance request letter and the flyer with more information about this exciting event. We would be honored if you could be featured at the event!

Warm Regards,

Adrienne Prettyman

Strut Your Mutt - Twin Cities

Best Friends Animal Society

September 27, 2014
Rosland Park - Edina, MN



Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota

Strut Your Mutt is Best Friends' marquee community fundraising event of the year. Its main goal is to give animal welfare groups across the country a chance to raise much-needed funds and general awareness of the lifesaving work they're doing.

Over the years, Best Friends' Strut Your Mutt has raised millions of dollars to support critical adoption, spay/neuter and other lifesaving programs, ultimately impacting the number of pets entering and leaving the shelters. Last year, 13,000 Strut Your Mutt participants raised nearly \$1.7 million to help save the lives of pets across the country.

Minneapolis-St. Paul's first Strut Your Mutt will happen in 2014!

What participants from other cities have to say:

"This was our first time to walk. We really enjoyed it. We're already designing our costumes for next year, can't wait!"

"Thanks for coming to St. Louis and spreading the Best Friends message."

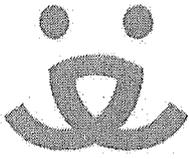
"This was my first year, and it was a blast. My dog and I will be back next year."

Additional Strut Your Mutt Live Event Cities

- Austin, Texas
- Baltimore, Maryland
- Houston, Texas
- Jacksonville, Florida
- Kanab, Utah (home of Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, the nation's largest no-kill sanctuary)
- Los Angeles, California
- New York City, New York
- Portland, Oregon
- Salt Lake City, Utah
- San Francisco, California
- St. Louis, Missouri

Best Friends continues to expand this lifesaving event series by bringing it to new cities each year.

Every year, more than 4 million dogs and cats are killed in America's shelters simply because they don't have a safe place to call home. Best Friends Animal Society is committed to bringing that number to zero. Working together, we can Save Them All®.



Best
Friends
Animal
Society

SAVE THEM ALL[®]

Dear James Hovland,

By way of introduction, my name is Adrienne Prettyman and I am the Entertainment Chair in Minneapolis for Best Friends Animal Society www.bestfriends.org. Best Friends is a national animal welfare organization celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. I am writing to you today to inquire about your availability for our annual **Strut Your Mutt - Minneapolis** fundraiser.

Strut Your Mutt is an annual dog walk and festival held by Best Friends Animal Society that raises money for our Network partners, the local rescue groups and shelters across America who have partnered with us. Last year, nearly 13,000 people nationwide took part in Strut Your Mutt. Together, these two- and four-legged walkers earned nearly \$1.7 million for homeless pets and 230 animal welfare groups who serve them, helping to save the lives of pets in shelters all across the country. This year we're well on our way to \$2 Million.

Strut Your Mutt - Minneapolis is taking place on September 27 from 8am - 1pm at **Rosland Park** located at 4300 W 66th St, Edina, MN, 55435. (Registration begins at 8am, fun run/walk begins at 9am, festival ends at 1pm).

There are many ways for you to participate including kicking off the walk at the starting line, cheering on and encouraging the walkers, serving as a judge for our stage contests, helping out on stage as an emcee, participating in or leading the actual walk alongside the top fundraiser and their dog (about 1-2 miles), etc. **The event will benefit multiple Twin Cities animal welfare groups that are dedicated to saving homeless pets in shelters.**

I'm happy to send along more information if you are interested. Here is a link that will provide additional details about the event www.strutyourmutt.org and here is a brief video that will provide an idea of what the atmosphere is like: <http://bit.ly/1mh7agQ>

We'll be inviting local press in addition to having a staff photographer, covering the event in Best Friends magazine (over 250K readers) and servicing photos to local and national press. We will also be posting on Best Friends social media with reach of over 106K Twitter followers, 408K Facebook "likes" and over 16K Instagram followers.

We hope that you will be able to join us at this fun, family-friendly and very worthwhile event. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Warmest regards,

Adrienne Prettyman
Entertainment Chair
Strut Your Mutt Planning Committee
sym.twincities@gmail.com

Best Friends Animal Society
5001 Angel Canyon Road
Kanab, UT 84741
bestfriends.org

Best Friends Animal Society - Los Angeles
15321 Brand Blvd.
Mission Hills, CA 91345
bestfriends.org/la

Best Friends Animal Society -
New York City
contactnyc@bestfriends.org

Best Friends Ani
2005 South 1100
Salt Lake City, U
bestfriends.org/i

Heather Branigin

From: Faith Rothberg <faith@collegerecruiter.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 18, 2014 12:43 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Cc: Brad Gray; Jeff Kirkwold; Steven Rothberg
Subject: Examine New Community Center Prior To RFI from Private Use Land at 5146 Eden Avenue

Dear Mayor Huvland and Edina City Council Members,

As residents of Edina we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land.

What an amazing opportunity the city has to create a place near the Edina Library and Senior Center where generations - children, adolescents, young adults and seniors can all congregate. We see this as a way to continue to support our growing senior population and our children and teens, making it a true Edina Community - representing the values of who we are and how we support each other. It would be a gift to young and old alike!

We are active members of the Edina Swim Club, with two out of three of our children participating in it and both members of the EHS Swim teams - one son, one daughter. As a club we have tried very hard to partner with the city as we have been an Edina club for over 40 years. We have strongly partnered with the city for Edinborough, as you know, to continue to have a strong presence in Edina and a strong commitment and pride in representing this wonderful community. The fact that the club is growing at an increased pace is proof of not only our commitment to the community, but also our ability to engage Edina youth in such a life long healthy activity no matter if they choose to be competitive or do it for exercise and social reasons.

We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Faith and Steven Rothberg

5824 Ewing Avenue South

Faith Rothberg | Chief Executive Officer

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Web: <http://www.CollegeRecruiter.com>

Email: Faith@CollegeRecruiter.com

Direct/Mobile: 952-215-1488

Heather Branigin

From: Jen Dewing <jendewing@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 18, 2014 4:46 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Cc: Jeff Dewing
Subject: Edina Swim Club- new community center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club (we have two children currently on the Gators and another one joining in the fall) we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,
Jennifer Dewing

Heather Branigin

From: Mitchell Hunzelman <mitchellh16542@apps.edina.k12.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 9:07 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Passion Project Presentation



passion project (mitchellh16542)

Hello I am Mitch Hunzelman, a 10th grade student at Edina High School. This year in language arts I was faced with writing a ten page paper about something I was passionate about. I decided that I should write about how we need to save Fred Richard's golf course. I am very passionate about this topic because I live on the course and I practically grew up on this course. Will you please read through my paper and reevaluate your decisions and understand why we need a course like Fred Richard's in Edina. Also I will be presenting my Passion Project on Wednesday, May 21, from 8:30-9:15 in the EHS media center. To further encourage you to come there will be many of my peers also presenting all of their projects. Thank You!

Heather Branigin

From: Brian Jones <bjones@colonialchurch.org>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 11:03 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Support for the 66 West Apartments
Attachments: Beacon Youth Homeless.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Mr. Mayor,

As you well know, Colonial Church of Edina recently spearheaded a building project of our own, The Waters of Edina. I am writing to share from that experience and how it has strengthened our support for the development of youth housing at 3330 West 66th Street.

Colonial Church knows first hand there are obstacles in bringing a housing project to fruition and we were deeply disappointed we weren't able to negotiate for more affordable units for Edina's seniors living in The Waters.

The 66 West Apartments are an opportunity to provide housing for Edina's youth and it is a project that Colonial Church wholeheartedly supports. While it may be easy in Edina to not notice youth homelessness, once you become aware of the issue, it becomes impossible not to want to provide a solution.

Providing a solution requires a strong partner, and this project has that in the Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative. Colonial Church has a long and deep relationship with Beacon and can speak for their professionalism, dedication, and expertise in affordable housing. A person only has to tour one of their many successful projects -- particularly the Nicollet Square site -- and it is evident that the 66 West Apartments will be a positive addition to the Edina community.

Despite the past challenges, most people now believe The Waters is an incredible asset to our community. As the inevitable challenges arise with the 66 West Apartments, I encourage you to stand strong and do the right thing, which is to provide Edina's homeless youth with safe and professionally managed housing on a site that also gives them access to much-needed jobs and transportation.

Thank you so much for considering this important project.

Respectfully,

Brian Jones



May 16, 2014

Mayor Jim Hovland and Members of Edina City Council
4801 W. 50th St.
Edina, MN 55424

The Honorable Mayor Hovland and Members of the Edina City Council,

As you well know, Colonial Church of Edina recently spearheaded a building project of our own, The Waters of Edina. I am writing to share from that experience and how it has strengthened our support for the development of youth housing at 3330 West 66th Street.

Colonial Church knows first hand there are obstacles in bringing a housing project to fruition and we were deeply disappointed we weren't able to negotiate for more affordable units for Edina's seniors living in The Waters.

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Thank you so much for considering this important project.

Respectfully,

Brian Jones
Minister of Mission, Colonial Church of Edina

Heather Branigin

From: awimmer1@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 11:12 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com; Ann Kattreh
Cc: Steven Kennedy
Subject: New Edina Community Center
Attachments: ESC note to parents - New Edina Community Center email campaign notice May 2014.pdf



New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Amy Wimmer



NOTE TO PARENTS — CALL FOR EMAILS/NOTES TO CITY OF EDINA COUNCIL REGARDING PROPOSED COMMUNITY CENTER DISCUSSION

Dear Parents:

A perfect opportunity has surfaced to lend your voice to a major decision facing the City of Edina. Edina Swim Club Board is asking parents to contact Edina City Council via email to lend our support to a proposed NEW community center within the City of Edina. For those of us lending support, the email support needs to reach the City Council by Friday, May 16th.

On Tuesday, May 20th – The City Council has a work session discussion regarding use of the public land and a proposed private-use for the land via a process called Request for Interest (RFI) – the beginning process for official proposal bids for land use.

A community group calling itself **Citizens for a Better GrandView** is championing a proposed land-use for the vacant 4 acre public land (5146 Eden Avenue.) The proposed land-use is for a major new City of Edina Community Center – including a large indoor competition swimming facility.

To be clear about this request: this is totally an option for you – but as Edina Swim Club board we are behind supporting the project as a way to secure more top-level pool space with the City of Edina. If you are willing and able – please share your support for the project by emailing the council members and the mayor.

As a sample script you could copy/paste the following and send to the Council Members and Mayor Hovland at: mail@EdinaMN.gov; jonibennett12@comcast.net; mbrindle@comcast.net; joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com

Sample email script:

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

<Your Name, Address>

Thank for your ongoing membership with Edina Swim Club – and for considering lending your support to this email campaign.

- Jeff Kirkwold, interim Board President

Edina Swim Club – May 14, 2014

- Brad Gray, Board Vice-President

City Council Members:

- James Hovland, Mayor
- Joni Bennett, Council Member
- Mary Brindle, Council Member
- Josh Sprague, Council Member
- Ann Swenson, Council Member

mail@EdinaMN.gov; jonibennett12@comcast.net; mbrindle@comcast.net;
joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com

Park and Recreation Department: AKattreh@EdinaMN.gov

Heather Branigin

From: Communications <Communications@edinaschools.org>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 1:36 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: RSVP to Edina Public Schools retirement program

Hello Mayor Hovland,

On April 28, Ric Dressen's Executive Assitant, Sarah Schandle, extended an ivitation to the Edina Public Schools Retirement Recognition program on May 28 from 12:15-1:30 p.m. at the Edina Country Club. We have not heard back from you and wanted to touch base and see what your plans are at this point. Thank you very much!

Communications Department
Edina Public Schools

Heather Branigin

From: rhondimiller@gmail.com on behalf of Rhondi Miller <rhondi@paragonpilatespt.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 1:36 PM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Nora Davis
Subject: Jerry's parking ramp

Dear City Council, I am writing in support of redesignating parking spaces in the mid-level Jerry's parking ramp from the current 3-hour designation to **all-day** parking. As a business owner in the building, it would be advantageous for our staff to be able to park in covered parking without fearing a ticket for parking in a "3-hour" spot. Frankly there are too many 3-hr spots in the mid-level parking ramp. Additionally, it would be fantastic if signage stating "Jerry's building employee parking only" could be put up in place of the 3-hour signs to help decrease use of these spots by commuters using the nearby city buses. Thank you for your consideration in this manner.

--

Rhondi Miller, PT, MS, SCS, ATC
Owner-Physical Therapist-Pilates Instructor
Paragon Pilates & Physical Therapy
5101 Vernon Ave.S. Suite 2A
Edina, MN 55436
952-405-9765
www.paragonpilatespt.com

Heather Branigin

From: Erik <Erik@ellingsoncpas.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 2:38 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Jerry's Parking Ramp

The recommended changes are certainly a step in the right direction. Thank you for your consideration.
Erik R Ellingson

Heather Branigin

From: Bill Nesper <billnesper@bikeleague.org>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 2:40 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Protect Biking and Walking Federal Funding

Dear Mayor Jim Hovland:

Thank you for your dedication to building a Bicycle Friendly Community. We appreciate the work you are doing to make bicycling safer and more accessible. Building a bicycle-friendly Edina will translate into a more connected, active, and sustainable community that enjoys increased quality of life, economic vibrancy, and more transportation choices for citizens.

We wanted to make you aware of a [sign on letter for Mayor's](#), championed by the US Conference of Mayors and the League of Cities, asking Congress to continue to support the Transportation Alternatives Program. The Transportation Alternatives program is the biggest funding source for bicycle and pedestrian projects and an important source of funding for small, local transportation projects. Protecting and expanding this funding source ensures communities like yours can continue to make it safer and more convenient for people to bicycle (and get the recognition for it too)!

The current transportation bill expires September 30, 2014 and Congress is now debating policy for the next bill. Please consider [signing onto this letter](#) to let Congress know that you support continuing and increasing funding for the Transportation Alternatives program. We appreciate your continued support.

Thank you,

BILL NESPER, *Vice President, Programs*
BILL@BIKELEAGUE.ORG | **[202-621-5444](tel:202-621-5444)**

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<http://usmayors.org/transportationalternativesletter/>- sign on page

<http://usmayors.org/transportationalternativesletter/USCM%20NLC%20TAP%20Transportation%20Program%20Signon%20Letter.pdf>- actual letter

mail@edinamn.gov

Heather Branigin

From: K B Montgomery <kmschoolmail@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 3:53 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: City Council
Attachments: draft_cover_letter_May_19.doc; For_City_Council_May_20.pdf

Hi Lynette,

Good to see you today. Could you please kindly copy the City Council and Manager Neal for the Council's packet?

Many thanks,
Kim Montgomery

Citizens For A Better Grandview

May 19, 2014

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

Attached is information for your consideration of how to move forward with redevelopment of 5146 Eden Avenue. This information includes:

- A petition signed by 54 Edina residents requesting the City to stop the process to pursue private redevelopment of 5146 Eden Avenue and to begin a process to identify and meet community needs through public use of the site;
- A list of 57 residents who have signed on to support the mission of Citizens For A Better Grandview;
- Correspondence from 52 Edina residents who support preserving 5146 Eden Avenue for public use, urge the City to work with a consultant to identify community needs and public use for the site, oppose partnering with a developer, and/or support the construction of a new community center;
- Letters to the editor and newspaper articles;
- Overview of 2006 Parks Needs Assessment Survey data, 2013 Quality of Life Survey data, and 2014 Grandview Survey Data; and
- Overview of policies and goals related to acquiring land for park and recreation purposes and creating a new indoor fitness and recreational facility.

Over the past few months 123 residents (including League of Women Voters Edina and Edina Basketball Association and Edina Swim Club members) have signed our petition, signed up to support our mission, and/or written to you to share their views about the future of 5146 Eden Avenue. Together, they're telling you that there are community needs that could be met with public use of the site.

Three surveys show that there is support for an indoor recreation center/community center in Edina.

City policy (Comprehensive Plan) supports actively seeking a location and funding for new indoor exercise facilities and actively supporting its development. City policy also supports exploring all opportunities to acquire property for park uses (park is defined as "property owned by the city which is used or is usable for park, recreation, or open space purposes") and acquiring that property to meet the needs of a growing community.

Please consider this information carefully as you make your decision about whether to partner with a developer to redevelop 5146 Eden Avenue or proceed with a consultant or other path to identify community needs and public uses for the land.

A strong sense of community is important to 93% of Edina residents. In making your decision, please consider how or whether it will foster a strong sense of community.

Kim Montgomery

Chair

Citizens for a Better GrandView

Citizens For A Better Grandview

May 19, 2014

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

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Kim Montgomery
Chair
Citizens for a Better GrandView

Citizens For A Better Grandview Online Petition

Citizens For A Better Grandview Petition

Whereas the City of Edina owns approximately 3.3 acres of vacant public land at 5146 Eden Avenue;

Whereas the City of Edina has begun a process to pursue private development on the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue; and

Whereas public land at 5146 Eden Avenue is an invaluable, irreplaceable public resource that is needed to meet the growing and changing needs of the Edina community:

I, the undersigned, hereby request the Edina City Council to immediately stop the process to pursue private development on public land at 5146 Eden Avenue and to begin an open, inclusive process specific to identifying and planning to meet current and future community needs through public use of the site.

* Required

1. **Name ***

Please note: This petition will be shared with the Edina City Council. The information you provide for this petition will become public data.

.....

2. **Address ***

.....

3. **Email or telephone number**
(optional)

.....

4. **Comments**
(optional)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

5. **Please check one or both of the boxes below**
(optional)

Check all that apply.

Please include my name on the Citizens For A Better Grandview supporters list.

Please contact me about volunteering.

Timestamp	Name	Address	Comments
1/31/2014 7:40:34	Katherine Bass	6917 Gleason Road	Public space is the new "anchor tenant" -- we can create value and community by investing in and retaining this public space for all residents.
1/31/2014 12:55:45	Jennifer Young	4801 W 59th St	As someone who grew up in Edina and is now a homeowner here and member of the next generation of Edinans I am disappointed to hear the city is considering the sale or long term lease of this public land. Specifically, I believe that being near to both a highway and a rail line makes this an exceptionally suitable site for future transit improvements which will be needed in the Edina and Twin City area in the future. Turning over this land to a private developer now only harms out future potential for a more transit oriented community. I strongly urge the council to reconsider seeking private development of this property and instead focus on public uses which would keep the land available for the future.
1/31/2014 14:31:25 1/31/2014 16:20:59	Ben Franske John Spanhake	6216 Ashcroft Lane 5701 McGuire Rd.	A Better Grandview, with its vision for a significant portion of public land, provides the City of Edina with the opportunity for a public/private collaboration to create a Community Center that will serve the physical, educational, social capital, and economic development needs of its residents and businesses in the 21st century.
2/2/2014 8:37:52 2/4/2014 16:34:53	L. Hope Melton Will Jadcowski	4825 Valley View Road 4610 Bruce Ave	This "public square" will serve the whole community, and the whole community citizen engagement process must be involved in its design. It does not make sense that Edina would sell this lot rather than use it for other purposes. Centennial Lakes is a gorgeous area which people enjoy for many reasons. We use this property to the benefit of Edina citizens, rather than selling it to someone to use as they see fit. I would hate to see a high rise apartment/condo unit similar to the one going up east of 50th and France that is leaving only minimal space around it for a little 'green.' Traffic is already congested at times with OLG, Starbucks, bus bams & Edina Grill. Once it is sold it's gone.
2/5/2014 9:03:28	yvonne steilberg	5517 merritt circle, edina 55436	Please consider public uses for the old public works site, rather than selling the property to a private developer.
2/5/2014 13:19:53	Elizabeth Gorman	5100 Mirror Lakes Drive 4383 Mackey Ave, Edina	Keep public lands for public use.
2/15/2014 14:19:03	Mark Mironer		
2/15/2014 18:09:44	Katie Oberle	4212 W. 44th Street	Not only do we need to keep public land public, I believe we should be developing a public, municipal early childhood center for the youngest citizens of our community.
2/16/2014 5:40:43	Stephen C. Moosbrugger	4810 Lakeview Drive 4101 Morningside Road, Edina 55416	
2/17/2014 8:26:34	Michala (Kay) Miller	4311 Grimes Avenue S	Let's not waste a golden opportunity to serve our Community.
2/17/2014 7:54:49	Lorna Parmekar		
2/17/2014 8:51:22	Helen Burke	4246 Grimes Ave So., Edina, MN 55416	Thank you for listening to citizen input. I am especially interested in following the proposed plan for the former Edina "Public Works Site", as described in the 2012 Grandview Development Framework Document, http://legacy.ci.edina.mn.us/PDFs/GrandViewDevelopmentFramework.pdf , on page 19. Specifically, it's important to use this opportunity to preserve the PUBLIC purpose for the site for all residents rather than a private enterprise. Previously, as the Public Works Site, the location served all of Edina; in the future, using it a community center would continue that public, civic role. Thank you.
2/17/2014 8:56:50	Mike Calvo	5509 Dever Drive 5217 Abercrombie Drive	This land should be used for the community. Fitness center and community center would be far better for Edina than a private residence or other commercial use. Edina has enough commercial development and too little community space and facility. The ECC is old and has to be shared with an elementary school. There is the possibility of exciting, unique land use with community involvement. Please allow this.
2/17/2014 9:19:04	Susan K Schultz		
2/17/2014 9:20:08	Annette Gaughan	5112 W 58th St 4226 Grimes Ave. S. Edina, Mn 55416	I support the Citizens For A Better Grandview Petition because this land is close to my home, and I believe it belongs to the citizens of Edina for their use.
2/17/2014 9:23:12	Virginia Kearney		
2/17/2014 9:26:52	Joseph Leach	4418 Curve Avenue, Edina, MN 55424 cm.pearson@comcast.net	I don't know why private development can't also serve public interest? If the city really doesn't have a better use to the property, then they should sell it for commercial interest. But what could we do with the land publicly that a private developer would have an interest developing? I'd be interested in that conversation.
2/17/2014 10:18:41	Mike Pearson		
2/17/2014 12:44:02 2/17/2014 13:17:20	Jeff Ballard Sarah Kudrna	4204 Oakdale ave s 4247 Alden Drive	
2/17/2014 13:36:34	Laura Praelzer	4058 Sunnyside road	
2/17/2014 13:46:59	Melanie Keegan	4247 Scott Terrace	It seems like a necessary step to involve people of the community in the planning process of the public land at 5146 Eden Ave. We pride ourselves on being a futures-oriented city so let's have the people come forward with ideas for the space, and discuss them so their will be an all inclusive decision going forward.
2/17/2014 14:48:11	Paul Mero	4501 Grimes Avenue	
2/18/2014 7:23:20	Mic DBrien	4052 Sunnyside Rd	We need a true community center -- this is the ideal location!
2/18/2014 17:03:15	Pan Hail	6109 Ridgeway Road 6109 Ridgeway Road, Edina	It's about the citizens enjoying the public land not about the short-sightedness. We need public input and a public hearing to determine the best use of the land. Perhaps a performing arts center above a park & ride center would make sense, but we need to publicly air comments & have public discussions.
2/18/2014 17:10:12	Peter Hail		
2/19/2014 17:55:32	Michelle Langefeis	5721 Brook Dr., Edina	Please support the plans suggested by A Better Grandview.
2/20/2014 6:46:51	Linda Urban	urban3081@msn.com	This is a unique opportunity to create a beautiful, pedestrian friendly green space and community center, a signature gathering place in the heart of our city. If the property is sold to private developers, this opportunity will be lost forever.
2/27/2014 10:24:52	Rosanne Malevich	4241 Alden Drive 5304 Evanswood Lane	
3/3/2014 12:41:01	Alan Koehler		

3/4/2014 6:19:27	Bruce Kieffer	5404 Edenmoor Street	I continue to support the vision presented by the committee that produced the GrandView District Redevelopment Framework in 2012.
3/11/2014 16:29:57	Mindy Ahler	4244 Crocker Ave	
3/13/2014 9:01:58	katharine toles	4480 parklawn ave edina 55435	Its beyond obvious that we are in need of more space for community activities. Many cities have a community center and Edina could benefit from one also. Theres ENOUGH private property development now! There HAS to be a better plan guys. Thx for listening.
3/13/2014 9:02:35	Kathryn Kieser	3601 West 61st Street	
3/13/2014 9:11:44	Jennifer Middleton	6704 Hillside Lane, Edina, MN 55439	I would request that this land be used for the community rather than commercial property or Individual property.
3/13/2014 9:04:37	Ron Holstad	6625 Cornelia Drive	
3/13/2014 9:30:37	Jim Abdo	5904 killarney lane s. edina 55436	
3/13/2014 9:35:59	Kris Jank	5708 Grace Terrace	Edina lacks a community center that is really a gathering place designed for multiple uses for the residents. The current "community center" is an old school building with mostly classrooms. It is hardly a community gather space.
3/13/2014 10:30:03	Tanja Sayles	5525 Concord Avenue, Edina 55424	I just became aware of this Grandview opportunity through the Edina Basketball Association. It would be extremely helpful to have more gym space for the many sports activities children/adults enjoy in Edina. I think it would be worthwhile to explore using the space to build a new community center.
3/13/2014 14:08:30	Krista Morley	6709 Vernon Ave S	This prime real-estate should be used for the betterment of Edina citizens young and old. We do not need anymore retail in that already congested intersection.
3/13/2014 19:14:21	Joan Teien	6600 Hillside Lane	
3/13/2014 19:52:27	Karen Haff	6501 Scandia Rd.	
3/15/2014 5:51:08	Linda Enck	5700 Benton Avenue	
3/15/2014 13:47:46	Nancy Fergesen	5351 Kellogg Ave	
3/18/2014 12:59:52 4/5/2014 16:04:22	Sara Friswold Andrea Butz	6008 Olinger Blvd 5928 Tamarac Ave	
4/11/2014 10:11:28	Barb Olson	5113 Blossom Court	I don't think we want more high density housing in this space. A developers economic dream but our community density nightmare
4/15/2014 18:15:18	Richard Cook	4360 France S, Edina 55410	Please give long and careful consideration before turning valuable and valued public land over to private development. Great cities have great visions. Any such decision must be thoroughly vetted with all members of the community. Thanks for your consideration.
4/15/2014 20:31:36	Carol Pfeleiderer	4305 Oakdale Av S	

4/17/2014 7:27:02	Pam Tibbets	5225 Grandview Sq. #113	We should keep this parcel of land, hire a consultant to help the City and our citizens to decide how to use the property. A community center is one such good use.
4/17/2014 7:27:40	Linda Ellwein	5225 Grandview Sq. #113	
4/29/2014 13:41:41	Greta Golfis	5264 Richwood Drive	I'm personally in favor of a better and more modern community center than the one we currently have. I would encourage an intergenerational community center because it would mirror the demographic composition of the Edina community and would serve all of its members, old young and anyone in between. Such facility can be a great source of revenue for the city: Health Club memberships for a family today is no less than \$100 per month, individual members pay anywhere between 30 to 50 per month for just a health club. The community center will offer much more than just a workout place, it is a place for the arts, for the health and fitness, family fun, party rooms, community gatherings etc... Our current community center does not live up to the Edina standard for a strong community and surely is not inclusive to all of its members, it is almost not existent in the contemporary definition of a "Community Center"
4/30/2014 12:59:08	Souraya Farhat	7720 Shaughnessy RD	

Citizens For A Better Grandview Supporters List

The mission of Citizens For A Better Grandview is to raise awareness, invite conversation, and join together as a community to preserve the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue for public use.

We support the mission of Citizens For A Better Grandview:

1. Jim Abdo
2. Mindy Ahler
3. Reema Anwar
4. Katherine Bass
5. Bob Boudreau
6. Gloria Cooper
7. George Crolick
8. Patty Dronen
9. Susan Marty Eldridge
10. Linda Enck
11. Sally Euson
12. Souraya Farhat
13. Nancy Fergesen
14. Shaun Flanagan
15. Sara Friswold
16. Greta Golfis
17. Karen Haff
18. Ron Hoistad
19. Jennifer Hovelsrud
20. Shelly Howe
21. Giovanna Ingram
22. Kris Jank
23. Lynn Johnson
24. Ellen Jones
25. Carol Kaemmerer
26. Virginia Kearney
27. Bruce Kieffer
28. Alan Koehler
29. Joseph Leach
30. Rosanne Malevich
31. Steven Malevich
32. Debby McNeil
33. Hope Melton
34. Bill Melton
35. Jennifer Middleton
36. Alan Mironer
37. Lynne Mironer
38. Kim Montgomery, chair
39. Krista Morley
40. Andrew Nelson
41. Kurt Nisi
42. Laura Nisi
43. Katie Oberle
44. Mic O'Brien
45. Barb Olson
46. Chris Ott
47. Todd Peterson
48. Julie Pilhart
49. Tanja Sayles
50. Paul Thompson
51. Pam Tibbetts
52. Katharine Toles
53. Linda Urban
54. Louise Waddick
55. Jeff Werbalowsky
56. Mary Werbalowsky
57. Catharine Williamson

Supporters as of May 18, 2014

**Council Correspondence
to May 18, 2014**

1. Katherine Bass
2. Susan Marty Eldridge
3. Patty Dronen
4. Kim Montgomery
5. Pat Olk (Grandview CAT)
6. Sue Jacobson (Grandview CAT)
7. Sandy Fox (Grandview CAT)
8. Jennifer Janovy (Grandview CAT)
9. Jimmy Bennett (Grandview CAT)
10. Sean Broderick
11. Karen Haff
12. Amy Minge
13. Bruce Kieffer
14. Mic O'Brien
15. Robert Vose
16. Alan Koehler
17. Paul Manley
18. Michele Vandersall
19. Charles Flinn
20. Jasmine Hoedeman
21. Scott Vickman
22. Jeff Werbalowsky
23. Ed Schwartzbauer
24. Virginia Kearney
25. Susan Furlow
26. League of Women Voters Edina
27. Carol Kaemmerer
28. Pam Matchie-Thiede
29. Giovanna Ingram
30. Ardis Wexler
31. Mark Gentry
32. Louis Waddick
33. Hope Melton
34. Sandra Davis
35. Raymond Voss
36. Mary Werbalowsky
37. Erica Nowak
38. Jeff Rouleau
39. Mark Biscan
40. Neal Blanchett
41. Stacy Rogers
42. Dan and Jaime Norling
43. Rick Julkowski
44. Margaret Berdelman
45. Colleen Zvosec
46. Qiang Fu
47. Lisa Ge
48. Nicholas Fu
49. Sally Euson
50. Catherine Fuller
51. Katie Bredesen
52. Teresa Thompson

Deb Mangen

From: Katherine Bass <kmsbass@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 31, 2014 10:08 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Meeting public needs with Grandview

Dear Edina City Council,

I'd like to add my voice to the growing chorus that we have a tremendous public asset in the Grandview site that should not be handed over for private development without a comprehensive plan for the area that demonstrates how we will meet public needs. I participated in two of the public meetings during the Grandview visioning process at Centennial Lakes Pavillion and heard many residents talk about the need for public gathering space, meeting space, green space with water, space for young people and, especially, the transportation challenges of the Grandview site. If you participated in any of those sessions, I'm sure you heard the same.

Some time ago, I had an opportunity to talk with Colleen Carey, of Cornerstone Development Group, about the Grandview site. The question she asked that has lingered with me is, "how will you achieve your vision for the whole area when you're only focusing on this one small parcel?" Her staff member recommended we consider a ULI Developers Roundtable session for the area, and a step further, develop a plan for the area.

I find it unlikely that we will have met the public needs uncovered during the visioning process by pursuing our current course. Please press "pause" on your plans to sell or lease this land for private development until we can be sure that the community's needs will be met with this amazing asset.

I recently heard a national expert on placemaking say "Public spaces are the new 'anchor tenant'" -- by creating an amazing public space, we can attract and drive private redevelopment throughout the Grandview area, and retain this space for all Edina residents.

Thank you. I'd be happy to talk further with any of the Council members on this matter.

Katherine Bass
6917 Gleason Road
Edina, MN 55439
612-597-0714

Deb Mangen

From: Susan Marty Eldridge <smartyeldridge@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2014 7:03 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview Public Land

Please let me know how I can be involved, I am in favor of keeping the Grandview land for future public use.
THANKYOU

Susan Marty Eldridge
Cell: (952) 250-9528
Work: (952) 920-9721

Deb Mangen

From: Patty Dronen <pdronen@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 9:59 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: 5146 Eden Avenue

I am writing to you to share my views on how to best use the 3.3 acre property at 5146 Eden Avenue.

I'm sure all of the City Council members have traveled to other suburban cities that have new, big, beautiful community centers. This is something that Edina is sorely lacking. Our community center is anything but the things I described in the opening of this paragraph. The building is hard to navigate, uneasy to use without having a permit, old, and not inviting at all. Sharing a facility with an elementary school is not ideal. Parking is atrocious.

Imagine a welcoming community center with classroom space, gyms, play areas, workout facilities, maybe a theatre space, maybe a small cafe/coffee shop. That is something this community needs. A community center for all members of our community, young and old.

Do not sell or lease this land to a developer. We do not need any more senior high rises, apartment buildings, etc. As is evidenced by the number of tear-downs our city is experiencing, people moving into this community have money. They want to live in a city with a great school system, conveniently located to all areas of the metro area. They want/need a community center that can compete with other communities' centers. These same families will stay in Edina if we can provide them with a community center that they WANT to use, not one they NEED to use.

Thank you for your time.

Patty Dronen

Heather Branigin

From: K B Montgomery <kmschoolmail@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2014 3:19 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Fwd: Letter to the CAT
Attachments: Firstenburg-Detailed-Case-Study-2.pdf; Grandview CAT lrt 22712.doc

Hi Lynette,

Could you please send this letter to the CAT for tonight's meeting and copy the Council.

Many thanks,
Kim

K B Montgomery
kmschoolmail@aol.com

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

From: K B Montgomery <kmschoolmail@aol.com>
To: kmschoolmail <kmschoolmail@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Feb 27, 2014 3:18 pm
Subject: Letter to the CAT

February 27, 2014

To the GrandView Community Advisory Team

Cc: Edina City Council

I understand the CAT is going to have a discussion about potential public uses for the former public works site tonight. In advance of that discussion, I thought it might be helpful for the CAT to see a successful Gold LEED certified community center in Vancouver, WA. I have attached a case study for Firstenburg Community Center.

I am also sending a link to the Master Plan used in creating the Firstenburg: http://www.sportsmgmt.com/projects/featuredprojects/firstenburg_assets/Firstenburg.pdf

Vancouver used its strategic planning processes (Parks and Recreation Facilities and Services Strategic Plan and Comprehensive Facility Needs Study) to first define community goals. Edina is about to embark on its Vision 2040, revise its Comp Plan and create a Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Like Vancouver, these plans could and should be used to first inform community needs planning in GrandView.

The public process to define programming, site planning and do conceptual design work took 3 months (page 3-Master Plan). In addition, the Master Plan included a market analysis, projections for capital costs, revenue potential, estimated operations costs and capital funding recommendations. In total, the study to define and design the community center took 6 months.

In order to adequately address, design and develop public amenities to serve community needs in GrandView, an experienced public realm consultant (not a developer) should be engaged. To do less, will short-change Edina and its residents.

Thank you, as always, for your time and attention.

Community Advisory Team
Email Comments related to RFI preparation

March 9-12, 2014

Several CAT members submitted email comments regarding their concerns with moving forward with an RFI for a Development Partner and their preference for an alternative approach. These comments are attached for City Council consideration.

- Pat Olk
- Sue Jacobson
- Sandy Fox
- Kevin Staunton
- Jennifer Janovy
- Jimmy Bennett

Pat Olk comments, page 1

Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 10:16 PM

Subject: Re: Grandview CAT - March 10 Reminder

Fellow CAT members,

I wasn't able to participate in the RFI discussion at our last meeting because I had to leave early. However, after listening to the Morris Leatherman Company present their survey findings, it is clear to me that the process that we are trying to implement where we retain a "Development Partner" is premature. Based on the survey findings, the community strongly opposes Apartments, Condos and Townhomes based on density concerns. The survey results also showed that the community wants to have the majority of any development of the Public Works site be retained for public use. As you know, I have raised my concerns of retaining a Development Partner at this early stage in previous meetings, but was willing to proceed down this path because I assumed that there would be a community need for a residential component for the Public Works site. To me, this meant that a Development Partner made some sense because there would be a significant private component to the development of the public works site. I now no longer feel that a Development Partner as we have defined in our meetings makes sense for this RFI. Therefore, I recommend the following:

1. Instead of a Development Partner, we retain a paid Consultant to help us work through a process to determine the best use for the Public Works site. The Consultant would be someone who would not expect to benefit financially from having a development/construction role for the Public Works site.
2. Move forward with the RFI replacing the Development Partner with a Consultant and submit the RFI to the City Council.
3. Have a process where we specifically identify the community and any private needs of the Public Works site. After these needs are determined, a Request For Proposal would be created and made available to prospective developers for the Public Works site.

I know this is somewhat of a deviation from the path we were heading down, but I feel strongly that we need to incorporate the results of the community survey into the development of the Public Works site. To ignore the survey results at this juncture and proceed with a Development Partner who would expect to benefit financially by having a development role for the project based on a significant private component to the Public Works site is not prudent given the community feedback.

I have edited the RFI that Bill sent us and have attached it for your review. I think we should discuss this at our meeting tomorrow.

Pat

Sue Jacobson comments, page 1

Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 10:42 PM

Subject: Re: Grandview CAT - March 10 Reminder

Thanks for your thoughts Pat,

I agree. To me, it would seem like any developer would have too much of a personal focus to adequately represent the public needs of our community. I have thought from the start that the ideal way to create an appropriate vision of future development would be to engage talented urban planning consultants, before diving into development partnership, like Minneapolis just did for the redesign of Nicollet avenue downtown. I feel like we got a high quality result with our survey and that it can help us build a good potential vision. I want to acknowledge the hard work of the prior Grandview team....you must feel that we have already done this, but that was one representative vision. It was work was done without public survey results, assuming the funding would come from a developer figuring out how to make enough profit from their definition of what they want to build for us.

My main takeaway of the survey discussion was at the taxpayers are not strongly supportive enough of new development at this time. The lynchpin to drive their support would be the need to replace our current community center....and we do not have a clear understanding of the fate of the existing community center. We need to clarify this ASAP, with the school board. If we can confirm the long-term elimination of the community center existing location, Morris Leatherman said that we would likely be able to rally the community and gain their support for this new development. We need the buy-in of the tax base of Edina or we are being premature. We need to define plans for us to begin to engage in community discussions.

See you tomorrow,
Sue

Sandy Fox comments, page 1

Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2014 11:37 PM

Subject: Re: Grandview CAT - March 10 Reminder

Just read Pat's revisions and completely agree. As you know I've always felt we needed a consultant, rather than a developer, to help us decide what to put on the site. The earlier process left us with too many choices and possibilities. The survey results only confirmed my thinking. I believe such a consultant could give us the most creative ideas that are financially feasible. The survey showed us specifically what is not wanted. Now we need to narrow it to what is wanted/needed. We're not there yet and a consultant can help us get there.

Sandy Fox

Jennifer Janovy Comments, page 1

Thanks to everyone so far for sharing your thoughts.

Pat has proposed a reasonable compromise and I personally think it's the better path.

A few follow-ups to Kevin's email:

(1) The survey confirmed that 61% of residents agree the City should not sell public land. Bill Morris called this a "foundation value." Sixty-six percent of residents agree that public land should be used for public purposes only. Thirty-seven percent of residents said the former public works site should include only public amenities. In comparison, only 9% said it should include only private amenities. Forty-six percent of residents said it should include a mix of public and private uses. Bill Morris said they include the choice of mixed public and private because they expect that a majority of responses will fall into that category; however, he said responses to this question were "strongly suggestive" that any mixed public and private use should have a prominent public component. Later in the survey, residents are asked whether they would support or oppose a development project that includes public and private components. Sixty-five percent said they would. A community center and restaurants got the most support (21%). Apartments and condos were supported by 5% and 12% of respondents respectively. This was consistent with responses earlier in the survey, which identified apartments, condos, and town homes as the most opposed potential uses for the land. Bill Morris said to avoid apartments, condos, and town homes, and noted that the "blow back" on apartments if included in a development scenario would be "severe."

(2) The survey shows broad support for a community center on the site (53%). Peter Leatherman called this a "concept question." People answered the question based on their conceptions of what a community center is and not a specific program. The survey then asked if they would be more likely to support the construction of a new community center if the current community education facility were converted back to classrooms. Thirty-two percent of residents said they would be more supportive. Bill Morris called this a "game changer." In contrast, only 20% of respondents were more supportive of mixed use development if "privately owned components like residential units or office space" could reduce the tax impact of constructing and operating a new community center. In other words, support for a community center grew enough to be called a "game changer" when people saw a need for it. Support for mixed use grew less, even when residents were told that private development could reduce the tax impact of a new community center.

The conclusions of the survey are not entirely consistent with the Development Framework, which shows a significant amount of the property devoted to apartments, condos and town homes—the most opposed uses for the site.

The survey shows that there is a consensus about how public land should be used. A majority believe that it should be used for public purposes. A mix of public and private uses would be appropriate, provided the public uses are prominent and the private uses

Jennifer Janovy Comments, page 2

do not include housing. The survey was not intended to reveal a groundswell of support for any particular use. It was intended to get an understanding of people's values as they relate to the sale and redevelopment of public land and give us further direction.

I disagree with Kevin that the "real choice left by the survey results is between doing nothing (based on the notion that there is no groundswell of support for any particular public use) and moving forward to create development scenarios that lead the community to the right destination." This uses the survey in a way that it wasn't intended to be used and sets up a false choice.

While Kevin believes that partnering with a developer is the best way to move forward, I remain unconvinced. The proposed process to partner with a real estate developer raises too many questions for me. In thinking about it over the weekend, I put together the attached that compares the proposed process to partner with a developer, an alternative process that would have the City collaborate with a consultant (as Pat has proposed); and a third option: putting an interim use on the site.

We have all been working hard on this for several months and I appreciate everyone's input. I look forward to our discussion tonight.

Thanks,

Jennifer

Table of Options

Mike & Kevin Process	Alternative Process	Interim Option
Uses RFI to solicit interest from real estate developers	Uses RFI to solicit interest from qualified professional(s), who will work in a consulting capacity	Holds off for now on process to pursue permanent development on the site
The project is to partner with the city to: (1) determine the public and private uses for the site; (2) design the uses; and (3) construct the uses	The project is to collaborate with the City to: (1) identify preferred uses and program for public spaces; (2) generate innovative development scenarios	The project is to pursue interim uses while the City completes other important work
Goal at end of project: completed project	Goal at end of project: get City to the point of being ready to prepare an RFP for one or more selected scenario(s)	Goals at end of project: to have successfully implemented interim uses that fostered a strong sense of community, added vibrancy to the District, and helped the public to see creative possibilities for permanent uses for the site
Timeline: three or more years	Timeline: six to nine months (three or more years to completed development)	Timeline: two years
Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeps process moving Professional(s) provide valuable expertise Fits within timeline for establishing TIF district 	Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeps process moving Professional(s) provide valuable expertise Generates multiple development scenarios before selecting developer to design and construct project Process to identify preferred uses and program for public spaces less likely to be influenced by private development interests 	Pros: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keeps site from sitting vacant Allows the City to try something new and innovative Acknowledges that the timing may not be right to pursue permanent redevelopment of the site Gives the City time to complete the Parks strategic plan, Vision 2040 plan, and the 2015 community-wide survey

Jennifer Janovy Comments, page 4

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process has been done before successfully; raises fewer questions • If City chooses to pursue one or more scenario(s), City can solicit developer interest through RFI or RFP • Developer is selected once we know what we want; increases possibility that developer will be the right match • City benefits from competitive process to select developer for the project • Costs are transparent • Fits within timeline for establishing TIF district 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives the City time to complete capital improvements, such as the sports dome, improvements to Braemar Golf Course and Arena, 50th & France parking, and more • Allows time to work with MnDOT on Highway 100 interchange improvements • Grants may be available to fund interim improvements
<p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selects real estate developer BEFORE we know what we want on the site; increases possibility developer may not be the right match for project; limits our options early on in the process • Biased toward private development • Proponents have stated this process has not been tried before • Process raises many questions (attached) • Costs not likely to be transparent; if developer does not go on to design and construct the project, developer will need to be paid 	<p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upfront costs 	<p>Cons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upfront costs if grants are not available • Public may prefer to make interim uses permanent

Jennifer Janovy Comments, page 5

Stage	Questions	Responses
<p>Preliminary Stage: The City distributes RFI. City addresses inquiries from developers.</p>	<p>How will the RFI be distributed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertised? Where? • Audience? Real estate development community only? Architects? Local? National? 	
<p>Stage One: The City will review letters of interest and select prospective partners to interview. After conducting interviews, the City may select a tentative development partner.</p>	<p>Who is "the City?" in this stage?</p> <p>What is the timeframe for reviewing letters of interest?</p> <p>What is the process by which prospective partners are selected to be interviewed?</p> <p>Prior to selecting developers to be interviewed, will the City ask for supplemental information or clarifications? If yes, what is that process?</p> <p>What are the criteria for selection? How are those criteria developed and approved?</p> <p>At what point should CAT members and staff disclose any prior discussions with a respondent about any phase of this process and any past or continuing relationships?</p> <p>What would signify a conflict of interest? How would any conflict of interest be addressed?</p> <p>Who will conduct the interviews? How will questions be developed and approved?</p> <p>If there has been a parallel process to recommended preferred public uses for the site, how will stakeholders and knowledge from that process be incorporated into the selection of developers to interview and the recommendation/selection of developer partner?</p> <p>What is the timeframe between developer interviews and when CAT discusses and makes a recommendation?</p> <p>How is the public engaged in this discussion?</p>	

Jennifer Janovy Comments, page 6

	<p>Once a developer is selected, what are the terms of the relationship? How are these terms developed? How are they reviewed? Approved? Who is involved? How is public involved?</p>	
<p>Stage Two: The City and the tentative development partner will work together during an approximately 60-120 day period to <i>create a process</i> for identifying the appropriate uses on the City-owned parcel, designing and financing the structures associated with those uses, and framing ways in which the remainder of the district might respond to a new use on this city-owned parcel.</p>	<p>Who is the "City" in this stage? What is the process for "working together"? Who is involved? If there has been a parallel process to recommended preferred public uses for the site, how will stakeholders and knowledge from that process be incorporated into the process to identify appropriate uses on the parcel? Four processes will be created during this phase: (1) process for identifying uses; (2) process for engaging public in design of structures; (3) process for identifying and evaluating costs and financing options; and (4) process for framing ways in which the rest of the district might respond to new use on the former public works site. How will each of these processes be vetted? Who will be involved? What is the process for approval? What is the process for public input? How will transportation improvements be incorporated into the above processes? For example, (1) process for identifying transportation improvements (bike, ped, transit, rail, highway, street network); (2) process and timeline for studying identified improvements; (3) process for identifying costs, funding sources, funding timeline, partners, and feasibility; (4) process for framing ways in which the rest of the district might respond to transportation improvements.</p>	

Jennifer Janovy Comments, page 7

	<p>Who evaluates the proposed processes? By what process are they evaluated? Who approves the proposed processes?</p> <p>What factors, criteria or considerations will determine whether this Stage has been successful and the developer should move on to the next stage?</p>	
<p>City and Development Partner agree to move forward</p>	<p>What are the terms of the agreement?</p> <p>How are these terms developed?</p> <p>How are they reviewed?</p> <p>Approved?</p> <p>Who is involved?</p> <p>How is public involved?</p> <p>What is the timeline?</p>	
<p>Stage Three: Using the City Council approved process, the City's development partner will collaborate with the City to generate alternative scenarios for development aligning with the GrandView District Development Framework. Each scenario will demonstrate all aspects of a feasible development of the former Public Works site (and any other sites that become a part of this process), including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A general plan of development indicating public and private uses, intensities, and patterns of built elements, open spaces, and supporting circulation patterns and infrastructure requirements; • An economic model demonstrating the feasibility of each scenario, including the potential financial or other support required of the City of Edina to ensure each scenario is financially 	<p>What factors, criteria or considerations will determine whether scenarios align with the Grandview District Development Framework?</p> <p>Who verifies each scenario demonstrates all aspects of a feasible development? By what process?</p> <p>Is there a minimum or maximum number of scenarios?</p> <p>Will advisory boards and commissions be engaged during this Stage? For example, will Planning Commission look at scenarios to identify zoning code or comp plan changes that would be required? Will Transportation Commission look at transportation elements? Will Park Board look at park and recreation facilities associated with scenarios? Will Energy and Environment look at sustainability?</p> <p>How will incompatible timelines be addressed?</p>	

Jennifer Janovy Comments, page 8

<p>feasible and ultimately successful for the city and the partner; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A staging model illustrating the timing and sequencing of development. 		
<p>Stage Four: The City Council will consider the alternative scenarios and determine which, if any, is in the best interests of the city. If a scenario is selected, then the City, working with the development partner, will establish terms for an agreement under which the City and the development partner will work exclusively to pursue the selected development scenario.</p>	<p>What factors, criteria or considerations will determine whether a scenario is in the best interest of the city? By what process will development scenarios be considered and a development scenario selected? Special meetings, public hearings? What is the timeline? When will the typical redevelopment process kick in (preliminary development plan, final development plan)? Assuming significant public input to this point, what tolerance will there be for substantive changes to the scenario as result of Planning Commission and City Council review of preliminary and final redevelopment plans? What would define a substantive change? If selected scenario includes sale of land, what process is required?</p>	
<p>While the City expects this process will result in a supportable development scenario, other approaches are encouraged and will be considered as a part of the initial submittal of a Letter of Interest.</p>	<p>What factors, criteria or considerations will be used to weigh alternative approaches?</p>	

Jimmy Bennett comments, page 1

From: James Bennett [mailto:jimmy@uwalumni.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 12:08 PM
To: Bill Neuendorf
Subject: Grandview

Bill,

For whatever it may be worth, following the Grandview meeting and related discussions, I have had more time to think about my stance on whether I prefer the 'RFI for consultant' versus the 'RFI for development partner'. I prefer the RFI for consultant, and list my reasons below. Please pass along to the other CAT members as you wish.

The Grandview Resident Survey (answers to Questions #2, #3, and #5), show that the majority of community members express that the city should not sell **publicly-owned** land (61/31), the value of **publicly-owned** land is greater than the revenue that can be generated from it (58/30), **publicly-owned** land should be *retained and used for public purposes only* (66/31). Such values suggest that the majority of the community wants to keep publicly-owned land, and reserve it for public uses only. Generally speaking then, a development partner is not the logical next step for a situation like the Grandview public works site, **unless** there exists a worry about the financial situation (specifically the long-term financial success) of whatever goes there.

I have heard opinions from others involved in this process about such financial worries and uncertainty, and in response, the need for non-public uses (specifically residential) **on site** to help drive the success of the public component of the Grandview public works site. Those opinions duly justify the route of a development partner, as the City would then prefer to unload an upfront financial burden off of the taxpayers and onto a developer to get the public component that the community wants/needs, but also benefit the development partner for helping the City out. These opinions seem to have been based on other developments and situations where, without non-public uses (specifically residential), there is a tough time bringing enough appeal and traffic to a public amenity throughout the entire day (specifically outside of typical daytime work hours) to bring about success. I completely agree with these opinions, assuming that the context is appropriate.

However, regarding the Grandview public works site, I have a major fundamental difference of opinion. As a nearby resident, an engaged community member, and a daily user of the current Grandview area, I personally see continual usage of the Grandview area throughout the day and all throughout the weekends. The exception is late night usage, which is because nothing (except the grocery store) is open for people to use. If there were an attractive late-night use, and it fit the Grandview area well, people would use it. The Grandview area is **already** a successful commercial and service hub for the surrounding community, and has been for decades. So, for the former public works site (located in the heart of all this success and traffic), there is not a justifiable worry about people using the public component of the future development of the site, especially outside of normal working hours. Therefore, the City has a much more realistic opportunity, compared to almost any other one they have had (or any one they could ever have again), to make a successful public amenity on the Grandview site, without the need of non-public uses to tee it up.

Jimmy Bennett comments, page 2

Refer to Question #14 and #15 of the Grandview Resident Survey, 92% of all respondents visit the Grandview area (75% of them, at least monthly). Regardless, of all the people that do visit the Grandview area, what are their primary purposes? Question #15 results reveal that most people visit for shopping, eating, library, live in area, service businesses, senior center, etc; no respondents visit the Grandview area to work. Thus, one can logically assume that the majority of the 4,200 daily vehicle trips on Gus Young Lane (see the Transportation Summary), which connects various Grandview businesses and services (not serving primarily as a thru-traffic route), relate to similar visits. So, why again, do we need a development partner to help the City develop this site? Already, plenty of people throughout the community visit the Grandview area. But the Grandview area remains incomplete, because the people's visits are primarily of the stop-and-go nature (no one stays around), so what the area needs is a public amenity as identified in the Grandview Area plan. So the big question remains, should we really consider dedicating portions of the former public works site to other non-public purposes as well? Well, people already visit the Grandview area (it is their destination), these people visit the area throughout the day and on weekends, so I believe that we do not need non-public uses (specifically residential) configured into the former public works site to justify engaging a development partner.

The community did speak and say **publicly-owned** land should be *retained and used* for public purposes only (66/31). The survey did not point out an exact potential use that residents are looking for in Grandview, however, that does not mean that we should engage a development partner to vet the community needs out. The survey did illustrate that the majority of the community still desires primarily potential **public** uses on the site (see the top results for Potential Uses for Land and the top results for Priority of Potential Uses), and opposes **non-public** uses (the only things where the majority of respondents opposed were apartments (33/64) and townhomes/condos (44/54)). Furthermore, results from Questions #7 and #10 reveal that a strong majority of people believe that the City should create more all-age, all-income recreational opportunities (68/31) and cultural/arts opportunities (72/25). Thus, the next step should be to vet out what recreational, cultural/arts, and other public-use options the community needs/desires, keeping in mind financial feasibility.

The City should see this entire site (not just a portion) as a **huge opportunity** for a major public amenity that addresses the many potential uses the community desires, and be confident that there is a high potential for great success (financially, socially, and environmentally) without the need to engage a development partner initially. After all, a 3.3 acre site, even in 3 dimensions, that addresses necessary parking concerns, transportation concerns, a new road (Grandview Crossing), potential park-and-ride, and reserved space for a future transit station, does not leave all that much space to accommodate a variety of the public uses that the community prefers. A development partner, in essence, will have their own interests in the mix (especially financially) that will ultimately infringe upon the long-term potential for this site, as it relates to the community at large. A consultant (with a strong financial background), however, would best help to identify ideal site uses and potential configurations that will attract, and garner support of, the community, but also provide revenue in return (if not enough support is generated). If the consultant reveals that the community needs, and financial feasibility, allows for a site completely dedicated for public uses, there would have been no use to engage a development

Jimmy Bennett comments, page 3

partner initially. We all want the future development of the former public works site to be the most desirable place for anyone in (and outside of) Edina to visit and experience, for years and years to come. If we go forth with a development partner, instead of a consultant, I believe that we inherently lessen the chance for that.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Bennett

Heather Branigin

From: Citizens For A Better Grandview <abettergrandview@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 12:33 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: For the City Council
Attachments: Citizens For A Better Grandview.pdf

Please include the attached in the City Council packet for their March 18 meeting.

Thank you very much,

Kim Montgomery

--

Citizens For A Better Grandview
<http://abettergrandview.weebly.com>

[HOME](#) [VISION](#) [PROJECT STATUS](#) [CONTACT](#) [RESOURCES](#) [COMMENTS](#) [MORE...](#)

COMMENTS

Thank you to everyone who has signed the petition so far and submitted comments. Below are some of your thoughts. New comments will be added to the top of this page, so please check back. If you haven't signed the petition or shared your thoughts, please do. We want to hear from you and greatly value your support.

It's about the citizens enjoying the public land, not about the short-sightedness. -*PH*

Public space is the new "anchor tenant" — we can create value and community by investing in and retaining this public space for all residents. - *KB*

As someone who grew up in Edina and is now a homeowner here and member of the next generation of Edinans I am disappointed to hear the city is considering the sale or long term lease of this public land. Specifically, I believe that being near to both a highway and a rail line makes this an exceptionally suitable site for future transit improvements which will be needed in the Edina and Twin Cities area in the future. Turning over this land to a private developer now only harms our future potential for a more transit oriented community. I strongly urge the council to reconsider seeking private development of this property and instead focus on public uses which would keep the land available for the future. - *BF*

Not only do we need to keep public land public, I believe we should be developing a public, municipal early childhood center for the youngest citizens of our community. -*KO*

Let's not waste a golden opportunity to serve our community. -*MM*

Thank you for listening to citizen input. It's important to use this opportunity to preserve the PUBLIC purpose of the site for all residents rather than a private enterprise. Previously, as the public works site, the location served all of Edina. In the future, using [the site] as a community center would continue that public, civic role. -*HB*

This land should be used for the community. A fitness center and community center would be far better for Edina than a private residence or other commercial use. -*MC*

Edina has enough commercial development and too little community space. The ECC is old and has to be shared with an elementary school. There is the possibility of exciting, unique land use with community involvement. -*SS*

I support the Citizens For A Better Grandview petition because this land is close to my home, and I believe it belongs to the citizens of Edina. -*AG*

It seems like a necessary step to involve people of the community in the planning process of the public land at 5146 Eden Ave. We pride ourselves on being a future-oriented city, so let's have the people come forward with ideas for the space, and discuss them so there will be an all inclusive decision going forward. -MK

We need a true community center. This is the ideal location! -MO

Create a free website with

Heather Branigin

From: Broderick, Sean <Sean.Broderick@chsinc.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 12:44 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview development process

Please do not pursue any private re-development options for the "Grandview" land without more public discussion as to the best use for the public land.

I vehemently oppose a private sale without a full debate.

Sean Broderick

CHS

5500 Cenex Dr MS 365

Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

PH 800 769-1066

sean.broderick@chsinc.com

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Bill Neuendorf

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2014 8:22 AM
To: Bill Neuendorf
Subject: FW: 5416 Eden Ave. Grandview District

Good morning,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members and Bill Neuendorf.



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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

From: Karen Haff [<mailto:karen.haff@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2014 9:51 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: 5416 Eden Ave. Grandview District

I am writing to urge the City of Edina to immediately end the process to pursue redevelopment through the sale or lease of public land at 5146 Eden Avenue and to begin an open, inclusive process to identify and meet community needs through public use of this site. The public deserves to have input about a piece of land right in the middle of our land-locked community. Opportunites like this do not come up often.

Thank you,
Karen Haff

Heather Branigin

From: Amy M. <amyminge71@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 1:31 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Community Center

To Edina City Council members:

I heard that there may be an opportunity to build a community center on the old public works site (on Eden Avenue). This is very exciting news, and I want to express my heartfelt support for a community center. It's hard to believe that cities such as Chaska and Eden Prairie are so far ahead of Edina in this respect.

I would further like to emphasize that my friends and neighbors are also very excited about the possibility of building a community center. Unfortunately, most of them have very busy schedules, and their civic engagement is largely relegated to voting. I am convinced, however, that any sampling of Edina voters would show a great preference for a community center over private development, especially if the type of private development is specified. The last thing any of us want is another Walgreens or condominium complex.

Please take your constituents' feelings into consideration during your decision-making process.

Thank-you,

-Amy Minge
Edina Resident
amyminge71@gmail.com
cell: 612-220-2140

Heather Branigin

From: Bruce Kieffer <bruce@kieffer.us>
Sent: Wednesday, April 09, 2014 8:52 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview

Please immediately end the process to pursue redevelopment through the sale or lease of public land at 5146 Eden Avenue and to begin an open, inclusive process to identify and meet community needs through public use of this site. I agree strongly with the positions of the Citizens for a Better Grandview.

Bruce Kieffer
bruce@kieffer.us
<http://kieffer.us>

Heather Branigin

From: Mic O'Brien <micobrien@ebureau.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2014 10:48 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview Property Concerns

To the Members of the Edina City Council -

I am writing with concerns related to the development of the Grandview property. While hardly an expert on the history of this property, I am becoming aware that the City is potentially rushing towards a partnership with a private developer (with corresponding commercial development, likely), rather than heeding the advice of the Grandview Community Advisory Team (CAT). This does not make sense to me, as it is my understanding that the CAT was specifically organized by the City to give the citizens of Edina a voice in the process.

I have spent significant time at the Edina Community Center over the past decade. While it has served our community well, it is clearly time to replace it with an updated facility that is comparable to those found in nearby cities. The Grandview property appears to be a unique, centrally located piece of land, that would make an ideal spot for a community center. It is doubtful that another opportunity will present itself like this one for a long time, if ever.

As representatives of the citizens of Edina, I urge you to refrain from making a decision on this property until all options have been fully vetted. Your constituents deserve to be included in this process, given a detailed explanation of all options, and provided with a method to clearly voice their opinions.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mic O'Brien
4052 Sunnyside Rd.
952.848.7607

Heather Branigin

From: Amy M. <amyminge71@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2014 8:34 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: For Mayor Hovland

Hi Jim,

I think you're doing a terrific job, but I have to say that I think you might get a little flak for the quote in this morning's Star Tribune.

I just did a Google search for "Health Clubs Edina, MN," and clicked on the Google map that was generated. From the map, it appears that all of Edina (excepting southet Edina) is in a black hole for health clubs. I know that north Edina has "Anytime Fitness," but in terms of a place to bring the family for recreation and overall health improvement, it isn't what most people would desire. (The place is the size of my son's bedroom, and there isn't really a pool, unless you count the sink in the bathroom.)

I don't think people are opposed to hearing from developers, but I think that ***first*** they'd like to hear from a consultant as to public-use possibilities. My fear is that the developers' options will easier to implement, and will be moved forward upon, without fully exploring alternative options.

Obviously the Star Tribune has a way of not fully representing a person's viewpoint, and I realize this. However, in the event that they've represented the full picture, I wanted to pass along an alternative viewpoint. I guess that's what democracy is about.

Regardless of this issue though, I want to thank you for your hard work. I can't say I envy your job as mayor!

Thanks again,
Amy Minge
(northwest Edina constituent)

Heather Branigin

From: Vose, Robert J. <rvose@Kennedy-Graven.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2014 10:29 AM
To: Edina Mail; 'joshsprague@edinarealty.com'
Cc: Scott Neal; 'Amy Vose'
Subject: Public Works site

Mayor and CM Sprague:

I was interested in the Strib article today. We live across 100 from the community center (5817 Eastview), our kids attend Normandale, and this site is the closest redevelopable site to our home. From the City's website, I see that a great deal of community input has been obtained leading to the Grandview Small Area Plan. Given that, reaching out to developers for concepts or proposals at this point makes sense.

That said, I know my neighborhood and neighborhoods around us have a very high interest in redevelopment of this site. Yet until today I was unfamiliar with the Grandview Plan and largely unaware of that planning process. I recognize the process to-date has already afforded many opportunities for public input, and its clear that existing businesses, residents in closer proximity to the site, and other community leaders have been very engaged. But I believe recent demolition activities at the site and today's article will greatly increase interest and awareness among an even broader audience. I'm certain there will be demand for additional public process. I know that staff and council always ensure ample opportunities for such input.

Thanks for your service to the City. And CM Sprague, looking forward to seeing you and Johnny at the rink soon.
Bob Vose

Heather Branigin

From: ALANKOEHLER@comcast.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2014 1:40 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Input on Grandview Development

To the Members of the Edina City Council,

I am writing to you in reference to an upcoming decision to be made by the Edina City Council regarding the Grandview District development. I strongly encourage the City Council to vote in favor of proceeding with the Request for Interest which calls for engaging a consultant to further refine the type of potential projects to consider for the former Public Works site located at 5146 Eden Avenue. Based on the results of the resident survey conducted by Morris Leatherman in January 2014, the "Community Facility Inventory for the Grandview District Project" completed in February 2014, and the majority opinion of the Grandview District Community Advisory Team, there is much more work that needs to be done to define the best public amenities for this city-owned site before proceeding with a private sector development partner.

There are clearly a wide range of possible uses for this valuable site. I personally find the concept of a city-owned and operated community center to be the most appealing. The specific amenities that should be included in a civic community center will undoubtedly be a topic of lively discussion but it is a discussion that must be framed and undertaken before determining how much of the site would be required for such a facility. Therefore, it is premature to engage with a private developer before the needs of the site have been more fully defined by the community.

Some have argued that the city does not need "another" community center. While there is no doubt that the City of Edina owns and operates a number of facilities scattered around the city, it is inaccurate to state that the City already has a civic community center. The former Edina East High School building located at 5701 Normandale Boulevard has been branded the "Edina Community Center" by Edina Public Schools but this facility is owned and operated by the school district with the exception of one city-owned gymnasium in the building. Thus, it is more accurate to state that Edina Public Schools has a facility that they call a community center, but the City of Edina has never owned and operated a municipal community center that is intended to serve all citizens living within the city, including the 27% of households who do not live within the Edina school district boundaries. I find it very noteworthy that the web page of the City of Edina there contains no link or reference to the school district-owned community center in either the "For Residents" menu or the "Parks & Places" menu. In fact, typing "Edina Community Center" into the search function on the City's web site generates no relevant results.

Finally, as we look further ahead, it is apparent that fulfilling the long-term vision of the Grandview District development will require the relocation of the school bus garage owned and operated by Edina Public Schools. There seems to be a working assumption that this will only be achieved if the relocation occurs at no cost to the school district, even if the new facility is an improvement over the existing. For this outcome to be realized, the costs would need to be borne by the taxpayers of the City of Edina, a private developer, or a combination of the two. It would be entirely unreasonable for Edina Public Schools to seek or accept any financial assistance from the municipal taxpayers of the City of Edina for a relocation without first modifying their policies to provide enhanced access for all residents of the City of Edina to the school district's facilities.

Sincerely,

Alan Koehler

5304 Evanswood Lane

Heather Branigin

From: Paul Manley <pmanley@northlandcapitalmarkets.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 12:53 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview Property

To the Members of the Edina City Council,

As longtime resident of Edina, I am quite concerned about the Grandview District possible development. I encourage the City Council to vote for proceeding with the Request for Interest which calls for engaging a consultant to look at ideas for the former Public Works site located at Eden Avenue. I strongly oppose the idea of working with a developer as the developer will not take into consideration what our residents want. He will only do what will put the most money into his firms pockets.

I believe our great city of Edina has fallen behind other communities when it comes to a "City Community Center". We need to have a new facility built as our current "Community Center" does not meet standards we should have in Edina. There is also a need for more meeting/class rooms, gyms, and work out facilities.

Sincerely,

Paul Manley
6654 Parkwood Road

Paul M. Manley
Vice President- Institutional Sales
Northland Capital Markets
Direct- 612.851.5948
Cell- 612.834.1804
Trading- 800.851.4595
AOL IM: pmanleyns
pmanley@northlandcapitalmarkets.com



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Heather Branigin

From: MICHELE VANDERSALL <vmtv@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 1:59 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview Square

I urge the City to further exploration and refine potential projects and amenities for the former Public Works site before proceeding with a development partner;

Perhaps we could build a school to which ALL EDINA TAXPAYERS' children would have access!

Michele Vandersall
PARKWOOD KNOLLS
vmtv@mac.com
Do good.

Heather Branigin

From: Charles Flinn <charlesflinn3rd@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 2:04 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grand View Input

Dear City Council,

I am asking the Council to delay partnering with a private developer until the potential community uses for the GrandView site are thoroughly analyzed. I believe that the site should be redeveloped with full input from the Edina community.

I personally am frustrated with the lack of restaurant options in the Edina area west of highway 100. I also believe at least part of the redevelopment of the Grandview area should include casual restaurants that cater to families. As a father of two teens I also a strong supporter of including space where teens could gather.

Thank you,
Charles Flinn

Heather Branigin

From: Jasmine Hoedeman <jhoedeman@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 2:51 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Opinion on Grandview Square

I understand that there is some potential decisions being made on a partner to help develop this unused city property. I wanted to express my thoughts, ideas & concerns:

1. I do not think the city should elect a "partner" until there is SPECIFIC direction and agreement from the city taxpayers on the space use (ie, community center, etc)
2. I am concerned about the school bus depot being moved & the cost this would cause taxpayers -- I live in the Hopkins school district & I cannot understand why Edina schools will not allow our area to annex but wants EVERYONE to cover the costs of moving the public school bus depot. And, is this really necessary?
3. I look at other communities around ours & see so many new facilities popping up that not only serve the community directly, but also through revenue-generating options (ie, pool passes, space rental, etc).

Thank you for your time.

Jasmine Hoedeman (5017 Kelsey Terrace, Edina)

Heather Branigin

From: Vickman, Scott J. (US - Minneapolis) <svickman@deloitte.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 5:22 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview District Development

To the Members of the Edina City Council,

I am writing to you with respect to an upcoming decision to be made by the Edina City Council regarding the Grandview District development. I would like to ask the City Council to vote in favor of proceeding with the Request for Interest which calls for engaging a consultant to further refine the type of potential projects to consider for the former Public Works site located at 5146 Eden Avenue. I understand, based on the results of the resident survey conducted by Morris Leatherman in January 2014, the "Community Facility Inventory for the Grandview District Project" completed in February 2014, and the majority opinion of the Grandview District Community Advisory Team, there is much more work that needs to be done to define the best public amenities for this city-owned site before proceeding with a private sector development partner.

There are clearly a wide range of possible uses for this valuable site. I personally find the concept of a city-owned fitness center/workout facility or children's indoor play and recreation area to be the most intriguing. Therefore, it is premature to engage with a private developer before the needs of the site have been more fully defined by the community.

I hope you take this into consideration and take the time to make the right decision for all of the citizens of Edina and their interests.

Sincerely,

Scott Vickman
5029 Green Farms Road

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Heather Branigin

From: Werbalowsky, Jeffrey <JWerbalowsky@HL.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 24, 2014 3:15 PM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: 'K B Montgomery'; mary werbalowsky; Lou Ann
Subject: Grandview Project

Edina City Council Members:

I appreciate your efforts on the Grandview development. I commend you for soliciting community involvement and creating an "inclusive" process that has played out over the last several years. However we have not made a lot of progress notwithstanding these efforts to arrive at a galvanizing community or governmental vision on an immediate action plan, while the property that we all hope will advance the quality of life in Edina remains empty. That's a frustrating and unacceptable place to be after all of this time, and I am personally sympathetic to those who say "let's let a private developer give us their plans for the space to move us from this status quo." We need a PLAN, and a private developer will certainly provide one which we can modify, debate, or accept.

However (and you knew there would be an however), that appears to me and many others I have discussed this with a substantially inferior approach to determining the optimal public utilization of the space, and then requesting development partners who could work within those parameters. Some might say that we have tried that route, per the above paragraph, and failed. I would agree. However that process has hopefully set the stage for a community inspired plan to be rapidly set forth by a consultant to be hired by the city who would synthesize the various opinions extant and come back with a definitive plan for Grandview. I have debated this with my friend Kim Montgomery who I salute for her substantial zeal and efforts, and have told her I would not support another consultant who could come in and give some ideas and input to provide some more perspectives for debate and public discussion. ENOUGH. As in any complex project, NO ONE will be satisfied, and NO ONE will agree on everything if enough constituencies are involved and solicited for their input. Someone needs to take all the ideas, the good and the bad, the best perception of public needs and wants, talk to you and the other key decision makers and dedicated input providers, put a sharp eye on the financial issues and the public's revulsion for tax increases, and come up with a plan. One plan. It is possible that some will complain and pillory the consultant and you whatever it says (I know this is not a surprise)-but it's better than an empty lot which is what we will have after a developer comes in and suggests their value maximizing approach-even if sensitive to community issues-and hordes rise up in horror. That approach, however well-intentioned and executed (and I question how much real work a developer will put into something this contested, ephemeral and contingent), has a substantially lesser chance of creating a galvanizing plan than a consultant based approach with the right consultant. It's not impossible, but it is much less likely in my opinion.

I challenged Kim on this issue (and many others beyond the scope of this letter) and opined that consultants consult rather than show leadership in creating a plan like this in my experience, but she represented that within SIX months the consultant used by Vancouver when faced with a similar challenge:

“using an open community process, created the following: market analysis, concept design, programming, site evaluation, expense (capital and operating) and revenue projections as well as a funding plan for a community center”.

That is exactly what we need. Six months to a comprehensive plan, presentation to you, community comments, maybe some tweaking, and then we have a PLAN that you can adopt, take out to private developers and ask for their ideas, refinements, bids, etc. Break ground in a year from today (my timing aspirations are unsupportable I assume, but unless you set the bar high no one jumps). All disappointments will be hopefully washed away by a lot of happy citizens. The sin is not the failure to have the perfect Grandview project, it's the failure to have any Grandview project. The social costs of inaction are more substantial than any “mistake” we could make following the process above. I don't know what such a consultancy would cost, but maybe we could go to the Edina Community Foundation where we are contributors to defray some expense if they are daunting. That appears to me both the success maximizing and time minimizing approach, and I wish you all luck in getting to a great result here for Edina.

Jeffrey Werbalowsky
Co-Chairman

HOULIHAN LOKEY
612.215.2240 Direct
612.338.2910 Main
JWerbalowsky@HL.com

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Heather Branigin

From: Ed Schwartzbauer <ejsbauer@peoplepc.com>
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 10:37 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Performing Arts

Dear Jim (Mayor Hovland)

An article in the Sun newspaper about two weeks ago discussed the ongoing question of what to do with the former public works site on Eden Avenue. The article mentioned your interest in a performing arts center. I am writing (belatedly) to second that idea.

I have often thought Edina should have more facilities for the arts, to complement its many facilities for sports. Bloomington has its main stage Schneider Theater where several groups perform, i.e., The Bloomington Civic Theater and many other groups, such as the Medalist Concert Band, the Angelica Cantati Youth choir, the Bloomington Chorale, etc., and it has its Black Box Theater for small serious productions. I assume most of these pay rent. There are also many small theater groups in the Twin Cities that would rent an Edina arts center for their productions, for example the Frank Theater which seems to play in a different theater building for every play. In April, they produced the Three-Penny Opera at the Southern Theater at Seven Corners. A few years ago, Frank had to rent space in the old Sears building on Lake Street. So an Edina Center could be the source of revenue producing events that do not necessarily connect with Edina.

A performing arts center could be combined with a new art center, as Bloomington has done. And Edina should have a community theater. Several years ago, an Edina teacher produced the play "The Sound of Music" and called the production one by the Edina Community Theater, which, of course, didn't really exist. I was already too old to play Captain von Trapp, though I would have loved to play it--instead I got the non-singing role of Franz, the butler. Several young Edina wives were thrilled to have the chance to be on stage (they played both nuns and aristocrats).

This year, the Edina Chorale had only one concert in Edina (at the Colonial Church) and must go to Hopkins for its May production. This would seem to be a situation which calls for a survey of art-centered organizations to see whether they want more space and would use a performing arts center if one were built. But in the meantime, nothing should be done that would preclude the use of the land for this purpose. I would hate to see the last piece of public land sold off for another apartment.

If a new performing arts hall were to be built, perhaps it should be a joint public/private venture, and solicitations be made throughout the community for pledges. I hope there is support within the council for such a venture.

Edward J. Schwartzbauer
6085 Lincoln Drive
Edina, MN 55436
952/935-4205

Heather Branigin

From: Virginia Kearney <vmkearney@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 6:49 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: For the City Council

To the City Council,

I am writing to request that the city council issue an RFI for a **consultant-lead, community-based process under the guidance of the current CAT to first define the public uses for the former public works site in GrandView** and to stop the process to select a developer partner.

I see the need in this community for a true Community Center. The former site of the Public Works offers a huge opportunity to house a community center in a publicly owned, centrally located space. Please do not let this valuable piece of land fall out of public hands.

Virginia Kearney
4226 Grimes Ave. S.
Edina, MN 55416

Heather Branigin

From: K B Montgomery <kmschoolmail@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 30, 2014 11:07 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: To the City Council--Citizens for a Better GrandView Community Center Proposal
Attachments: Grandview_Council_CC_pref-1.doc; CBG_Community_Center_Proposal.pdf

Hi Lynette,

Could you kindly forward this to the City Council?

Many thanks,
Kim

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council Members:

Over the past few months, Citizens For A Better Grandview has been gathering community input, meeting with professionals in the areas of urban planning, architecture, community recreation, culture and education, attending public meetings, and reviewing public documents. The result of these efforts is a draft proposal for a new Edina Community Center located on the former public works site at 5146 Eden Avenue: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7qbXzwNg6owQ19fandzcDVaREE/edit?usp=sharing> This document is also accessible at Citizens for a Better GrandView's website at: <http://abettergrandview.weebly.com/>

The proposal is intended for information purposes and as a starting point for discussion. It is not intended as a final plan, but is offered to present ideas, provide a vision, give a realistic, fact-based overview of costs, and start a community-wide conversation about the best possible uses for the land.

As part of our research, CBG visited Firstenburg Community Center in Vancouver, WA—an intergenerational, vibrant, life-filled, publicly owned and run community center (see cover photo). Vancouver's political leaders recognized the value of publicly owned and run community spaces. From that determination, they hired a consultant/architect specializing in community-based, public buildings. In six months using an open community process, the consultant team created the following: market analysis, concept design, programming, site evaluation, revenue and expense (capital and operating) projections as well as a funding plan for a community center.

In order to move the GrandView process forward, CBG requests that the Council follow the process outlined below:

1. Citizen's Steering Committee

Repurpose the current Community Advisory Team (CAT) to assess public needs, create a community-based process and design a community-based facility (# 4, pg. 49-Framework) with the guidance of a consultant who specializes in public facilities. Also use the CAT to guide implementation of the remaining unaddressed points on page 49 of the Framework (#'s 2,3, 5-10).

2. Planning Documents

Use soon-to-be updated planning tools (Vision 20/20 update and Parks and Recreation Master Plan) as a starting point in defining community needs.

3. Data Gathering

Have consultant specializing in public facilities gather cost and market data on national standards and local practices.

4. Hold Public Meetings

Present all relevant planning, cost and market data in well publicized public meetings in order for the public to make informed decisions.

5. Create a Community Center Master Plan

The scope of this plan should include a market analysis, cost data, programming, site analysis, a preferred concept design and phasing options. This planning process should take no more than six months.

Thank you, as always, for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Kim Montgomery, Chair—Citizens for a Better GrandView

Heather Branigin

From: Bruce Kieffer <bruce@kieffer.us>
Sent: Wednesday, April 30, 2014 2:50 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: The Grandview Site

Please issue an RFI for a consultant-lead, community-based process under the guidance of the current CAT to first define the public uses for the former public works site in GrandView and to stop the process to select a developer partner.

Bruce Kieffer
bruce@kieffer.us
<http://kieffer.us>

Heather Branigin

From: Susan Furlow <susanfurlow@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2014 10:24 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: jonibennett12@comcast.net; 'James Hovland'; Scott Neal
Subject: Development of Grandview Site (Old Public Works Site)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear City Council Members,

My husband and I are in full support of stopping the process to select a commercial development partner for the former Edina Public Works Site (Grandview). Instead, we urge you to create an RFI for a **consultant-lead, community-based process under the guidance of the current CAT to first define the public uses for the site.**

Edina has always prided itself on the excellence of its community based services and programs. We have always felt that Edina lacked a cohesive public multi-purpose facility such as the community centers we see in other communities in our area and beyond.

Our existing community activity facilities are largely single purpose (golf, ice arena, community ed classes housed in a shared building). Our current "community center" is housed within a shared use building and does not provide the type of open, easily accessible community gathering and activity space we need in this community. As a converted school building which is operated by the school district its layout is confusing and outdated, it has very limited hours and most of the space is neither intended nor available for community use. Further, if there is an event at the Southview Middle School there is little or no parking available there for any community center user.

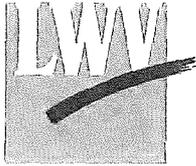
We are in favor of creating a multi-purpose community center for the former Edina Public Works site -- one that would combine auditorium/performance space, community meeting spaces, an indoor aquatic center, other sports and fitness facilities, art facilities (since our current art center has very limited space), and other shared event space. Our families, our youth, our seniors, and all other Edina citizens would benefit from this type of community gathering place.

We look forward to your support in this endeavor, and ask that you create the RFI needed to generate the proposals for the development of a new public use space such as a community center.

Thank you for all do for our city!

Susan Furlow and Larry McCann
6537 Cherokee Trail
Edina, MN 55439

952-944-5212



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
EDINA

May 2, 2014

Dear Members of the Edina City Council:

For over 30 years, LWV Edina has supported creating and maintaining a community center in Edina that responds to the diverse and changing needs of all age groups.

While Edina has a variety of public facilities, none alone or together meets all the needs of our growing and changing community. A new community center that offers a range of activities, from arts and culture to recreation, for residents of all ages and in a central location, would meet these needs and encourage more connections among all our residents.

The former public works site is a rare parcel of centrally-located available public land. The current process to seek ideas for redevelopment of this property provides an opportunity to explore the possibility of a new community center. The January 2014 residential survey shows support for devoting the site to community amenities such as a fitness center, performing arts space, art center, outdoor plaza, multi-purpose rooms, indoor pool, and athletic courts. A new community center at this location would also be accessible by transit.

The current process to consider potential uses for the land is housed in Economic Development. A process to determine the best uses for public land should not be driven primarily by economic concerns. LWV Edina believes that the public's interests and needs, balanced with fiscal responsibility once those interests and needs are known, should drive the redevelopment of public land.

To this end, LWV Edina recommends that the City Council:

- End the current Economic Development process;
- Solicit the involvement of the Parks and Recreation Department going forward; and
- Begin a process to explore current and future public needs that may be met by this public land, including the possibility of a community center.

Thank you for your consideration,

Debby McNeil
President, LWV Edina

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

www.LWVEdina.org

Heather Branigin

From: Carol Kaemmerer <carol@kaemmerergroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 7:02 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: support public use of public land -- Grandview site

Dear members of the Edina City Council,

We are so fortunate in Edina to have some public land at the Grandview site that could be put to use to create a multi-age, multi-use community resource. Many other municipalities -- including some neighboring suburbs -- have developed significant community buildings with amenities including art centers, theaters, and community recreational space.

I urge that the council engage a consultant who specializes in public amenities, and who does not have a financial interest in redevelopment of this land, to work with the community to identify public uses for this land. Such a consultant could be tasked to develop data regarding cost and revenue projections for specific public amenities so that the information could be shared in a series of public meetings. Through this process, the public can meaningfully have input to determine the most desirable amenities and the best use of this publicly owned land to serve the Edina community.

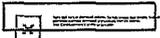
With very best regards,

~ Carol

Carol Kaemmerer

www.kaemmerergroup.com

952.927.9541



Watch my video here: <https://vimeo.com/92186656/>

Heather Branigin

From: pmatchie@iphouse.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 5:14 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview Site

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to support the use of public use of the property site - not a private development. Edina is in need of a place to create a community space - it is much too spread out to create a sense of community. I believe this is one of the last sites that will be available for that purpose.

The senior center is extremely successful, as is the public library. Please expand that model to create a community space that is welcoming and useable for group meetings and other activities. Selling the land for private development is not in our best interest.

Thank you,

Pam Matchie-Thiede

Heather Branigin

From: giovanna ingram <giovanna1963@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 7:38 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview

Please do not give up the Grandview Property for Private use. Don't let greed get in the way of making the right decision.

Please consider Grandview for Public use, like a one stop shop community center for our youth.

Thanks,
Giovanna

Heather Branigin

From: judgeardis@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 7:52 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview

I would like to offer my opinion on one of the subjects of the May 20th City Council meeting: Grandview

I am concerned with what appears to be undue haste in making decisions about this property. Once public land is gone I sincerely doubt that there will ever be an opportunity to reclaim it for the City of Edina. We pride ourselves on our willingness and abilities to be good stewards of our community resources. Making decisions on this type of available property should be a very well thought out procedures. Having a party or parties with vested interests, i.e., business and profit interests as part of the initial decision process does not make, in my opinion, good long-range planning sense.

I would therefore strongly urge the Council to engage the services and expertise of a totally independent entity (consultant) to develop (utilizing community involvement) a plan for the future use of this parcel of land. It does not appear to be a process that needs to be rushed.

Our community deserves to be a part of this process.

I would be pleased to address the Council in person but I am unable to attend the meeting on the 20th.

Thank you.
Ardis Wexler
7520 Cahill Road
Edina, MN 55439
952-210-7497

Heather Branigin

From: Mark Gentry <markgentry@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 07, 2014 8:36 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Old public works site

Dear Council Members -

I'm writing to express my desire to have the property which formerly had our public works building be considered for a public purpose such as a community center. Please don't just turn the site into a private development. Our community could use another space for our children and families.

Thanks.

Mark Gentry
612.221.5118

Heather Branigin

From: Louise Waddick <lawaddick@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 08, 2014 11:20 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview

To the City Council members of Edina, Regarding the Grandview city property, I urge you to please consider the following:

- Engage an independent consultant (one who specializes in public amenities and does not have a direct financial interest in redevelopment of this land) to work with the community to identify community needs and public uses for the land;
- Have the consultant provide hard data (market analysis, cost and revenue projections) for specific public amenities (e.g., basketball courts, swimming pools, fitness center, childcare center, teen activity rooms, art center, etc.); and
- Share that data with the public in a series of public meetings and press releases; let the public coalesce around the most desirable amenities.

Other communities, both nationwide and locally, are using these best practices to develop significant public amenities.

I would like Edina to keep this property for and develop a community center with many uses for all age groups. The existing community center, in my view, does not function as well as a new center could.

Sincerely, Louann Waddick

--
LouAnn Waddick
lawaddick@gmail.com
5304 Blake Rd. So.
Edina, MN 55436
cell: 612-715-3158
home: 952-935-2596

Heather Branigin

From: LAURA HOPE MELTON <hopemelton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 08, 2014 11:34 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Letter Re. Grandview Public Land Site
Attachments: Letter to City Council Grandview.pdf

Hi Debra

Please deliver this letter to the Mayor and City Council regarding the 5146 Avenue Grandview public land site.

Thank you,
Hope

May 8, 2014

Dear Mayor Hovland and Members of the Edina City Council:

I am writing to urge you to vote in favor of the Grandview Request for Interest (RFI) to hire a consultant who, working with a re-purposed Community Advisory Team (CAT), will engage the broader Edina community to define twenty-first century public uses of the 5146 Eden Avenue public land site. This should be done before hiring a private real estate developer for the following reasons:

First, this is a sizable, centrally located parcel of scarce public land, accessible to public transportation. It is therefore an ideal location for a new community center.

Second, Edina needs a new community center that will meet the needs of our much larger and more diverse twenty-first century Edina community. A weak economy that, after six years, continues to generate high levels of inequality and fails to produce enough jobs to support a robust middle class, a looming generation of retirees with insufficient savings to sustain their longevity, and the urgent civilizational challenge posed by climate change, mean that we must learn to live differently—more cooperatively, more in community—if we are to survive and thrive in this new century.

Social capital, or relationships of trust and reciprocity, will be critically important in that effort. A new community center along the lines proposed by Citizens for A Better Grandview—in addition to our Recognized Neighborhood Associations—will help grow and maintain social capital by fostering formal and informal contact across generational, racial/ethnic, and socioeconomic lines.

Third, the recent survey clearly indicates that the larger community has not had sufficient chance to consider what it would like to see, and would be willing to pay for, regarding public uses of this site. For this reason, Bill Morris' assessment that the time is not "ripe" for a referendum is correct. It is also too soon to engage a real estate developer in the planning process.

How would anyone know what a *twenty-first century* community center might offer without an assessment of demographic and economic trends and needs, contemporary examples in other cities, and more widespread public discussion?

Thank you for your consideration,

Hope Melton
4825 Valley View Road
Edina, MN
952-926-3959
hopemelton@hotmail.com

Heather Branigin

From: MDA Davis@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, May 11, 2014 11:14 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: community needs re Grandview

Hello members of the City council:

I think related to the parcel of land on Grandview that it is critical that we consider first what the needs of the community are prior to actually turning the property planning over to a real estate developer.

I would support having a study done and community task force meetings held to determine what the primary needs of the community are. Engaging a real estate developer makes this kind of a done deal with only one or limited, solution for the parcel.

Please embark on a study process before making a decision about this land.

Thank you,

Sandra Davis
6405 Harold Woods Lane
Edina, MN 55436

Heather Branigin

From: RayVoss@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 10:04 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Old City Maintenance site...

Edina City Council Members:

I don't know if I have the wisdom to tell you what SHOULD be done with old City maintenance site. But I think I know what should NOT be done with this site: that is it SHOULD NOT be turned over to private ownership. The City of Edina has a limited amount of publicly owned land. We have no idea of the City's land needs in the future, so I would strongly suggest that neither this nor any other City owned land be turned over to private ownership. Once gone from City ownership, it would be very difficult and expensive, if not impossible, to recapture the land to public use.

If there isn't consensus on how to use the property for public use, then clear it, put down some topsoil, plant it with grass and some bushes and trees and put in a walkway with a few benches. When in the future consensus is decided on a public use for the property it will still be owned by the people of Edina who paid for it in the first place!

Thanks,

Raymond Voss

Mailing address: 5021 Vernon Ave. So. #312, Edina, MN 55436
Residence address: 5210 Villa Way, Apt. 356, Edina, MN 55436

952-927-0448
rayvoss@aol.com

Heather Branigin

From: MARY WERBALOWSKY <mwerbal@me.com>
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2014 11:35 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: mary werbalowsky
Subject: Grandview Public Land

Dear City Council,

I am writing in support of incorporating a community center into the plans for the Grandview site. I am hoping that you can work with the public to identify community needs which I feel a community center would fill. We have an old community center which does not fill any of the amenities that a new one would such as a fitness center, art center, swimming pool, teen activities, childcare, yoga, etc.

I would love to see a great, healthy new restaurant in the center along with a fitness clothing store and possibly a couple other health related retail stores.

I hope you will consider the Request for Interest by Citizens for a Better Grandview to have a consultant lead, community based process to make sure that we provide the best possible scenario for the entire community and not driven primarily by economic concerns and a development partner.

Thank you,
Mary Werbalowsky

Heather Branigin

From: Erica Nowak <erican1919@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:47 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,
Erica Nowak
6009 Halifax Ave
Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: Rouleau, Jeff, Ph.D. <jeff.rouleau@medtronic.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:48 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Proposed City of Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a member of the community and an active member of Edina Swim Club I request that the City Council carefully review the proposed use of 5146 Eden Avenue as a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private uses for the land. Further, I ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Jeff Rouleau

Jeffrey P. Rouleau, Ph.D.
Technical Fellow and Materials Director
Medtronic Cardiac Rhythm Disease Management
8200 Coral Sea St NE
Mail Stop MVN-51
Mounds View, MN 55112
+1-763-505-4585 desk
+1-651-367-8095 fax

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<http://emaildisclaimer.medtronic.com>

Heather Branigin

From: mark.biscan@thomsonreuters.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:53 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: 5146 Eden Avenue

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Mark Biscan

Heather Branigin

From: Blanchett, Neal <nblanchett@CarlsonRezidor.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:59 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Grandview Area Community Center

Dear Edina Mayor and City Council Members,

My family and I are residents of Edina, members of Edina Swim Club, and frequent users of Edina's parks, libraries, and other wonderful public spaces. We think it's a good idea for the City to focus on the proposed state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private uses for the land. We see outstanding community centers in several communities, which become real community hubs for the best kind of family-friendly healthy activities, and drawing people into nearby businesses.

We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated. If the City later decides to go forward with an RFI eventually, it will have better information on whether to request that private developers include certain public elements. Edina has a wonderful reputation as a city with outstanding public amenities, in keeping with our outstanding residential neighborhoods, schools, and business community. In order to keep that reputation, we ought to thoroughly evaluate the community center option.

Thanks For Listening,

NEAL BLANCHETT,
4737 Hibiscus Avenue
Edina, 55435
m: +1 (763) 438-0208 | nblanchett@carlson.com

Heather Branigin

From: Rogers, Stacy <Stacy.Rogers@medica.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:15 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully

Best Wishes,

Stacy Rogers
Outreach and Medicare Sales Executive -SNP
State Public Programs
Mail Route CP340
952-992-3166 Phone
952-992-3166 Fax
stacy.rogers@medica.com

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Heather Branigin

From: Daniel Norling <dan.norling@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:40 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com; Ann Kattreh
Cc: Jaime Norling
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Dan and Jaime Norling

5606 Sherwood Ave

Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: Rick Julkowski <rickjulkowski@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:44 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Edina community center

I am not a resident of Edina but am currently looking for a new residence in Edina, and starting last month I became an active member of Edina Swim Club.

We want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Rick Julkowski

763-350-5792

Heather Branigin

From: Margaret Berdelman <mberdelman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:54 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Edina Community Center at 5146 Eden Avenue

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Margaret A. Berdelman

6916 Hillcrest Lane

Edina, MN 55435

Heather Branigin

From: Colleen Zvosec <czvosec@bolinmarketing.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 4:44 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Community Center including pool for vacant land

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club , I request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the vacant 4 acre public land (5146 Eden Avenue.) toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. Please postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,
Colleen Zvosec

7204 Fleetwood Drive, Edina

Heather Branigin

From: Qiang Fu <qiangfu62@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:52 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Qiang Fu
4623 Bruce Ave
Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: Qiang Fu <qiangfu62@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:52 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Lisa Ge
4623 Bruce Ave
Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: Qiang Fu <qiangfu62@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:52 PM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Fu
4623 Bruce Ave
Edina, MN 55424

Heather Branigin

From: sallyeuson@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 9:04 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grand View property

Dear Mayor Hovland and Council Members Joni Bennett, Mary Brindle, Josh Sprague and Ann Swenson,

I am so proud to call Edina home. The same goes for my husband, Dave, and our girls who are now launched. Our city government runs like clockwork because we have people, like you, who have an unflappable commitment to the residents' best interests. I have been aware of the land under review and ask you to strongly consider this space for redevelopment of community space in lieu of residential space.

Edina's government thinks broadly and I hope that you will review the many reasons why Edina residents would benefit if this centrally located space were developed to better serve our residents, of all ages. Strong government, strong schools are Edina's legacy. We have wonderful community programs, as well, but they would and should be even stronger with the proper facilities to accommodate our growing youth population as well as our continued aging population.

Thank you for your consideration and time. I am most grateful for all you do to make this such a special place to live.

Sincerely,

Sally Euson
5720 View Lane
Edina, MN 55436

Heather Branigin

From: Cathy Fuller <catful22@lycos.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 9:39 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Edina Community Center

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council Members:

I am writing to you in support of continuing to explore the possibility of building a community center at the old public works site. I was one of the citizens randomly chosen to participate in the recently conducted opinion survey about development options for the site. I was pleasantly surprised to be chosen to participate, and also pleased that the survey was being conducted at all. The site has been vacant for a long time, and while I know there has been some work done regarding the ultimate disposition of the site, I did not feel at all connected or informed as to the options being considered. I cannot recall an instance of any in-depth coverage of this issue in the About Town Magazine, which I believe is the primary communication vehicle for the City of Edina.

As the parent of two high school aged children, it has become more and more apparent to me that there is not much for older kids to do in the way of entertainment within the city limits of Edina. I do not consider dropping my kids off at Southdale, to see a movie and then roam the mall, to be a good option! We do not belong to Edina Country Club or Interlachen so do not have dining, sports or entertainment options available to us through those venues. I would love to see a multi-purpose gathering space, with areas for indoor farmers/craft markets (winters kind of long here!), community theatre groups, and maybe even a space for teens to gather and have dances on weekend nights with a DJ. (again, winter gets a little long here when you spend every weekend night in someone's basement).

I am not sure at this point what level of amenities would be appropriate for this community center, and think it would be really important not to duplicate what is already available - e.g., already have a pool at Southview (open to the public?), and Edinborough. Maybe it would make sense to look at community facilities in totality and "re-brand" those that are underused - e.g., Senior Center in basement of library, consider opening it up to more diverse groups so it gets used more frequently.

The final disposition of this site, as a very strategically located piece of publicly owned land, should be done with a lot of community input and thoughtful discussion. I would be happy to be a part of that discussion, and look forward to hearing more about the Grandview site in future city communications.

Best Regards,
Catherine Fuller
5401 W 60th Street

Heather Branigin

From: Sara Dare Biscan <saradarebiscan@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 2:20 PM
To: Edina Mail

Dear Edina City Council,

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club we want you to know that we request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. We ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

**Respectfully,
Sara Biscan
Zenith Avenue South
Edina, MN**

--

sara dare biscan
art director | graphic designer
612.384.3773

Heather Branigin

From: Katie <kbredesen@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 15, 2014 4:40 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Public Works site

Hello Mayor Hovland,

I strongly endorse the use of the Public Works site as a community center, including a championship pool.

Thanks, Jim. Katie Bredesen

Heather Branigin

From: Thompson, Teresa <TThompson@fredlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, May 16, 2014 7:41 AM
To: Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague7@gmail.com; swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: New Edina Community Center

Dear City Council -

As a resident of Edina and active member of Edina Swim Club, I request that the City Council focus attention on the proposed use of the land toward a much-needed community space for residents and sports organizations in the form of a state-of-the-art community center before entertaining private-uses for the land. I ask that you postpone any Request for Information (RFI) for private use of the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue or other location within the City of Edina until the current and other community center proposal(s) are evaluated.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

**Teresa M. Thompson
5805 Shannon Drive
Edina, MN 55439**

Letters to the editor and articles

Column: Citizens For a Better GrandView supports preservation of public land

By Sun Current Editor

By Hope Melton

Guest Columnist

After almost four years of sitting empty, the former public works site at 5146 Eden Ave. in the Edina GrandView District is headed for private development. The city is looking to partner with a real estate developer to redevelop this public land.

Public land is a scarce resource in this fully developed suburb. By definition, it belongs to, and serves, the community. For many years, the GrandView site was used for public purposes from which we all benefited.

Citizens For A Better GrandView has formed to preserve this public land to serve the common good. Their mission is to raise awareness, invite conversation and join together as a community to create a new community center and public square that will enhance the city's social capital to meet Edina's 21st century challenges.

Substantial public health, economic development and public safety research supports the importance of social capital – or relationships of trust and reciprocity – to community well-being. Communities with high levels of social capital have enhanced property values, perceptions of public safety, economic development and innovation, resident health and well-being, resident trust and participation in government, and government efficiency and stability. Conflicts are unavoidable, but high social capital communities are more likely to resolve them successfully.

While the city of Edina has a national reputation for excellence, it faces significant challenges in an era of declining public resources. These are: 1.) rapidly increasing racial and ethnic diversity; 2.) maintaining its socioeconomic balance in the face of growing inequality and national trends toward socioeconomic segregation; 3.) the achievement gap in its schools; and 4.) a large and increasing older population, many of whom are socially isolated. Many older adults will also have insufficient retirement savings to sustain their longevity due to underemployment and wage stagnation. None of our institutions – not schools, government or foundations – can successfully address these challenges without broad community engagement and support.

In an economy that is failing to create sufficient jobs and wages to sustain a robust middle class, the strength and resilience of Edina's social capital will play a critical role in its ability to remain a first-class community. Social capital is nurtured by diverse populations who interact face-to-face, regularly and naturally, in neighborhoods, public spaces and community centers. The public land at 5146 Eden Ave. is an ideal place to develop a community center and grow social capital. This is why Citizens For A Better GrandView promotes public use of the GrandView site for the common good.

The website, abettergrandview.weebly.com, provides more information.

Hope Melton is an Edina resident and retired urban planner.

Letter: Public uses of GrandView should be determined first

By Sun Current Editor

To the editor:

My thanks to Kevin Staunton for providing a description of the GrandView District planning process in a recent guest column ("GrandView comments should contribute," April 17). I concede that carrying out this multifaceted plan is no easy task.

Unfortunately, the planning and public engagement process Kevin Staunton describes does not match the reality of its implementation.

First, those who favor a community-driven process to establish public uses for this public land, some of whom have been directly involved with GrandView planning throughout the last four years, recount a different story. These Edina residents, including a majority of the current Community Advisory Team, say their position has been consistently discounted and sidelined by project leadership in favor of private development. This is a vote of no confidence in the public engagement process.

Second, this division within the planning process has widened over time. The result is two Request for Interest documents placed before the City Council – one for consultant facilitation of a community-led process to define public uses before hiring a developer, and the other for a private developer to be selected before public uses have been defined. This would likely tilt the project towards private development.

Third, a planning process that lasts over four years, probably because of its divisiveness, with no specific land use components in sight, is both costly and in trouble.

Fourth, this is not an either/or matter of public versus private development. Most people, including those in a recent survey and those favoring a community-driven planning process, understand that there will need to be private redevelopment within the GrandView District to make a public facility like a community center economically feasible.

The critical question is who will lead the creation of development options, a consultant working with the community, or a private developer?

Because this is public land, I believe it is the community working with a consultant that should define public uses for this site before a private developer takes over to build it out.

Hope Melton

Edina

GrandView group proposes new community center

By Lisa Kaczke

Citizens for a Better GrandView is throwing its own idea into the ring for the Public Works site: a new \$26 million community center.

The group, formed by residents concerned about the potential for developers to be involved on the property, recently posted on its website a draft proposal outlining its argument for Edina's need of a community center. The proposal isn't meant to be a final plan, but is meant to be a "starting point for discussion" to "garner community-wide conversation about the best possible public uses for the former Public Works site," according to the proposal.

The city's Public Works site at 5146 Eden Ave. has been vacant since May 2013. The Edina City Council is scheduled to discuss the city's 3.3-acre Public Works site during a work session on Tuesday, May 20.

A 10-member Community Advisory Team has submitted to the city council two draft Requests for Interest, one for consultants and one for developers, seeking proposals on what could be constructed on the site.

The city website's GrandView page states, "The city has no plans to sell the 3.3 acre site for private development."

The GrandView District Framework, completed in 2012, calls for a community commons with a building and green space, as well as a private development, on the Public Works site. Documents on the GrandView District can be found at bit.ly/GrandViewUpdate.

Citizens for a Better GrandView's proposal envisions a "crowning jewel for our town" on the site: A 105,000-square-foot community center that houses pools, gyms, a walking/jogging track, group exercise studios, a weight room, a lounge, game room, community room, kitchen, special events room, a community performance room, rehearsal rooms and a gallery/arts classroom. The full proposal can be viewed at abettergrandview.weebly.com.

It estimates the cost of constructing the building to total \$26 million: \$1.6 million for operations, \$9.3 million for activities space, \$7.2 million for aquatics, \$2.3 million for community spaces, \$1.9 million for arts/cultural spaces and \$3.9 million for circulation/mechanical, according to the proposal. The group's estimate doesn't include landscaping or construction of parking that includes 350 to 500 spaces.

The proposal calls for a building that is more broad in purpose and more open to residents than the city's existing entities, according to the proposal. It argues that the city's existing facilities are either limited in terms of season, like the Edina Aquatic Center, or has a narrowly focused use, like the Edina Senior Center.

"What Edina lacks is a facility that serves the entire community both in structure and unstructured ways, that is accessible seven days a week year round. A facility that is centrally located and designed for this new millenium," according to the proposal.

The group also adds in the proposal that the existing Edina Community Center on Normandale Road "is not a community-focused building, but rather a school district entity neither operated by the city nor fully available to city residents."

The Edina school district doesn't have plans to close the Edina Community Center, district Communications Director Susan Brott said.

The district's Edina Community Center is a community-focused building with a number of activities and classes open to all residents through Edina Community Education, Brott said. She said she understands that the Edina Community Center's educational focus may be too narrow for what the residents are considering and residents may be looking for something beyond what the district offers.

A resident survey of 400 households was completed in January. Of residents surveyed, 53 percent supported the concept of a new community center on the site and 40 percent opposed a new community center, according to the survey results. Thirty-eight percent opposed increasing property taxes to construct it.

When asked if they would support a community center if the existing building on Normandale Road became unavailable, 58 percent of residents said they were more likely to support a community center, according to survey results.

Contact Lisa Kaczke at lisa.kaczke@ecm-inc.com or follow her on Twitter @EdinaSunCurrent

Letter: Community center would add to Edina's well-being

By Sun Current Editor

To the editor:

I would like to express my support for the proposed community center ("GrandView group proposes new community center," May 1).

A community center, with fitness options cited by the advocacy group, would allow for improvements in the physical health of Edina residents. Given the childhood obesity epidemic, and high rates of heart disease among our adult population, it seems clear that policymakers should look closely at opportunities for public health improvement.

A community center would provide financial benefits to our community. Hundreds of people visiting a community center every day would have a positive effect on the businesses in the area. After swimming lessons, the kids may want to stop for a smoothie, or adults might stop at Jerry's to pick up a few dinner items. People may window-shop at nearby stores that could sell fitness apparel (think Athleta). More people would equal more business.

A community center would make Edina an even more desirable community in which to live. Such desirability would inevitably have a positive effect on property values. Furthermore, a physically fit person is usually able to spend less on health care needs, which leaves more money in the wallet.

There are many other less tangible, but equally important, potential benefits. A community center would contribute to a sense of civic pride and community. It would be a year-round place to see friends, which would contribute to a positive state of mind. As a place where students could go after school, a community center would alleviate boredom and teenage feelings of detachment. As a venue for performances and other artistic productions, a community center would contribute to the well-being of performers and audiences alike.

There is no reason why cities like Eden Prairie and Chaska should reap the benefits of their community centers, while the city of Edina languishes. We already own the land on which a community center could be located. Certainly, our inspiration is not lacking. Now let's move forward together and make Edina an even better place to live and grow.

Amy Minge

Edina

Letter: Consultant is the best choice for GrandView

By Sun Current Editor

To the editor:

Reflect on the last time you received a tax return and considered what to do with the money. If you consulted a financial planner, he'd likely work with you to identify many options to pursue, including whether to save, spend or invest it. If, on the other hand, you consulted a car salesman or travel agent, you'd be more likely to spend all of that money.

I've read the viewpoints on the next best step for the publicly owned GrandView site, and I honestly can't understand why there is a debate. If the city moves forward with a private developer, we are likely to get an outcome that is in the developer's self-interest. A consultant is the best choice to authentically engage in a conversation about the best uses, community needs and full financial considerations for this public asset.

Katherine Bass

Edina

Letter: Contact the Edina council regarding former Public Works site

By Sun Current Editor

To the editor:

On May 20, the Edina City Council will meet to discuss the future of our public land at 5146 Eden Avenue (former Public Works site).

Citizens For A Better GrandView has been following this process closely. At this time, we believe that a slim majority of council members will support partnering with a real estate developer to redevelop the site. This process is likely to lead to private infill development with minimal public use.

A minority of Council members support enlisting a consultant to work with the community to identify community needs and public uses for this land. This path is also supported by a majority of GrandView community advisory team (CAT) members.

If you, like 66 percent of Edina residents according to a recent survey, support public uses for public land, please contact the city council today and respectfully ask them to:

Preserve our public land for public use;

Engage an independent consultant (one who specializes in public amenities and does not have a direct financial interest in redevelopment of this land) to work with the community to identify community needs and public uses for the public land at 5146 Eden Avenue;

Have the consultant provide hard data (market analysis, cost and revenue projections) for specific public amenities (e.g., basketball courts, swimming pools, fitness center, childcare center, teen activity rooms, art center); and

Share that data with the public in a series of public meetings and press releases; let the public coalesce around the most desirable amenities.

Other communities, both nationwide and locally, are using these best practices to develop significant public amenities.

Let the council know that the process outlined above is the surest way to make progress. Without this kind of process, there will ongoing debates about giving up public land.

Please write to the council today at mail@edinamn.gov or Edina City Council, 4801 W. 50th Street, Edina MN 55424.

For more information about Citizens For A Better Grandview, please see our website at abettergrandview.weebly.com.

Kim Montgomery

Edina

Kim Montgomery is chair of Citizens for a Better GrandView

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What should Edina do with its old public works site?

Article by: MARY JANE SMETANKA, Star Tribune Updated: April 15, 2014 - 3:00 PM

Some residents say the city needs a new community center.

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Edina is debating what to do with its former public works site, one of the few vacant city-owned parcels of land that could be used for a public purpose.

The 3.3 acres at 5146 Eden Av. is at the heart of the Grandview district, a part of the city slated for a redesign that would include traffic calming, more bike and pedestrian ways, green spaces, transit links and perhaps more housing.

What to do with the land has become a tug-of-war between the City Council and some members of an advisory group that studied the area's future. A majority of council members favored asking developers to propose uses for the property. But a proposal to do that was pulled after most members of a small advisory group objected, suggesting that instead the city should hire a consultant to explore purposes for the site in consultation with residents.

For years, Kim Montgomery has been pushing the city to keep the site as a possible home for a new community center. She was involved with early planning in the area and is one of the drivers behind a website called Citizens for a Better Grandview.

Would you support a new Edina community center?

Earlier this year, Edina residents were surveyed about whether they'd support a new community center at the former public works site. The results:

- 53% said they would support one
- 40% said they would oppose it
- 38% said they didn't want to pay more property taxes for it

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"The process all along has been skewed toward a certain outcome, and that outcome is one that favors developers," she said. "My greatest fear is that this will be turned over to developers, after all this work, before we have defined the public use."

On May 20, the council is expected to decide whether to reach out to developers or hire a consultant.

Mayor Jim Hovland said that with a wealth of fitness option in the city, including

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private health clubs and a recently remodeled YMCA, he isn't sure the city needs a new community center. Many cities are losing money on such centers, he said.

"I don't hear any clamoring out there for a community center, like we did for a sports dome," he said. "I'm reluctant to go there."

Montgomery and other residents began pushing the city to keep the property as a possible site for a new community center in 2008, when the city's public works facility was moved and the old building was razed. Montgomery argues that in a fully developed suburb like Edina, vacant city-owned land is precious and should be used for the highest public purpose.

She worries that few Edina residents know that the future of the former public works site is up for grabs.

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"I think what needs to happen is the public needs to be informed first and start communicating with the City Council, saying they want to keep public land and that they want a community center," she said.

Bill Neuendorf, the city's economic development director, said the issue of whether the city needs a new community center is "the million-dollar question."

"Some people say we do; others say we don't," he said. "And others say we do, but they don't want to pay for it."

Residents weigh in

In January and February, the city surveyed residents about the Grandview area. Asked whether they would support a new community center at the former public works site, 53 percent said they would support one, while 40 percent said they would oppose it. Asked what type of amenities they would most favor there, 30 percent wanted a fitness center, 20 percent favored a performing arts center, 16 percent liked an indoor pool and 14 percent wanted meeting rooms.

Fifty-four percent said they were likely to use a community center, but 38 percent said they were not willing to pay more property taxes to build one. Fifty-nine percent were willing to see a property tax hike.

Edina already has a community center that is owned by the Edina public schools. The former Edina East High School at 5701 Normandale Blvd. is home to district headquarters, community education, a French immersion school program and has other spaces like a dance studio and kitchen that are used mostly by community education.

Falling behind

Montgomery thinks the city needs something more. She believes Edina is falling behind other communities that have more complete facilities at their community centers.

"There is no true recreation there; it's a school building that's been repurposed," she said. "It's often taken up by meetings."

Though Montgomery said she fears the Edina schools may need the building back if enrollment goes up, Hovland said he has been assured by school officials that even if enrollment increases, they would need only a small portion of the building.

Neuendorf said the city could use more performing arts space, recreational spaces like gyms and multipurpose rooms that can be used for a variety of events. The council will hear a presentation on what residents said in the winter survey on May 6.

Neuendorf said he understands why some people are concerned about the city's plan to let developers shape proposals for the site.

"I think a lot of people have concerns about working with the redevelopment community; some have reputations not much better than used-car salesmen," he said. "But as the City Council gave us direction on how to move forward, it was rooted in the assumption that the city owns the land and controls anything that happens on it."

"They were definitely united that the city does not want to relinquish control of the site."

Montgomery said developers have no incentive to include public space in their plans. She thinks the city should follow the planning model of Vancouver, Wash., where the city got cost estimates on features that could go into a community center, did a detailed market analysis and held open houses for residents.

"They said, here are possible things you as a community could have in a community facility, and here are the costs, and here are the trends, and based on this information, what's most important to you as a community?" she said. "Then they took the data from community meetings and designed the facility.

"I think part of the problem here is that because the city has not talked about a community center, people can't envision it. They don't know it's a possibility."

Hovland said that after three years of study about the site's future, the proposal to seek the input of developers reflected the wishes of a larger group that studied the Grandview area. He said there is nothing wrong with asking for proposals that may result in "private investment for public purpose" on a site that the city owns and controls. The city does need more performing space, he said, and that might be a component of development there.

"We need to be creative and innovative with this opportunity; what's wrong with seeing what the private sector thinks of it?" he said. "We own the land. If we don't like what we see as a council, we don't have to do it."

Mary Jane Smetanka • 612-673-7380

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Vacation Holds/Billing
Newsletters

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Terms of Use
Privacy Policy
Ad Choices
Site Index

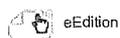
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Comprehensive Plan Policies and Goals

Edina Comprehensive Plan Goals and Policies

The City has the following goals and policies related to acquiring property for park purposes. City code defines “park” as “property owned by the city which is used or is usable for park, recreation or open space purposes.”

Parkland and Open Space

Goals

- As commercial and residential population density increases due to redevelopment, provide additional parkland and/or open space....
- Acquire additional park and open space land as more private land may become available for public acquisition.

Policies

- Study the feasibility of acquiring additional park and open space property within the City limits as it may come available for public ownership.
- As population density increases (commercial and/or residential), secure additional property as needed for park land and/or open space to serve that population.
- When seeking additional park land and/or open space to accommodate increased population density, explore and consider all opportunities and options available to acquire additional park land and/or open space.

The City has the following goals and policies related to indoor fitness and exercise facilities:

Goals

- Explore and study opportunities to provide indoor exercise and fitness opportunities for Edina residents.

Policies

- Actively seek a location and funding source to provide more indoor exercise facilities within the next five to ten years.
- Actively support the development of an indoor exercise facility in Edina....
- Do not sell any park and/or open space property currently owned by the City of Edina. An exception to this policy might include a property exchange for land of equal or greater value that is determined to be in the best interest of the community.

Survey Data

Survey Data

2006 Parks Needs Assessment Survey

The results of the 2006 Needs Assessment Survey show that 75 percent of respondents are either very supportive (44 percent) or somewhat supportive (31 percent) of developing a new indoor recreation center in Edina. Results showed that a new indoor recreation center was the second most important new facility of respondents' choice. Developing walking and biking trails was first place at 89 percent, with respondents either very supportive (65 percent) or somewhat supportive (24 percent). When asked what they would be most willing to fund with additional tax dollars, respondents clearly stated that developing a new indoor recreation center (42 percent) was again second to developing walking and biking trails (66 percent). Developing outdoor athletic fields for sports finished third at 21 percent. When asked how they would allocate \$100 in extra funds if made available for the City of Edina, the response was:

- \$29 for improvements and maintenance of existing parks and recreation facilities.
- \$26 for new walking and biking trails.
- **\$15 for a new indoor recreation center.**
- \$9 for removal of buckthorn.
- \$7 for new outdoor and indoor sports facilities.
- \$6 for new indoor nature center.
- \$4 for a new artificially refrigerated outdoor hockey rink.
- \$4 other.

The survey asked respondents to choose from a list of 15 potential indoor programming spaces the ones that they and members of their household would use if they were developed in an indoor community center. Walking and jogging track (58 percent) was the indoor programming space that the highest percentage of respondent households would use. Other indoor programming spaces that at least 30 percent of respondents would use include: weight room/cardiovascular equipment (40 percent), aerobics/fitness/dance class space (40 percent), leisure pool (35 percent), and lanes for lap swimming (30 percent). **Clearly the majority of respondents desire more indoor recreation space venue opportunities for exercise and fitness purposes.**

Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 9, p. 35

2013 Quality of Life Survey

Residents were asked whether they would support or oppose the following improvements:

- *Construction of a new Sports Dome—23% strongly support, 26% somewhat support, 25% somewhat oppose, 22% strongly oppose (49% support, 47% oppose)*
- *Improvements to Braemar Golf Course—9% strongly support, 23% somewhat support, 31% somewhat oppose, and 31% strongly oppose (32% support, 62% oppose)*
- **Construction of a new Community Center—14% strongly support, 29% somewhat support, 34% somewhat oppose, 21% strongly oppose (43% support, 55% oppose)**
- *Renovation of athletic fields—10% strongly support, 25% somewhat support, 32% somewhat oppose, 30% strongly oppose (35% support, 62% oppose)*

(Note: The City has decided to go forward with construction of a new sports dome, improvements to Braemar Golf Course, and renovation of athletic fields. Construction of a new community center received slightly less support than a sports dome and more support than improvements to Braemar Golf Course and renovation of athletic fields.)

Supporters of one or more improvements were then asked what how much they would be willing to pay in increased taxes to pay for the improvement(s):

- Nothing—13%
- \$2—15%
- \$4—24%
- \$6—20%
- \$8—12%
- \$10—6%
- \$12—9%
- Don't know—1%

(Note: the above asked only supporters what they would be willing to pay. Those who supported multiple improvements were asked how much they would pay not for a single improvement, but presumably all of the improvements they supported.)

Grandview Survey January 2014

Residents who support construction of a new community center—9% strongly support, 44% support, 28% oppose, 12% strongly oppose (53% support, 40% opposed).

Supporters and opponents were then asked how much they would be willing to see their property taxes increased per month to fund construction of a new community center:

- Nothing—38%
- \$2—13%

- \$4—19%
- \$6—12%
- \$8—6%
- \$10—6%
- More than \$10—6%

Most favored uses for the former public works site (first and second choices combined):

- Outdoor plaza or park
- Exercise of fitness center
- Performing arts space
- A community art center with gallery
- Sit-down restaurants

Residents were asked whether they agree with the following statements:

- The city should not sell publicly-owned land—61% agree
- The value of publicly-owned land is greater than the revenue that can be generated from it—58% agree
- Publicly-owned land should be retained and used for public purposes only—66% agree
- A strong sense of community is important to me—93% agree
- The city should create more recreational opportunities for people of all ages and incomes—68% agree
- The city should create more cultural and arts opportunities for people of all ages and incomes—72%

Residents were asked whether the former public works site should include public amenities only, sold for private use, or a combination:

- Public only—37%
- Private only—9%
- Combination—46%

If mixed use, the most preferred uses are a community center and restaurants (each at 21%).

Heather Branigin

From: K B Montgomery <kmschoolmail@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 4:34 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: GrandView Questions for work session consideration
Attachments: Grandview_CC_ltr_2_5_19_14.doc; Development_Partner_RFI.doc; Ellipse_property_tax_record.pdf; Genessee_Richfield.pdf

Hi Lynette,

Would you kindly pass this letter along to the Council and Manager Neal for inclusion in their packets for tomorrow's meetings?

Thank you!

Kim

K B Montgomery
Citizens for a Better GrandView

Citizens For A Better Grandview

May 19, 2014

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

Thank for taking the time to address the future of public land at 5146 Eden Avenue in tomorrow's work session.

As such, there are a couple of questions Citizens for a Better Grandview hopes the Council will address in your deliberations:

1. How would an RFI for a developer partner allow for definition of the public, community spaces at 5146 Eden Avenue?

An outline of the developer partner RFI is attached; no specific development scenarios are required until **Phase 3** of the process, well after the City has committed to a development partner. How will we as a community know what the developer's commitment to and expertise in defining public, community spaces until we are very far down the road with that particular developer?

2. Before the Council makes a decision regarding the public vs. private uses for 5146 Eden Avenue, what are the potential revenue estimates for private redevelopment of the site?

I have attached the Property Tax records for two new mixed-use projects in surrounding suburbs that are approximately the same size as the apartment and condominium development contemplated by the GrandView Framework; I have asked Manager Neal to provide you with the information about what tax revenues the City of Edina would garner from similar developments. Before the Council makes a decision regarding turning the land over to a development partner, residents should be fully informed about the potential revenue generation of a private sale or lease. With 66% of residents surveyed saying that "Publicly owned land should be retained and used for public uses only" it is important for the Council and public to know what income would be generated by private redevelopment of the site.

As always, thank you for your service and consideration.

Respectfully,

Kim Montgomery
Chair
Citizens for a Better GrandView

Development Partner RFI

Note that the submission requirements do not include examples of past work or request development concepts.

Note in the proposed four-stage process, development scenarios are not generated until stage three.

Proposed Process

The City proposes a multi-stage process to engage and collaborate with a development partner to achieve the vision outlined in the Framework.

Stage One: The City will review letters of interest and select prospective partners to interview. After conducting interviews, the City may select a tentative development partner.

Stage Two: The City and the tentative development partner will work together during an approximately 60-120 day period to *create a process* for identifying the appropriate uses on the City-owned parcel, designing and financing the structures associated with those uses, and framing ways in which the remainder of the district might respond to a new use on this city-owned parcel.

City and Development Partner agree to move forward

Stage Three: Using the City Council approved process, the City's development partner will collaborate with the City to generate alternative scenarios for development aligning with the GrandView District Development Framework. Each scenario will demonstrate all aspects of a feasible development of the former Public Works site (and any other sites that become a part of this process), including but not limited to:

- A general plan of development indicating public and private
- uses, intensities, and patterns of built elements, open spaces,
- and supporting circulation patterns and infrastructure
- requirements;
- An economic model demonstrating the feasibility of each
- scenario, including the potential financial or other support
- required of the City of Edina to ensure each scenario is
- financially feasible and ultimately successful for the city and
- the partner; and
- A staging model illustrating the timing and sequencing of development.

Stage Four: The City Council will consider the alternative scenarios and determine which, if any, is in the best interests of the city. If a scenario is selected, then the City, working with the development partner, will establish terms for an agreement under which the City and the development partner will work exclusively to pursue the selected development scenario.

While the City expects this process will result in a supportable development scenario, other approaches are encouraged and will be considered as a part of the initial submittal of a Letter of Interest.



Parcel ID: 06-028-24-41-0075	A-T-B: Both	Map Scale: 1" ≈ 200 ft.	
Owner Name: Ellipse On Excelsior Llc	Market Total: \$20,653,800	Print Date: 5/19/2014	
Parcel Address: 46 Address Pending St. Louis Park, MN 00000	Tax Total: \$469,553.72 (Payable: 2014)	This map is a compilation of data from various sources and is furnished "AS IS" with no representation or warranty expressed or implied, including fitness of any particular purpose, merchantability, or the accuracy and completeness of the information shown.	
Property Type: Apartment	Sale Price:		
Home-stead: Non-Homestead	Sale Date:		
Parcel Area: 2.16 acres 94,155 sq ft	Sale Code:	COPYRIGHT © HENNEPIN COUNTY 2014	

Heather Branigin

From: Thomas Nelson <thomasmnelson@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 4:44 PM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Scott Neal; Cary Teague; Jim Nelson
Subject: TCF Bank Site 3330 W. 66th Street - Potential Comp Plan Amendment
Attachments: TCF Bank Site Letter to City.pdf; ATT00001.htm

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council,

We own the adjacent property and enclosed is a letter with our position on the potential amending of the Comprehensive Plan. Contact me anytime if you have questions or wish to discuss.

Thank you for your consideration,

-Tom 612.805.9369

Thomas M. Nelson
EBERHARDT PROPERTIES, INC.
Minneapolis & St. Paul, MN
612.805.9369

*EDINA EAST LLC
c/o Eberhardt Properties, Inc.
333 Washington Avenue North #300
Minneapolis MN 55401*

May 19, 2014

Via email to:

Mayor Jim Hovland &
Members of the Edina City Council

RE: Tuesday, May 20th Council Meeting

**Proposed Redevelopment Plan – Sketch Plan Review
TCF Bank Building – (“Subject Site”)
3330 West 66th Street, Edina MN 55435**

Dear Mayor Hovland & Members of the Council:

We own the property immediately east at 3316 West 66th Street (the “Edina East Building”), which we purchased from the tax-exempt American Cancer Society in 2004 and redeveloped for medical and commercial use in 2006. Both our property and the Subject Site are located within the City of Edina’s prized and consistently growing Regional Medical District (the “RMD”).

Significant capital was invested to re-purpose the Edina East Building by ownership and our tenants, Dermatology Specialists, PA and Peoples Bank of Commerce. The magnitude of use was increased, the property was added back to Edina’s commercial property tax rolls and it is now a viable component the RMD.

These efforts in 2006 were only an initial step toward realizing the full re-development potential afforded by the zoning guidelines of the RMD as part of the City’s 2008 Comprehensive Plan. The guidelines allow for up to 12 stories of height to accommodate a variety of intense uses that have synergy with the RMD’s long standing anchor, Fairview Southdale Hospital and its ever expanding volume of surgery centers, medical office space, clinics, laboratories, general office and other supportive commercial uses. The district is zoned this way because represents an important part of Edina’s current and future reputation as a nationally recognized top tier community with the ability to attract the type of uses afforded by having a thriving RMD across the street from regional mall.

We oppose amending the Comprehensive Plan to allow for any non-confirming use that will dilute the full potential of the RMD’s zoning allowances. In particular we object because the Subject Site represents a small, but centrally located primary corner on one of only two north-south arteries through the RMD (Barrie Road). Allowing for a small,

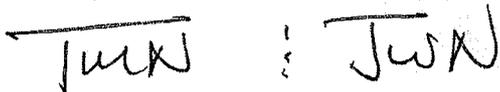
Mayor Hovland
Members of Edina City Council
May 19, 2014
Page 2

non-conforming use on a key corner could negatively affect larger re-developments that may involve assembly of parcels and/or require these corners for proper access and visibility.

We further oppose as the City has an abundance of other districts where it could accommodate the proposed use where all involved could gain from its intended benefits without having to compromise the benefits of an important site within a thriving, well planned and dedicated Regional Medical District.

We hope that the City can work with the developer to identify these locations and that their project can continue to move forward.

Very truly yours,
EDINA EAST LLC

Handwritten signatures of Thomas M. Nelson and James W. Nelson, separated by a vertical line.

Thomas M. Nelson & James W. Nelson
Its Members

CC Scott Neal, Edina City Manager
Carey Teague, Edina Community Development Director

Heather Branigin

From: LOIS RING <llrdesigns@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 8:53 PM
To: Lynette Biunno
Subject: For City Council

I support Kim Montgomery's Grandview project letter of recommendations.

*Lois Ring
7440 Edinborough Way
Edina*

Tim Broadt
p: 610-627-1422
f: 610-565-9264
tbroadt@broadtlaw.com

TIM BROADT
ASSOCIATES
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Hillhurst, 216 South Orange Street, Media, Pennsylvania 19063

A Professional Corporation

May 16, 2014

Mayor Hovland & City Council Members
City of Edina
4801 W. 50th St.
Edina, MN 55424

RE: EDINA REGIONAL MEDICAL DISTRICT – NOVACARE OUTPATIENT REHABILITATION

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

I am council to NovaCare Outpatient Rehabilitation. My client operates a 4,000 square foot physical and occupational therapy clinic at 6515 Barrie Road, Edina, Minnesota. They have enjoyed success at this facility. Since many of NovaCare's patients have difficulty walking, the availability of parking is always a crucial factor when they select potential locations.

It has come to our attention that Edina is considering a real estate project which will create thirty-nine (39) dwelling units but only twenty-five (25) parking stalls. Further, your proposed zoning changes may encourage additional residential developments with additional parking pressures. On behalf of my client, we strongly suggest you take no action which may impair or limit the availability of parking in the Edina Regional Medical district. To put it bluntly, if NovaCare's patients begin to experience difficulty finding parking, NovaCare will begin to look for a new site.

Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,



TIM BROADT

THB/dnl

Cc: D. Berkeland via email
C. Jetzer via email
R. Watts via email



May 17, 2014

Dear Mayor Hovland:

Thank you for your continued commitment to environmental issues in the City of Edina. We are very pleased about the launch of the new organics program at 50th and France at the end of April.

As you may recall, Edina Go Green ("EGG") would like the City to adopt a resolution to help reduce the use of single use bags in Edina. Our proposed resolution is enclosed for your review. As we wrote to you and other City Council members late in February, our ultimate goal is to ban single use plastic bags here, as this has been done in progressive communities all over the world. We believe this resolution is an important step toward demonstrating the commitment of our elected officials and increasing community awareness of this important issue which has gained even more momentum nationally in just the past few months:

- At the end of March, Dallas became the largest of nine cities in Texas to pass an ordinance restricting the use of plastic bags;
- In April, the Chicago City Council began discussing a ban on plastic bags. "The time has come for us to move forward into the 21st century and expect more from our businesses and ourselves" said the Chairman of the Health and Environmental Protection committee;
- Perhaps you also saw the Star Tribune story earlier this week that Minneapolis is taking steps toward becoming a "zero waste" city;
- Next week the Minneapolis City Council will vote whether to ban foam food containers; and,
- In all, about 130 municipalities all across the U.S. have some form of ban on plastic bags and/or a fee on single use bags as tracked by the Surfrider Foundation.

Once you have had the opportunity to review our enclosed resolution, we would like to meet to discuss any concerns you may have and what additional steps you recommend in order to secure the signatures of all members of the Edina City Council.

Thanks very much for all you do to make this a great place to live,

EDINA GO GREEN

Melody Chestler

Meg Davidson

Laura Davis

Aileen Foley

Louann Waddick

Mary Werbalowsky

Sarah Zarrin

City of Edina
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REDUCING SINGLE USE BAGS

WHEREAS 380 billion single use plastic bags are used in the United States every year;

WHEREAS 1.6 billion gallons of oil are used to produce 380 billion plastic bags;

WHEREAS most plastic bags are used once, discarded and not recycled;

WHEREAS it takes about 1000 years for a plastic bag to break down in a landfill;

WHEREAS the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency estimates that plastic shopping bags made up approximately 68,000 tons of the trash disposed in the State in 2013:

WHEREAS the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (formerly Environmental Assistance) has been promoting the use of reusable bags since the early 1990s and values efforts of communities to shift towards the use of reusable bags;

WHEREAS the City of Edina prides itself on its quality of life which includes well-maintained parks, walking and bike paths, and other public amenities; and,

WHEREAS fewer single use bags would reduce the amount of litter entering local storm drains, creeks, ponds and lakes; and,

WHEREAS consumers' use of reusable bags would reduce the negative economic and environmental impacts associated with the production and use of single use bags;

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved, the Edina City Council, Hennepin County, Minnesota, supports the efforts of Edina Go Green to raise community awareness of the negative effects of single use bags and to promote the use of reusable bags.

Adopted this ___ day of _____, 2014

Mayor Jim Hovland

Councilmember Joni Bennett

Councilmember Mary Brindle

Councilmember Josh Sprague

Councilmember Ann Swenson

Surfrider Foundation

Plastic Bag Bans and Fees

This page includes a list of checkout bag legislation across the United States. Most ordinances are plastic bag bans and the most effective ones include a small fee on paper bags to encourage more reusable bags. The only ordinances covering a fee on both plastic and paper bags are in Washington DC, Montgomery County MD, various Colorado communities and Brownsville, Texas. Please email any additions or edits to rap@surfrider.org



Check out the [Rise Above Plastics program page](#) to find more info on plastic pollution and how to get involved in plastic litter reductions. [Click Here](#) for a list of current Surfrider Foundation campaigns.

ALASKA - 2 Ordinances Covering 2 Municipalities

Bethel - [Passed by City Council](#) in 2009 and effective September 2010.

Hooper Bay - Effective August 2009.

CALIFORNIA - 67 Ordinances Covering 88 Municipalities

[Alameda County](#) and City, Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Oakland, Piedmont, Pleasanton, San Leandro, and Union City - The Alameda County Waste Management Authority adopted its ordinance banning plastic bags and placing a 10 cent price requirement on paper and reusable bags in January of 2012. It goes into effect on January 1, 2013 in unincorporated Alameda County as well as its 14 incorporated cities.

[Belmont](#) - Belmont adopted their Reusable Bag Ordinance in January of 2013. All retail stores will be prohibited from using single-use plastic carryout bags and may sell paper or reusable bags for a small charge. Effective 4/22/13.

[Brisbane](#) - The Brisbane City Council adopted the San Mateo County's Reusable Bag Ordinance on March 18, 2013. All retail stores will be prohibited from using single-use plastic carryout bags and may sell paper or reusable bags for a small charge. Effective 4/22/13.

[Burlingame](#) - The Burlingame City Council adopted the San Mateo County's Reusable Bag Ordinance on March 18, 2013. All retail stores will be prohibited from using single-use plastic carryout bags and may sell paper or reusable bags for a small charge. Effective 4/22/13.

[Calabasas](#) - The Calabasas City Council unanimously adopted a plastic bag ban with a minimum ten cent price requirement on paper bags in February 2011.

[Campbell City](#) - The Campbell City Council adopted the San Mateo County's Reusable Bag Ordinance in July 2013. All retail stores will be prohibited from using single-use plastic carryout

bags and may sell paper or reusable bags for a small charge. Effective January 2014.

Capitola - Capitola City Council passed the final reading for a 'plastic checkout bag ban / 25 cent fee on paper' ordinance on January 10, 2013. Their ordinance will go in effect on April 10, 2013.

Carmel-by-the-Sea - Carmel adopted a plastic bag ban in all retail stores on July 3, 2012. It goes into effect on February 3, 2013.

Carpinteria - Carpinteria adopted the first double bag ban in the state on March 12, 2012. Starting in July 2012, large retailers as specified are prohibited from distributing single-use paper and plastic bags. Starting in April 2013, plastic bags are banned in all other retail stores.

Colma- Colma Town Council adopted a **Reusable Bag Ordinance** on January 9, 2013. All retail stores will be prohibited from using single-use plastic carryout bags and may sell paper or reusable bags for a small charge. Effective 4/22/13.

Culver City - Culver City Council unanimously adopted a **Carryout Bag Ordinance** that bans plastic checkout bags and places a ten-cent fee on paper bags. The ordinance was passed in May 2013 and is effective November 2013.

Cupertino - Cupertino City Council passed a **reusable bag ordinance** that bans plastic checkout bags and puts a ten cent fee on paper checkout bags. The ordinance was passed January 15, 2013 and will start October 1, 2013.

Daly City - Daly City adopted the San Mateo County **model ordinance** (plastic bag ban, charge on paper or reusables) in January 2013. Operative 4/22/13.

Dana Point - The City of Dana Point adopted a ban on single-use plastic bags from all retail stores within city limits on March 6, 2012. Effective in larger stores April 1, 2013, and all other stores October 1, 2013.

Davis - In October 2013 Davis City Council **finalized a checkout bag ordinance** effective July 1, 2014. The ordinance bans plastic checkout bags while placing a ten-cent fee on paper bags as the incentive to remember reusable bags or go without a bag for small purchases.

East Palo Alto - On April 2, 2013, the City of East Palo Alto adopted the San Mateo County's Reusable Bag Ordinance (ban on plastic bags and charge on paper/reusable bags in all retail stores). Effective October 2, 2013.

El Cerrito - On **September 17th**, the El Cerrito City Council Finalized their plastic checkout bag ban ordinance that includes a ten-cent fee on paper bags. Effective January 1st, 2014.

Fairfax - The Fairfax City Council adopted its ban on plastic bags August 2007. After a legal challenge by the plastics industry, Fairfax voters overwhelmingly adopted a plastic bag ban by initiative in November 2008.

Foster City - The Foster City gave final approval on January 8, 2013 for a plastic checkout bag ban and ten cent fee on paper bags.

Fort Bragg - Fort Bragg banned plastic bags and required a 10 cent paper bag charge in all

retail stores. The ordinance was adopted May 14, 2012. Effective in large stores December 10, 2012, expanding to all other stores in December 2013.

Glendale - Glendale City Council gave final approval on January 22, 2013 for a plastic checkout bag ban and ten cent fee on paper bags. The ordinance is set to begin on July 1, 2013 and fully take effect on January 1, 2014.

Half Moon Bay - [Half Moon Bay City Council gave approval](#) on February 19, 2013 for a plastic checkout bag ban and ten cent fee on paper bags. Half Moon Bay joins other cities in San Mateo County that have adopted the model ordinance developed by the County Board of Supervisors. The ordinance is set to take effect on April 22, 2013.

Huntington Beach - On April 1st, 2013 the Huntington Beach City Council gave final approval for their 'Reusable Bag Ordinance' that bans plastic checkout bags and puts a ten-cent pass-through fee on paper bags at high volume retailers such as grocery and convenience stores. The ordinance is set to take effect on November 1st 2013.

Laguna Beach - In February 2012, the Laguna Beach City Council unanimously adopted a plastic bag ban in all retail stores. Grocery stores, pharmacies, and convenience/liquor stores must include a 10 cent minimum price requirement on paper bags distributed. Effective 1/1/13.

Long Beach - On May 17, 2011, the City of Long Beach passed a bag ordinance with a 5-0 vote. It banned single-use plastic bags and placed a 10 cent minimum price requirement on paper bags. The ordinance is effective in larger stores starting August 2011, and will expand to others stores in 2012.

Los Altos - The City adopted the San Mateo County's Reusable Bag Ordinance in 2013. All retail stores will be prohibited from using single-use plastic carryout bags and may sell paper or reusable bags for a small charge. Effective 7/4/13.

Los Gatos - In September 2013, Los Gatos Town Council gave final approval for a [plastic bag ban](#) with ten cent fee on paper bags that goes into effect February 2014.

City of Los Angeles - In June 2013 the LA City Council and Mayor Villaragosa gave final approval to a plastic checkout bag ban and ten-cent fee on paper bags at grocery stores, food retailers and liquor/convenience stores. The ordinance is effective for large supermarkets and retailers starting January 2014, and expands to other applicable stores in July of 2014.

Los Angeles County - Los Angeles County adopted an ordinance banning single-use plastic bags and placing a 10 cent minimum price requirement on paper bags in November 2010. The ordinance is effective for large supermarkets and retailers starting July 2011, and expands to other applicable stores in January of 2012.

Malibu - The Malibu City Council voted in May 2008 to ban plastic bags.

Manhattan Beach - The Manhattan Beach City council voted in July 2008 to ban plastic bags. The CA Supreme Court overturned a legal challenge to the ordinance in July 2011.

Marin County - Marin County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously in favor of an

ordinance restricting the free distribution of single-use bags in January 2011, effective January 2012.

Mendocino County - The County Board of Supervisors adopted a plastic bag ban with a ten cent paper bag charge on June 12, 2012. Effective in large stores in January 2013, and expanding to all other retailers one year later.

Menlo Park - Menlo Park City Council gave final approval January 22, 2013 for a plastic checkout bag ban and ten cent fee on paper bags. Menlo Park joins other cities in San Mateo County that have adopted the model ordinance developed by the County Board of Supervisors. The ordinance is set to take effect on April 22, 2013.

Millbrae - On February 14, 2012, the Millbrae City Council adopted a plastic bag ban with a 10 cent requirement on paper bags. The ordinance goes into effect on September 1, 2012 in all retail establishments, except for restaurants, non-profits, and dry-cleaners.

Mill Valley - In October 2013, Mill Valley City Council gave final approval to a [plastic bag ban](#) with five cent charge on paper/reusable bags in grocery, convenience, and drug stores.

Monterey - The Monterey City Council unanimously passed an ordinance on December 6, 2011. The ordinance bans plastic bags and places an initial 10 cent minimum price requirement on paper bags for the first year (25 cents after).

Morgan Hill - The Morgan Hill City Council [unanimously passed a checkout bag ordinance](#) for food and/or liquor retailers that bans plastic checkout bags and places a ten-cent fee on paper checkout bags. The ordinance was passed in October 2013 and is effective April 22nd, 2014.

City of Mountain View - Mountain View City Council passed a carryout bag ordinance in December 2012 that will ban plastic bags and place a ten-cent fee on paper bag at local grocers and food retailers starting on Earth Day in April 2013.

Ojai - Ojai adopted a plastic bag ban on April 10, 2012. Grocery stores may distribute paper bags with 10 cent price requirement. Effective July 1, 2012 in all retail stores.

Pacifica - In December 2012, the City of Pacifica adopted a Reusable Bag Ordinance similar to the San Mateo County Ordinance. Ban on plastic bags and charge on paper/reusable bags in all retail stores. Effective 4/22/13.

Palo Alto - The Palo Alto City Council voted March 2009 to ban plastic bags at large supermarkets and announced their intention to consider expanding the ban to cover all retail stores as well as enacting a fee on paper bags.

Pasadena - In November of 2011, the Pasadena City Council unanimously adopted a plastic bag ban with a 10 cent minimum price requirement on paper bags. Effective July 1, 2012 for large stores and supermarkets and December 2012 for convenience stores.

Portola Valley - Portola Valley Town Council gave [approval by reference](#) on January 23, 2013 for a plastic checkout bag ban and ten cent fee on paper bags. Portola Valley joins other municipalities in San Mateo County that have adopted the model ordinance developed by the County Board of Supervisors. The ordinance is set to take effect on April 22, 2013.

Pittsburg - The [Pittsburg City Council](#) finalized a checkout bag ordinance for all retailers in October 2013 that is effective January 15, 2014. The ordinance bans plastic checkout bags and includes a ten cent fee on paper bags that increases to fifteen cents after one year and twenty five cents after two years.

Redwood City - The [Redwood City Council](#) adopted the San Mateo County model ordinance (plastic bag ban, charge on paper or reusables) in March 2013. The ordinance is set to take effect on October 1st 2013.

Richmond - The Richmond City Council gave final approval July 16, 2013 for an ordinance that includes plastic checkout bag ban and ten cent fee on paper bags. Richmond is the first city in Contra Costa county to adopt a plastic checkout bag ban.

San Bruno - San Bruno City Council gave final approval January 22, 2013 for a plastic checkout bag ban and ten cent fee on paper bags. San Bruno joins other cities in San Mateo County that have adopted the model ordinance developed by the County Board of Supervisors. The ordinance is set to take effect on April 22, 2013.

San Carlos - [San Carlos City Council](#) gave final approval in March 2013 for a plastic checkout bag ban and ten cent fee on paper bags. San Carlos joins other cities in San Mateo County that have adopted the model ordinance developed by the County Board of Supervisors. The ordinance is set to take effect on July 1, 2013.

San Francisco - San Francisco became the first city in the nation to adopt a ban on plastic shopping bags in April 2007. In February of 2012, the Board of Supervisors voted to expand the ordinance to more stores.

San Jose - San Jose City Council voted and adopted a ban on single use plastic carryout bags in January 2011. The ban will extend to all retailers in the city, exempting restaurants and non-profit reuse organizations. It is effective January 1, 2012. For the first two years, paper bags will be sold under this ordinance at 10 cents each; after two years the minimum price per paper bag is 25 cents each.

San Mateo City - San Mateo City Council voted to approve a [Reusable Bag Ordinance](#) based on the model ordinance developed by the County Board of Supervisors on May 6, 2013. The ordinance effective on June 6, 2013 includes a ban on plastic checkout bag and ten cent fee on paper bags that increases to 25 cents on January 1st, 2015.

San Mateo County - The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors on October 23 2012 voted 5-0 to ban plastic checkout bags at stores in unincorporated areas effective April 23, 2013. At that point, paper checkout bags will cost 10 cents, increasing to 25 cents in January 2015.

San Luis Obispo County and City, Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Grover Beach, Morro Bay, Paso Robles, Pismo Beach - The San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority adopted a plastic bag ban with a 10 cent minimum price requirement on paper bags in January of 2012. It goes into effect on 10/1/12 in all seven incorporated cities as well as unincorporated areas of the county.

San Pablo - In October 2013, The San Pablo City Council [approved a plastic bag ban ordinance](#) which will be effective on January 1, 2014. The ordinance prohibits the

distribution of plastic checkout bags in retail stores (i.e. supermarkets and clothing stores) and requires retailers to charge customers 5 cents for a paper bag (increased to 10 cents in 2 years). The purpose of the ordinance is to encourage residents to bring their own reusable bags.

Santa Barbara City - On October 15th, 2013 the Santa Barbara City Council gave final approval to a citywide plastic checkout bag ban at all food retailers in the city that is scheduled to take effect in six months at larger stores then twelve months at small stores. The ordinance includes a ban on plastic checkout bag and ten-cent fee on paper checkout bags at grocery stores and other retailers that sell groceries as the incentive to remember your reusable bag or go without a bag for small purchases.

Santa Clara County - On April 26, 2011, the County Board of Supervisors voted in favor of a single-use bag ordinance. The ordinance bans single-use plastic bags and places a 15 cent minimum price requirement on single-use paper bags throughout unincorporated county areas. It is effective January 1, 2012.

Santa Cruz City - The City Council adopted a plastic bag ban and 10 cent paper bag charge on July 24. Effective in all retail stores starting April 2013.

Santa Cruz County - On September 13, 2011, the County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously in favor of a single-use bag ordinance. It bans single-use plastic bags and places a 10 cent minimum price requirement on single-use paper bags throughout unincorporated county areas. It is effective March 20, 2012 and was expanded in 2013 to include restaurants.

Santa Monica - The Santa Monica City Council unanimously voted for a ban on single-use plastic bags and a cost pass-through requirement per recyclable paper bag in January 2011. Visit their website for more information.

Solana Beach - On May 9, 2012, Solana Beach became the first city in San Diego County to adopt a plastic bag ban. Paper bags can be purchased for ten cents each under the ordinance.

South Lake Tahoe - South Lake Tahoe City Council [adopted an ordinance](#) to ban the use of plastic bags on October 15, 2013. The law will take effect Jan. 15 for grocers and food vendors and Oct. 15, 2014

South San Francisco - City Council in December 2012 passed a plastic checkout bag ban and ten cent fee on paper bags. South San Francisco joins other cities in San Mateo County that have adopted the model ordinance developed by the County Board of Supervisors. The ordinance is set to take effect on April 22, 2013

Sunnyvale - Sunnyvale passed a bag ordinance in December 2011. The ordinance bans single-use plastic bags and places a 10 cent minimum price requirement on paper bags which later increases to 25 cents. Starting June 20, 2012 it covers grocery and convenience stores and large retailers, and expands to cover all retailers by March 2013.

Ukiah - City Council adopted an ordinance on May 2, 2012 banning plastic bags and placing a 10 cent charge on paper bags in all retail stores. The ban is operative starting in large stores within six months of adoption.

[Watsonville](#) - On May 8, 2012, Watsonville became the first city in Santa Cruz County to ban plastic bags in all retail stores. An initial 10 cent charge on paper bags is mandated to increase to 25 cents after the first year.

[West Hollywood](#) - City Council adopted a plastic bag ban with 10 cent paper charge on August 20, 2012. Effective in large stores in six months, all other retail stores in one year.

(Paper bag fees on California ordinances stay with the retailer to help offset their bag costs.)

COLORADO - 5 ordinances covering 5 municipalities.

Aspen - City Council passed a plastic bag ban and 20 cent fee on paper bags in August 2011, effective May 2012.

Boulder - [City Council passed an ordinance](#) that places a 10 cent fee on both plastic and paper bags at all food stores on November 15, 2012 that will be effective in July 2013.

Breckenridge - [Breckenridge Town Council voted unanimously](#) in April 2013 to approve a 10-cent fee on paper and plastic bags at all local retail and grocery stores. The [ordinance](#) is effective October 1, 2013.

Carbondale - City Council passed a plastic bag ban and 20 cent fee on paper bags in 2011. The vote was [confirmed by voters](#) in April 2012 and was effective May 2012.

Telluride - Town Council passed a plastic bag ban and 10 cent fee on paper bags in 2010, effective March 2011.

CONNECTICUT - 1 ordinance covering 1 municipality.

Westport - Town Representatives passed a [plastic checkout bag ban](#) in September 2008 and effective since March 2009.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA - 1 ordinance covering 1 municipality.

[Washington, DC](#) - Five cent fee on both plastic and paper checkout bags. Approved by City Council in 2009 and effective January 2010. Funds from the fees collected go to help keep the Anacosta River healthy. This ordinance has been deemed a [big success](#) by reducing litter and increasing reusable bags.

FLORIDA - 1 voluntary resolution covering 1 municipality.

[St. Augustine](#) - We typically do not include voluntary efforts here but Florida is one of the few states that limits 'home rule' in regards to plastic bag ordinances. Since local municipalities can't pass a plastic bag ban, Flagler College students are working with St. Augustine City Commissioners and local businesses to voluntarily eliminate plastic checkout bags citywide. The resolution was approved in March 2013.

HAWAII - 4 ordinances covering the entire state.

[All four Counties/Islands have passed a plastic bag ban!](#)

IOWA - 1 ordinance covering 1 municipality.

Marshall County - Board of Supervisors passed a plastic bag ban in 2009 for stores in the unincorporated areas of the county.

MARYLAND - 2 ordinances covering 21 municipalities.

Chestertown - [City Council passed](#) a plastic bag ban that was effective January 2012. One local grocer claimed it might have to close its doors if a plastic bag ban passed but [decided to expand the store](#) a few months after the ban passed.

Montgomery County - [Montgomery County passed legislation](#) effective January 2012 that places a five-cent charge on each paper or plastic carryout bag provided by retail establishments in the County to customers at the point of sale, pickup or delivery. Retailers retain one cent of the fee and the remainder will be deposited into the County's Water Quality Protection Charge fund. The revenues will effectively shift the burden of litter clean up costs from public taxpayers to consumers who have a choice to avoid the 5-cent charge by bringing reusable bags.

MASSACHUSETTS - 4 ordinances covering 4 municipalities.

Brookline - Brookline residents [voted in a plastic bag ban](#) at their November 14th Town Meeting after the idea was submitted by a local resident and approved by the town's Advisory Committee. Set to take effect December 1st, 2013.

Great Barrington - Voters at the annual town meeting [approved the ban on plastic bags](#) in May 2013 that is set to be effective January 2014.

Manchester - [Residents approved a ban](#) on markets' and other stores' distribution of single-use plastic bags in April 2013 during Manchester's Annual Town Meeting. Article 25, which passed by acclamation and without a roll call vote, effectively bans the use of thin filmed plastic bags, commonly found at convenience stores, grocery stores and pharmacies. Effective July 1, 2013.

Nantucket - Plastic bag ban in effect since 1990.

NEW MEXICO - 1 ordinance covering 1 municipality.

Santa Fe - Santa Fe City Council [passed a plastic checkout bag ban](#) with a ten-cent fee on paper bags in August 2013.

NEW YORK - 5 ordinances covering 5 municipalities.

East Hampton - Plastic bag ban passed by the Village Board in July 2011 and effective February 2012.

Larchmont - The Village of Larchmont [passed a plastic checkout bag ban](#) in March 2013, effective October 2013.

Mamaroneck - Plastic bag ban [passed by the Village Board](#) in July 2012 and effective February 2013.

Rye - Plastic bag ban passed by City Council in December 2011 and effective May 2012.

Southampton - Plastic bag ban passed in April 2011 and effective November 2011.

NORTH CAROLINA - 1 ordinance covering 9 municipalities.

Outer Banks - [Plastic checkout bag ban](#) for the Counties of Hyde, Dare and Currituck effective since October 2010.

OREGON - 3 ordinances covering 3 municipalities.

[Corvallis](#) - City Council adopted the first plastic bag ban with a 10 cent paper charge on July 2, 2012. The ordinance is scheduled to take effect for large retailers in January 2013 and six months later for small retailers, as defined in the ordinance language.

Eugene - City Council passed a 'plastic bag ban / 5 cent fee on paper checkout bag' ordinance on October 22, 2012. The ordinance is scheduled to take effect April 2012.

Portland - City Council passed a plastic bag ban ordinance for food stores that went into effect in October 2011. UPDATE: November 15, 2012 City Council voted to [expand the plastic checkout ban to all retailers](#) by October 1, 2013.

(Paper bag fees on Oregon ordinances stay with the retailer to help offset their bag costs.)

TEXAS - 9 ordinances covering 9 municipalities.

[Austin](#) - Begins March 1, 2013 and disposable plastic and paper bags will be banned at all retailers within City of Austin .

Brownsville - This ordinance calls for a \$1.00 fee per transaction for plastic or paper checkout bags. City Commission [passed the ordinance](#) in September 2010, effective January 2011.

Freer - Freer City Council passed an ordinance banning plastic bags in December 2012 that is effective June 2, 2013.

Fort Stockton - Plastic bag ban passed February 2011 and effective September 2011.

Kermit - Kermit City Council [passed an ordinance](#) in July 2013 that will ban plastic checkout bags and place a ten-cent fee on paper bags that is effective October 2013.

Laguna Vista - [Town Council passed](#) a plastic bag ban in September 2012 that is effective January 1, 2013.

Laredo - In August 2013, Laredo City Council [passed a plastic checkout bag ban](#) and ten cent fee on paper bags that is effective January 2014.

[South Padre Island](#) - Plastic bag ban passed January 2011 and effective January 2012.

Sunset Valley - Sunset Valley City Council voted 4-0 to [ban plastic and paper checkout bags](#) during its Feb. 19, 2013 meeting. The ordinance is similar to Austin's and is effective September 1st, 2013.

RHODE ISLAND - 1 ordinance covering 1 municipality.

[Barrington](#) - Plastic bag ban passed by City Council in October 2012, effective 1/1/13.

WASHINGTON - 11 ordinances covering 11 municipalities.

Bainbridge Island - City Council [passed an ordinance](#) that calls for a plastic bag ban with a 5 cent fee on paper checkout bags. Passed in April 2012 and effective November 1st 2012.

[Bellingham](#) - Passed unanimously by City Council in July 2011, effective July 2012.

Edmonds - In 2009 City Council [passed an ordinance](#) to ban plastic bags at all retail establishments that is effective since August 2010.

Issaquah - The Issaquah City Council [adopted an ordinance in 2012](#) that bans single-use, plastic carryout bags at retail stores. The plastic bag ban will follow a phased approach, applying to larger retailers March 1, 2013, and smaller retailers March 1, 2014.

Mukilteo - In December 2011 City Council [passed an ordinance](#) to ban plastic bags at all retail establishments that is effective January 1st 2012.

Olympia - In October 2013, [Olympia City Council unanimously passed](#) a Reusable Bag Ordinance Based on the Thurston County model. The ordinance bans plastic checkout bags at all retailers and includes a minimum five cent fee on paper bags as the incentive to remember reusable bags or go without a bag for small purchases. Effective July 1, 2014.

Port Townsend - City Council [passed an ordinance](#) that calls for a plastic bag ban with a 5 cent fee on paper checkout bags. Passed in July 2012 and effective November 1st 2012.

[Seattle](#) - Seattle City Council voted 9-0 in 2011 to pass a citywide bill that will ban plastic bags and require a five cent fee on paper bags at checkout. Grocers and most retailers are covered by the bill.

Shoreline - Shoreline City Council [voted 5-1 in April 2013](#) to ban plastic checkout bags and place a five cent fee on paper bags effective February 2014.

Thurston County - In September 2013 the Thurston County, WA Board of Supervisors [passed a Reusable Bag Ordinance](#) for the unincorporated areas of the county. The ordinance bans plastic checkout bags at all retailers and includes a minimum five cent fee on paper bags as the incentive to remember reusable bags or go without a bag for small purchases. Effective July 1, 2014.

Turnwater - In September 2013, [Turnwater City Council passed](#) a [Reusable Bag Ordinance](#) Based on the Thurston County model. The ordinance bans plastic checkout bags at all retailers and includes a minimum five cent fee on paper bags as the incentive to remember reusable bags or go without a bag for small purchases. Effective July 1, 2014.

UPDATED November 13, 2013.

Info compiled from Surfrider Foundation Chapter Activists, our friends at [Californians Against Waste](#), [PlasticBagLaws.org](#) and various other online sources.

INTERNATIONAL (email additions to rap@surfrider.org)

Australia - The [Government of South Australia](#) enacted a ban on plastic checkout bags effective May 2009 while the [Northern Territory](#) has a similar ban effective since September 2011. The [Australian Capitol Territory](#) passed and enacted their plastic bag ban in 2011 also. [Woorabinda](#) is the first city in Queensland with a plastic bag ban, effective November 2012. [Fremantle](#) was the first city in West Australia to ban thin plastic bags in January, 2013. [Tasmania](#) passed a plastic checkout bag ban in 2013 that is effective November 2013.

Bangladesh - In 2002 Bangladesh was the first country to ban plastic bags, a big reason was that littered bags exacerbated flooding. [Results have been mixed](#) due to a lack of enforcement.

Cameroon - In August 2013, authorities in Cameroon have begun rolling out a [campaign to eliminate non-degradable plastic bags](#) by early 2014.

Chile - In June 2013, [Pucon](#) became the first city to address plastic litter with a plastic bag ban.

China - In 2008 China banned the manufacture or use of the thinnest types of plastic bags. They also prohibit supermarkets, department stores, and grocery stores from giving away thicker varieties, requiring them to charge customers for the bags. The government [claims big reductions](#) while others claim more enforcement is needed.

[Haiti](#) - Haiti's government ordered a plastic bag and foam foodware ban effective October 2012 but early reports claim a lack of enforcement as alternatives are sourced.

India - Efforts are underway to ban plastic bags in various parts of the country but there are no solid reports of effective programs or legislation to date.

Ireland - One of the first plastic bag reduction programs on a large scale started in Ireland in 2002 with their plastic bag fee. The [latest figures](#) (in 2013) suggest there has been a 20-fold decrease since the levy was introduced in 2002.

Italy - In 2011 the Italian government announced a nationwide plastic checkout bag effective March 2012. Merchants must [discontinue the use of traditional single-use plastic bags](#) in favor of bioplastic bags that are biodegradable and compostable or meet other specific requirements.

Ivory Coast - The Prime Minister announced a [law banning the production, use and selling of plastic bags](#) in the Ivory Coast effective December 2013.

Mali - The Malian government will [ban the production, importation, possession, sale and use](#) of non-biodegradable plastic bags, under a law passed in 2012 and effective 2013.

Mauritania - "Mauritania has [banned the use of plastic bags](#) to protect the environment and the lives of land and sea animals. More than 70% of cattle and sheep that die in the capital, Nouakchott, are killed by eating plastic bags, environment ministry official Mohamed Yahya."

Northern Ireland - The Northern Ireland Executive passed the [Carrier Bag Levy](#) in 2011 and it is effective April 2013. Retailers in Northern Ireland charge at least five pence for each carrier bag handed out to customers, as part of a drive across the province to reduce plastic

waste.

Pakistan - The Islamabad Capital Territory [passed a plastic bag ban](#) that takes effect on April 1, 2013. This law bans conventional plastic bag but allows for 'oxo biodegradable' bags, which allows bags to degrade into plastic pieces quicker. Not the best solution.

Phillippeans - The Philippines financial capital of Makati has [banned disposable plastic shopping bags](#) and EPS foam food containers starting in June 2013. The law is partly to help deal with increased flooding from plastic litter.

Rwanda - A countrywide ban on plastic bags was enacted in 2008 with [positive reports through to late 2013](#).

South Africa - A countrywide levy on plastic checkout bags went into effect in May 2003 with proceeds intended to fund a national recycling program. Reports have been mixed: plastic bag consumption is down and litter is likely down but there is no data to accurately report on litter. A [2010 analysis](#) concluded that the levy was too low to be truly effective.

Tanzania - A countrywide ban on plastic bags has been urged by the federal governemnt since 1996 with minimal results. [Pembra Island](#) has been successful in curbing plastic bag litter according to a 2012 news story.

Wales - The Welsh Government has introduced a [5p minimum charge on all bags](#) (including paper bags) effective October 2011.

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Statewide

MPR News From our outstate correspondents

Grand Rapids first Minnesota city to enter plastic bag fray

 **Dan Kraker** December 13, 2013, 10:27 AM

Earlier this week Grand Rapids became the first Minnesota locality to take a stand against plastic shopping bags, when the City Council unanimously passed a resolution urging citizens to “work toward decreasing their consumption of plastic bags” by instead shopping with reusable bags.



A plastic bag along Park Point on Lake Superior in Duluth. (photo courtesy of Shawna MullenEardley)

The council did not impose a ban or fee on plastic bags, something dozens of cities and

Pat Helmberger with the local group Earth Circle, which pushed the ordinance, said they wanted to take a more positive approach.

“We thought that was a good place to start to get the city council behind us,” she said. “We’ll use that resolution to encourage owners of stores to push reusable bags. We think people here are intelligent people. We’re just depending on the goodwill of the people here.”

Whether goodwill is enough to change behavior remains to be seen.

Wayne Gjerde, Recycling Market Development Coordinator for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, says Grand Rapids’ action is the first official city resolution in Minnesota he’s heard of addressing plastic bag use.

Statewide, Gjerde says about 193,000 tons of “film” plastic are thrown away each year. About 35 percent of that – roughly 68,000 tons - is made up by plastic shopping bags. Nationwide, an estimated 380 billion plastic bags are used each year.

In Duluth, a group called Bag It! Duluth has been working to build community support for more than a year to reduce plastic bag use. Shawna MullenEardley, who’s spearheaded the effort, supports charging a small fee for every plastic bag used. She says communities that have adopted bans or fees report an immediate “difference in the amount of plastic bags flying around.”

City Council member Emily Larson is gauging the community’s appetite for action on the issue. She says most places that have adopted plastic bag policies are coastal cities, so it makes sense that Duluth would explore a policy to help protect Lake Superior’s waters.

Larson says she was amazed after they screened the documentary Bag It! in Duluth to receive first a phone call and then a visit from a plastic bag lobbyist. She says whatever Duluth decides to do, it’s clear “this is an issue that will inspire debate, very quickly.”



U.S.

California Endangered Species: Plastic Bags

By IAN LOVETT FEB. 25, 2014

LOS ANGELES — On a recent drizzly day, Esha Moya found herself standing outside a grocery store in South Los Angeles, her half-dozen paper bags falling apart in the rain, wishing she had a few small items that had been free and plentiful her entire life but are now banned in this city: plastic shopping bags.

“I hate this,” said Ms. Moya, a telemarketer and a mother of two. She has begun stockpiling plastic bags at home because paper bags “are always breaking,” she said. “It’s stupid, and it makes it really hard for us.”

A companion to shoppers for a half-century, the plastic bag is now under siege in California, where a growing number of policy makers have come to regard it as a symbol of environmental wastefulness.

Since 2007, plastic shopping bags have been banned in nearly 100 municipalities in the state, including Los Angeles, which at the start of this year became the largest city in the country to enforce such a ban. Paper bags, which are biodegradable and easier to recycle, are often available for a small fee.

And now, lawmakers in Sacramento are trying to make California the first state to approve a blanket ban on this most ubiquitous of consumer products.

“It has become increasingly clear to the public the environmental damage that single-use plastic bags have reaped,” said Alex Padilla, a state senator who is sponsoring legislation for a statewide ban. “This is the beginning of the phaseout of single-use plastic bags — period.”

Mr. Padilla’s measure would ban the bags at supermarkets, liquor stores and other locations where they have long been standbys. Paper bags and more robust, reusable plastic bags will be available for 10 cents, with the goal of forcing shoppers to remember their canvas bags.

The case against plastic shopping bags is simple and, with more than 150

communities across the country embracing some kind of anti-bag laws, increasingly familiar. Plastic bags are used once or twice but can last up to a millennium. Only a small fraction of the bags are recycled, in large part because they jam sorting machines at recycling plants and so must be separated from other plastics. Many bags end up snagged on trees, stuck in storm drains or sitting in landfills.

In just a few years, local bans on plastic bags have spread from San Francisco to Honolulu to the North Shore of Massachusetts. Washington, D.C., has imposed a five-cent fee, and New York City has several times considered charging for bags, most recently last year, when the proposal died at the end of the city's legislative session. The new mayor, Bill de Blasio, has expressed support for a ban on plastic bags.

Many consumers bristle at having to pay for a necessity that has always been free. "We're already struggling," Ms. Moya said as she waited in the rain for a taxi with her disintegrating paper bags, bought for 10 cents each. "Groceries cost enough money. Then I have to pay for bags?"

The plastics industry has worked furiously to tap into that frustration. So far, the industry — behind millions of dollars spent lobbying lawmakers — has managed to beat back efforts to pass statewide bans in California and a handful of other states.

Hilex Poly, one of the nation's largest manufacturers of plastic bags, single-handedly spent more than \$1 million lobbying against a bill to ban plastic in California in 2010. That bill failed, as did another attempt in 2013. Hilex Poly, based in Hartsville, S.C., has made political donations to every Democrat in the California Senate who joined Republicans in voting against last year's bill.

Mark Daniels, a vice president at Hilex Poly, said a ban would cost the state up to 2,000 jobs.

"This is going to cost Californians millions and millions of dollars," Mr. Daniels said of the current legislation. "They're going to have to purchase millions of supposedly reusable bags from China."

But support has been steadily growing in the California Legislature. The Los Angeles Times endorsed a statewide ban last week, and several senators who voted against the ban last year have come out in support of it this year. Some environmentalists say they now believe they have the momentum to push bans

across the country, starting with California.

“It’s very effective, and it’s very cost-effective,” said Kerrie Romanow, director of environmental services for San Jose, Calif.

Since San Jose’s ban took effect in 2012, plastic-bag litter in storm drains, which can contribute to flooding, has fallen by 89 percent. In unincorporated parts of Los Angeles County, large retail stores reported a drop in the use of paper bags since a similar ban, coupled with a 10-cent fee for paper bags, took effect.

“People are adapting very quickly,” Ms. Romanow said. “The days of a single candy bar getting its own plastic bag are over.”

Abbi Waxman, a television writer in Los Angeles, said she had tried for years to wean herself off plastic bags. But despite sidelong looks from grocery store cashiers, she seldom remembered to bring her cloth bags.

Then the 10-cent fee kicked in.

“Once they started charging me, that was the tipping point when I could actually remember to bring my bags,” said Ms. Waxman, 43, standing with a half-dozen reusable bags on a recent shopping trip.

“I have, I’m not kidding, about 40 reusable bags at home, because I feel so guilty when I come without them that I buy more each time,” she said.

Mr. Daniels of Hilex Poly said the plastic bag had been unfairly scapegoated for a variety of environmental ills. Thin plastic bags are reused, he said: They are repurposed as lunch bags and trash can liners, and they come in handy for pet cleanup.

But other plastics manufacturers have begun to embrace the changes in their industry.

“The industry will be destroyed if it’s unwilling to evolve and change,” said Pete Grande, president of Command Packaging in Vernon, Calif., which is starting to produce more heavy-duty reusable bags from recycled agricultural plastic.

Last year, Mr. Grande opposed the bill to ban single-use plastic bags in California. So did the two Democrats who represent Vernon in the State Senate.

This year, they all support the bill, which would allow stores to offer more durable plastic bags for a fee alongside paper ones at the checkout line.

“We lived for thousands of years without single-use plastic bags,” said Mr. Padilla, the bill’s sponsor. “I think we will be just fine without them.”

Matt Hamilton contributed reporting.



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INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT

Dallas Institutes Plastic Bag Tax

BY [THE TEXAS TRIBUNE](#) | MARCH 27, 2014

[By News Staff](#)

5 Amid debate over whether plastic bag bans violate the state's health and safety laws, Dallas on Wednesday became the largest city in Texas to pass an ordinance restricting use of the bags.

7 The Dallas ordinance, which the City Council approved by a vote of 8-6, doesn't ban plastic bags outright. Rather, it limits their use by imposing a 5-cent-per-bag charge on retailers, which will receive 10 percent of the revenue. The rest will go to the city to spend on educating the public about the environmental hazards of plastic bags. The ordinance goes into effect Jan. 1,

0 Dallas joins nine other Texas cities that have enacted similar ordinances.

0 "We're trying to keep a cleaner city by putting a ban on the very thing that hangs on fences lines and trees, that's killing our wildlife and fish and clogging up our sewer systems," said Dallas City Councilman Dwaine Caraway. "It's a predator that is extremely hard to deal with."

- The vote came the last day for cities and groups to submit briefs on bag ordinances to the Texas attorney general's office, which has been asked to determine whether they violate the Texas Health and Safety Code. Dan Flynn R-Canton, wrote a letter earlier this month asking the AG on a section of the code that says a municipality may not pass legislative restrictions or charge fees relating to the consumption of a "container or package" for waste management purposes.

The Texas Retailers Association, which opposes the bag ordinances, approached Flynn about writing the letter.

"It sure looks to us that the plain meaning of the statute's language is that the state meant to stop local governments from adopting ordinances that prohibit or restrict the use of these bags," Ronnie Volkening, the president and CEO of the Texas Retailers Association, said in an interview with The

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Texas Tribune earlier this month. "If the state Legislature enacted that language, then the cities are in fact engaging in an activity that they should not."

Supporters of the ordinances say plastic bags harm the environment. The Texas Campaign for the Environment has been one of the most vocal supporters of the ordinances. "We want the attorney general to stay out of this issue altogether," said Robin Schneider, the group's executive director.

The Texas Municipal League was the first to submit a brief to the attorney general's office. The brief included a statement from state Sen. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, from 2011 in which he argued for local control over the issue.

"For the state to determine what a city's problems are or solutions that it may have or may not have is a little bit of an overextension of the Legislature," Seliger said.

Because the cities are responsible for supplying plastic bags, they should be able to determine if they wish to ban them, he said in an interview.

"They spend much more time as garbage than they do as carriers of groceries anyway," Seliger added.

The Texas Municipal League argued in its brief that a plastic bag should not be classified as a "container" or a "package" – the two words specifically mentioned in the Health and Safety Code.

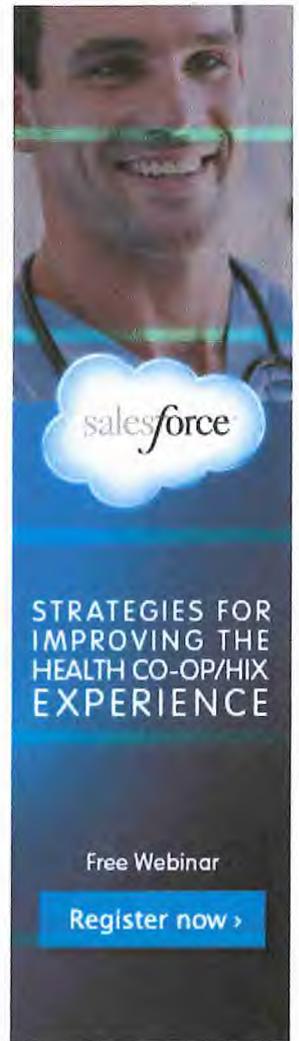
"A plastic bag is not a container or a package, but merely the means by which a container or a package is transported," the brief said.

Volkening said the most environmental position would be to encourage the recycling of plastic bags, not banning their use.

Besides Dallas, six other Texas cities, including San Antonio and Corpus Christi, have recently considered restrictions on plastic bags. Corpus Christi and Austin, whose city council voted in 2012 to ban plastic bags, said on Wednesday that they would submit briefs to the attorney general in support of the ordinances.

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Chicago headed toward partial plastic bag ban

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Alderman Proco Joe Moreno of Chicago's 1st Ward explains why the use of plastic grocery bags needs to be reduced or eliminated in Chicago.



Alderman Proco Joe Moreno of Chicago's 1st Ward explains why the use of plastic grocery bags needs to be reduced or eliminated in Chicago.

By Hal Dardick, John Byrne and Taylor Goldenstein
Clout Street

8:55 p.m. CDT, April 23, 2014

Many Chicago shoppers would have to change the way they tote groceries, clothing and other items from store to home under a plan to ban the plastic bags that have become a ubiquitous feature of modern life.

The idea is to dramatically lower the number of bags that litter parkways, clog sewers, flutter in trees, bloat landfills and harm wildlife. But it would require a sea change in the habits of people who have been raised to enter stores empty handed and leave with fists full of plastic.

"I hope they keep 'em," said South Side resident Steven Watson as he left a Jewel-Osco at State and Grand on Wednesday. "They've been around forever. I'm 42 — I've grown up on them."

The adjustment for folks like Watson would be worthwhile, promise supporters on the City Council, where the plastic bag ban will come up for an initial discussion Thursday. The push, seven years in the making, has the backing of

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Clout has a special meaning in Chicago, where it can be a noun, a verb or an adjective. This exercise of political influence in a uniquely Chicago style was chronicled in the Tribune cartoon "Clout Street" in the early 1980s. Clout Street, the blog, offers an inside look at the politics practiced from Chicago's City Hall to the Statehouse in Springfield, through the eyes of the Tribune's political and government reporters.

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Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

Such a ban would add Chicago to the growing list of other communities and even countries that have put the environment ahead of convenience, said 12th Ward Ald. George Cardenas, chairman of the Health and Environmental Protection Committee.

"The time has come for us to move forward into the 21st century and expect more from our businesses and ourselves," Cardenas said Wednesday after the emergence of a compromise measure crafted after some aldermen had opposed any plastic bag ban, no matter what the exceptions and phase-in period.

Business foes had kept the City Council at bay after Ald. Ed Burke, 14th, first raised the idea in 2007, as San Francisco embarked on its ground-breaking ban. Now, scores of U.S. communities ban the bag, as do several countries.

The largest city to prohibit plastic bags is Los Angeles, where a ban went into effect on Jan. 1 for larger stores and will become law for smaller stores come July 1. Shoppers there are required to pay 10 cents for each paper bag or bring their own reusable bags.

Los Angeles City Councilman Tom LaBonge, who supported the measure, said residents there have adapted. "About 22 times, I left my (reusable) bags in the car, had to turn around and go back out to get them, but now I'm used to it, and people around the city are used to it," said LaBonge, who acknowledged it's tougher for some older residents to carry the new bags up the stairs. "It was the right step to take, environmentally."

But his colleague, Councilman Bernard Parks said the new standards have been problematic.

"You used to see people carrying 15 of those plastic bags, walking down the street or getting off the bus," said Parks, who voted against the ban. "Transit-reliant people and those who walk to the store tell me they just can't carry as many things they need with the new bags."

"People used to reuse the shopping bags for a variety of things, from trash can liners to pooper scoopers," Parks added. "Now you can still use the bags for those things if you buy them, and those bags are ending up in the same place the free ones were."

In Chicago, the ban would first go into effect in August 2015 and only apply to chain stores — defined as a group of three or more that have the same owner — or franchise stores of more than 10,000 square feet. Smaller chain stores and franchises would have to ditch the plastic bags a year later.

Among those stores hit first are Jewel-Osco, Mariano's, Target, Wal-Mart and the Gap. 7-Eleven and some Ace Hardware stores would be hit later.

Independent stores and restaurants would be exempted, so diners still would get to lug home their leftovers in Styrofoam containers tucked inside plastic bags.

Even with the exceptions, "90-plus percent of the plastic bags being used today will be banned," said Ald. Proco "Joe" Moreno, 1st, the ban's original sponsor.

Shoppers would have options, some that could cost them a few more dollars. All stores would have to provide or sell reusable bags, recyclable paper bags or a type of plastic bag that can be composted at commercial facilities.

Retailers would have the option of charging for paper or compostable plastic bags. Fees of 5 or 10 cents per bag are common in California communities that ban plastic bags, with the idea that paper has its own negative environmental effects and the fee gets people to carry



Plastic bag ban revisited



Ban won't snarl dog owners



Paper or plastic? Neither, thanks



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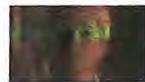


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reusable bags.

The Illinois Retail Merchants Association suggested requiring such a fee in Chicago, but it failed because aldermen did not want to be viewed as nickeling and diming their constituents. Stores that violate the ordinance could be fined up to \$300 a day.

Some Chicagoans seemed ready for the change.

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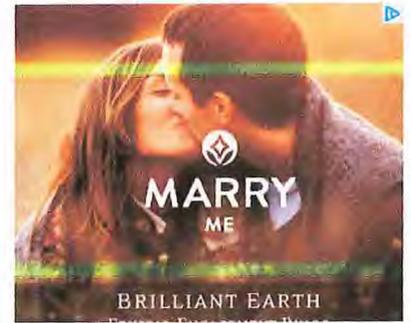
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Big Apple Weighs Fees on Single-use Plastic Bags

VoA - News Thursday 10th April, 2014

NEW YORK ?? The world consumes hundreds of billions of single-use plastic bags each year. Environmental activists say they are difficult to recycle, wasteful and damage the biosphere. They want to ban plastic bags or - as many communities have done - charge a fee for them at the register. But the plastic bag industry defends their use, saying people reuse plastic bags, and industry officials argue recycling is a matter of personal responsibility and should not be regulated.

City officials say New Yorkers use 5.2 billion plastic bags each year. They are offered free with nearly every supermarket, pharmacy or convenience store purchase. Many people like them, even if they sometimes feel guilty about using them.

"They're easy to use, they're lightweight, and they're easy to store," said one man.

"I don't feel good about it, but I use them sometimes because it's convenient," said a woman shopper.

But what happens to those bags after they've been used is a huge environmental problem, said Lilly Belanger of noimpactproject.org.

"They are found on beaches. They are found clogging storm drains. They are caught in trees. They are swallowed by marine life. And once that happens, we actually eat marine life. What's bad for the planet is almost always bad for us," said Belanger.

Plastic bags are made of petroleum products and natural gas, and do not biodegrade. And, Berenger added, they are difficult to recycle. So New York City spends nearly \$10 million dollars a year to send 100-thousand tons of plastic bags to landfills out of state.

Attorney Jennie Romer of PlasticBagLaws.org helps craft state and local legislation to either ban plastic bags or charge a fee for their use. She said nearly 150 American

5/7/14, 2:42 F

"In Washington, D.C., a five percent charge on all single-use bags led to about a 60 percent reduction and in Los Angeles County in California, a ban on plastic bags and a 10 cent charge on paper bags led to a 95 percent reduction in single-bag use overall," said Romer.

Environmental activists and some New York City Council members are proposing a law to charge 10 cents for single-use plastic bags.

That is government overreach, said Mark Daniels of the American Progressive Bag Alliance, an industry trade group. He spoke with VOA via Skype.

"It's your personal responsibility as well. If you shop at a convenience store and buy a pack of gum and a Coke, it does not necessarily need a plastic bag. You can refuse that," said Daniels.

Jennie Romer counters that people usually don't refuse a free convenience.

"But with a 10 cent charge on bags, customers are much more likely to stop and think about whether they need a bag or not. And that's really all that these laws are doing," said Romer.

Mark Daniels said most people reuse plastic bags at home, and limiting the use of American made bags will cost jobs in the plastic bag manufacturing sector and recycling centers.

Environmental groups are racing to put an increasing number of plastic bag fee proposals on ballots and before city and state legislators, as the federal government reports a dramatic rise in the number of plastic bags Americans use each year.

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February 13, 2013

<<BUSINESS NAME>>, Attn: Operations
<<SITE ADDRESS>>
<<CITY>>, <<STATE>> <<ZIP>>

Dear <<BUSINESS NAME>>,

Important Information Regarding New Plastic Checkout Bag Policy

In an effort to promote reusable shopping bags and reduce use of single-use plastic checkout bags, Portland City Council voted unanimously in November 2012 to expand the City's plastic bag ban to all retail establishments and food vendors.

Oregonians use an estimated 1.7 billion single-use plastic bags each year. Reducing the use of single-use plastic shopping bags decreases litter, reduces ocean pollution and helps achieve Portland's waste reduction and recycling goals.

Portland's plastic bag ban has been in effect for more than a year at grocery stores and large retailers with pharmacies. The expansion takes a phased approach to banning single-use plastic checkout bags in the City of Portland.

The first phase goes into effect on **March 1, 2013** and covers retail establishments and food providers with stores greater than 10,000 square feet. All other retail establishments and food providers will be required to comply by **October 1, 2013**.

The policy requires that retail establishments and food vendors only provide recycled paper bags or reusable bags as checkout bags for customers. Recycled paper bags must contain an average of at least 40 percent recycled content and be accepted in the City of Portland curbside recycling program. The policy exempts bags provided by a pharmacist to contain prescription medication and bags without handles used to protect a purchased item from other purchased items (e.g., produce, bulk food, meat).

Businesses with remaining stocks of plastic bags on site that do not have additional store locations outside of Portland may apply for a waiver to allow for the draw down of existing inventory. For additional information including the ordinance, regulation and enforcement definitions, please visit www.bringyourbagpdx.com or contact Megan Ponder at megan.ponder@portlandoregon.gov or 503-823-9582.

The City encourages use of reusable bags and has distributed more than 45,000 durable reusable bags to Portland residents since 2007. The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability will continue to distribute "bring-your-bag" reminders throughout Portland.



City of Portland, Oregon | Bureau of Planning and Sustainability | www.portlandoregon.gov/bps
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Heather Branigin

From: Steven J. Timmer <stimmer@planetlawyers.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2014 10:19 AM
To: 'Becky Houdek'
Subject: RE: Fish bypass

Hello Becky,

Thanks for this survey of, *inter alia*, the plants and fish extant. There are more species than I expected, but they do seem like mostly lake species, not stream species. (I wasn't expecting brook trout.) And with the exception of some carp, boy are they little. Stunted might be the better term. And that confirms my suspicion that there is little to eat in the stretch. The MCWD report that you sent to me yesterday also describes essentially juvenile fish only.

This takes us right back to habitat improvement as the *sine qua non* to expecting better results in this section of the creek. There are serious political problems to doing that, as the MCWD report acknowledges:

- **Complexity Versus Use Objectives.** One of the limiting factors for the ecology of Minnehaha Creek is its lack of physical complexity. The channel is mostly of relatively constant dimensions, has very small amounts of large woody debris and little variation in depth and slope. Greater variation of these regimes is necessary to improve the ecology of the stream.

Because the stream is mostly narrow, adding complexity such as large woody debris will affect use by canoeists. Too much mobile debris could also lead to clogging of bridge openings and flooding. If meanders are created to reintroduce complexity, the increased flow distance and decreased slope must be balanced with increases in width in order to maintain channel capacity. Adding riffles may make short reaches difficult to pass in a canoe. Restoring the riparian zone vegetation will limit easy access and views to the water. These examples are just a sample of the challenges that will require a balance between current uses and the components of an ecological restoration plan.

If "meanders" were introduced into the stream between say, Arden Park and St. Stephens Church, the creek would be meandering into people's basements as I write this.

My suspicion about this whole project was really created when SEH did a citizen engagement project about the reconstruction of the road and about drainage issues, too. SEH said one option was to just remove the impounding dam to make it "safer" for canoeists, and maybe create better angling opportunities, too.

If you walk about the neighborhood – and therefore the creek; it's right here – in the later part of the summer and the fall, you know that the only reason there is any water in that stretch of the creek is because it is

impounded. It is only a few inches deep under the walking bridge in Arden Park. Without the dam; it would be safe for canoeists, all right, because they would be walking.

So I had a suspicion that something else, perhaps a dam like the one under the bridge on Browndale, was afoot. But of course, nobody would say. The January 2014 report from Inter Fluve (sorry; I didn't look it up to confirm the spelling) was the first I saw a proposal (other than mine) to create a long riffle or step falls. It was in the fall of 2013 that I dreamed up what I would do. And just for fun, here it is.

It always seemed to me that there were other agendas driving the options we were offered, on many parts of the project, and that the residents – which is what I am, not a stakeholder – were being served up some feats of legerdemain here and there.

That is part of the backdrop before which the neighborhood is looking at the fish bypass.

I will see you tonight. I doubt that I will have much to say; I think I've written what's on my mind.

Steve

From: Becky Houdek [mailto:BHoudek@minnehahacreek.org]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 9:53 PM
To: Steven J. Timmer
Subject: RE: Fish bypass

Hi Steve,

Following up on your question regarding fish surveys on the creek, the DNR completed a survey in 2003 using backpack shocking units and the report is attached. Fish found in the vicinity of 54th St. (Stations 4 and 5 on map at end of document) include bluegill, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, largemouth bass, yellow perch, bullhead species, white sucker, carp, northern pike, spotfin shiner, darter species, and several species of minnows.

I understand your concerns and had many of the same questions myself when we determined we would not be removing the grade control structure. However, based on discussions with our consultants and others with expertise in the field of stream restoration, I felt assured that it would be worthwhile to take this opportunity to address the habitat fragmentation and to also invest in future habitat improvements upstream.

Regarding your other email about your request to be involved, our process is to first make sure a project is viable before soliciting input from the neighborhood. Up to now, we have been working to ensure the project is feasible in terms of hydraulics and hydrology and that there would be no conflicts with existing or proposed utilities. Now that we have determined the bypass channel is feasible and feel it has merit, we are asking for the feedback of you and the other neighborhood residents. I specifically reached out to Sharon Allison at the City to make sure that those who had participated in the City's engagement process for the road project received notification. I believe the process we are using to obtain stakeholder input is appropriate, and I assure you that your concerns are being heard and considered.

I look forward to speaking with you more at tomorrow's meeting.

Becky Houdek
MCWD Planner
15320 Minnetonka Blvd.
Minnetonka, MN 55345
952-641-4512



**MINNEHAHA CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT**

From: Steven J. Timmer [<mailto:stimmer@planetlawyers.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 6:19 PM
To: Becky Houdek
Subject: RE: Fish bypass

Becky,

And as a follow up: has anyone done a creel census anywhere on the creek? A few little spawning redds and a handful of stunted sunnies would not be impressive to me.

The die was cast for this section of the stream when the decision was made to leave the impounding dam in place. Well, that and rebuilding the one at Browndale several years ago. But we both know that one isn't going anywhere.

This is a hard reality.

The flow is just too low, regardless of how many submerged logs you put in it, to support a healthy aquatic ecosystem. This is just trying to reanimate dead flesh. If the underlying conditions that led to stream death are not altered, you cannot get stream life. Neither you nor I can love it back to life.

Gosh, I never see any aquatic insects down at the creek: no mayflies, no caddis, no midges, nothing. There aren't even any mud-loving *Hexagenia* down there. One never sees swallows or other birds swooping over the creek to catch insects, at least I never do. As I am sure you know better than I do, a healthy invertebrate population is the key to healthy fish populations.

I've stood on the walking bridge at Arden Park many times, looking down into the water for fish. I think I saw a little bullhead once.

If the Watershed District was serious about rehabbing this section of the creek, it would involve removal of the grade structure, probably replacing it with a rough surface bottom – what trout fishermen call riffles – to prevent the section from draining completely, and the narrowing the stream substantially in most places, to speed the flow to scour the mud and cool it down, create some oxygenating riffles, and get much more serious about the sediment and thermal load.

This is, of course, politically impossible. The kayakers would howl (they did howl, apparently to their benefit), the tubers wouldn't like all the submerged logs, and the homeowners along the stretch would be mightily annoyed that the creek was much narrower than it used to be and that you planted aquatic grasses that blocked their view of the creek.

In view of all of this, I can't see creating what seems to me to be a structure that will require maintenance, and will be useless if not vigilantly maintained, and will create a safety hazard, and accomplish close to nothing. My kids grew up on the creek, and for kids growing up there now, I have major misgivings about creating a ditch and tunnel side channel.

I probably have more, but that's enough for now.

Steve

From: Steven J. Timmer [mailto:stimmer@planetlawyers.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 4:02 PM
To: 'Becky Houdek'
Subject: RE: Fish bypass

Thanks for the reply. Just quickly, here's a clip of the page:



This is not www.minnehahacreek.org/54thStFishBypass as set forth on the post card. When I typed it in the browser, I got a "Page Not Found" error. I typed it a couple of times and got the same result. If you compare the links, you will see they are not the same. Perhaps one aliases the other now, but it didn't when the post card arrived.

I think I may have misinterpreted the schematic of the bypass. It looks like the tunnel will be only thirty yards and long, with the rest being a narrow ditch with water in it. Is this right?

It will take a while to digest your reply, but I appreciate receiving it.

In the meantime, perhaps you can tell me specifically where these spawning redds (I know what they are; I have been a trout and salmon fisherman for 30 years) are, and what species are spawning.

Thanks, Steve

From: Becky Houdek [<mailto:BHoudek@minnehahacreek.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 3:44 PM
To: Steven J. Timmer
Cc: 'Scott Neal'; 'Toby Muse'; 'Chad Millner'; 'Sharon Allison'
Subject: RE: Fish bypass

Dear Mr. Timmer,

Thank you for your emails. I appreciate your input and have provided responses to your concerns below.

First, I want to assure you that no Board action will be taken at the May 22nd meeting of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers. The meeting is scheduled as a formal public hearing by the District as another opportunity to obtain public input. In addition, as you have noted, the District and City will host a May 20th Community Meeting. Information from both meetings will be considered by the Board prior to any final decision on this project.

In addition to these opportunities for public input, the District actively participated with the City of Edina during its public engagement process for the development of West 54th Street improvements. In those discussions with community members, District staff highlighted the impairment of Minnehaha Creek for its fish community, the opportunity to make an improvement timed with this once in 50-year municipal infrastructure project, and discussed concepts for improving fish passage. During and after those meetings, the District and City received substantial feedback from recreational kayakers and neighbors that altering the existing grade control structure was a least preferable option. Therefore, the District has evaluated the fish bypass as an option that improves fish passage, while maintaining existing recreational use.

In your recent emails you outlined the following concerns:

1. The overall value of the project
2. Public safety associated with a pipe
3. Non-functioning web links on District mailings
4. Timing of informational meetings and approval process

1. Project Benefit:

Pursuant to the federal Clean Water Act, Minnehaha Creek is listed by the State of Minnesota as being impaired for its fish community (Index of Biotic Integrity). It is part of the District's mission to address impairments wherever feasible. With regards to the Minnehaha Creek biological impairment, the District is pursuing initiatives that (1) improve water quality, (2) improve the flow regime in Minnehaha Creek, (3) improve habitat, and (4) connect fragmented habitat.

West 54th Street was identified in a 2004 Stream Assessment as a barrier to fish passage that should be evaluated for improvement. After learning of the City's proposal to reconstruct the West 54th Street Bridge, the District engaged with the City and public to explore opportunities to correct the historic fragmentation. Performing this level of due diligence seemed imperative since bridges are infrequently reconstructed, positioning West 54th as a once in a 50 year opportunity to improve habitat connection between the 8 miles of downstream channel and the 1 mile of upstream channel.

Consequently, the District worked to evaluate options with Inter-Fluve Inc., national experts in stream restoration; Wenck Associates, the District's engineer; and Dr. Magner, a senior research scientist with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's Impaired Waters Program and University of MN Professor of Biosystems with a specialty in ecological restoration of stream channels. Based on their input, the District has concluded that incorporating a bypass culvert and channel into the City's road reconstruction project would be an cost-effective solution to address the historic habitat fragmentation at this location.

The 2004 stream assessment and a recent 2012 update found multiple spawning redds (nests created by fish) in the section of creek between Browndale Dam and West 54th Street. This indicates that fish from upstream of Browndale Dam are actively using this section of the creek for spawning. Therefore, connecting the 8 Miles of stream channel downstream of West 54th Street to the 1 mile upstream would provide access to this area for a larger population of fish. Based on hydraulic modeling completed by the District, fish passage will be viable within the proposed bypass when mainstem channel flow is below 230 cubic feet per second. Based on our estimates, the bypass channel will allow fish passage for an average of 223 days per year.

Similar to projects the District has initiated upstream in partnership with Methodist Hospital, St. Louis Park and Hopkins, the area of Creek between Browndale Dam and West 54th could be further improved for bank and in-stream habitat in the future. These improvements could include the addition of deeper pools, gravel bed riffles and streambank improvements. Such improvements within the Arden Park area of Minnehaha Creek and upstream would be justified by connecting the two sections of Creek that are currently fragmented by West 54th. As you noted in your May 13th email to the City of Edina, upstream habitat improvements are directly tied to the fish passage being proposed.

To that end, the District has been involved with the City of Edina in discussions regarding future Arden Park area road reconstruction, stormwater improvements, park improvements and how those relate to Minnehaha Creek.

2. Public Safety:

The District has closely coordinated the preliminary investigation of this option with City of Edina staff. Based on this joint effort, the District does not believe the proposed bypass creates a public safety risk. The pipe will be capped with a metal grate that will eliminate the possibility of people entering the pipe. The grate will need to be monitored to prevent plugging from debris, which is part of the overall maintenance consideration that accompany this project alternative.

3. Non-Functioning Web Links:

You repeatedly stated frustration with the weblink provided on the District's postcard. In your May 14 email to the City of Edina, you indicated that a functioning link was distributed to you by Sharon Allison from the City's Engineering Department. The link Sharon provided you is the same link provided on the District's postcard, and District staff has repeatedly verified the website was active and accessible.

4. Timing & Approvals:

As previously outlined, the May 20th Informational Meeting and May 22nd Public Hearing are additional opportunities to obtain public input. No decisions are proposed at either of these meetings.

The District welcomes public comment on its projects, and I hope to see you at the May 20th Informational Meeting. In the meantime, I would be happy to schedule a phone call or meeting to discuss your concerns in more detail.

Sincerely,

Becky Houdek
MCWD Planner
15320 Minnetonka Blvd.
Minnetonka, MN 55345
952-641-4512
www.minnehahacreek.org



MINNEHAHA CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT

From: Steven J. Timmer [<mailto:stimmer@planetlawyers.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 11:18 AM
To: Becky Houdek
Cc: 'Scott Neal'; 'Toby Muse'; 'Chad Millner'; 'Sharon Allison'
Subject: Fish bypass

Ms. Houdek,

I assume you got the email I sent to the general email address for the watershed yesterday; I couldn't get the link (message: page not found), so I didn't have your email address. If you need a resend of that message please let me know.

I have now been able to load <http://www.minnehahacreek.org/project/54th-street-fish-bypass-channel-project>, which wasn't the link in the postcard.

It is my understanding from reading at the link that you are going to have a meeting for the public on the 20th, and then you are going to have a "formal meeting" in your office on the 22nd to approve the plan. Why bother with us?

The watershed's own webpage mentions the poor stream quality in the area between 50th and 54th. The slow leak fish bypass will make it worse, since it will drain additional water during low water times, which is most of the year.

This is not the Field of Dreams. If you build it, they won't come. There is no reason for fish to live in this stretch, unless they get marooned somehow.

I think this is being approached entirely backwards. You have to figure out how to make the habitat better first; there doesn't seem to have been any planning about that. *People "could" do this . . .* is the only quote I saw about stream improvement.

This is just another civil engineer's utopian dream. The whole world can be fixed through the liberal application of civil engineering. What this needs a big dose of first, however, are stream hydrologists and aquatic biologists.

Now on a personal note, I saw watershed people at meetings in City Hall on a couple of occasions last year – including you, I believe – and asked specifically to be involved and apprised of what was going on with respect to the creek. I handed out business cards.

I've gotten bupkis, of course, and it would be charitable to say that I am annoyed with the watershed about it. I think it is fair to conclude that we've been kept purposely in the dark about this, right up until construction on the bridge and street is to begin.

Based on neighborhood discussion, I suspect you're in for some sharp questions next week.

Steve Timmer

Steve Timmer
stimmer@planetlawyers.com

Heather Branigin

From: Cary Teague
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2014 10:58 AM
To: 'Thomas Nelson'; Edina Mail
Cc: Scott Neal; Jim Nelson
Subject: RE: TCF Bank Site 3330 W. 66th Street - Potential Comp Plan Amendment

Thanks Tom,

I will put a paper copy in front of the City Council for tonight's meeting.

Cary



Cary Teague, Community Development Director

952-826-0460 | Fax 952-826-0389 | Cell 952-826-0236

4801 W. 50th St. | Edina, MN 55424

cteague@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov/Planning

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From: Thomas Nelson [<mailto:thomasmnelson@mac.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2014 4:44 PM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Scott Neal; Cary Teague; Jim Nelson
Subject: TCF Bank Site 3330 W. 66th Street - Potential Comp Plan Amendment

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council,

We own the adjacent property and enclosed is a letter with our position on the potential amending of the Comprehensive Plan. Contact me anytime if you have questions or wish to discuss.

Thank you for your consideration,

-Tom 612.805.9369

Thomas M. Nelson
EBERHARDT PROPERTIES, INC.
Minneapolis & St. Paul, MN
612.805.9369

Heather Branigin

From: S. Gregoire <dsgrego2@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2014 12:33 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Grandview development

I am writing to ask the city council to refrain from developing the old Edina Maintenance property until more ideas for using the site for public use is explored. I support the idea of a new community center that is similar to other cities.

At this time we have Edinborough Park for an indoor community center which only seems to serve that side of town, and does not have enough amenities to truly bring residents together as a community. It is more of a family destination to let kids wear off some steam than a community center. Having a new community center located on this property, close to a library, the senior center, and the city offices, makes more sense than adding more congestion related to housing or business. A multi-purpose development that includes a new community center would be a better fit for that corner.

Another concern about the Grandview area is the regular back up of cars from the Starbucks drive thru. Often there are cars waiting on the street which creates a hazard for drivers needing to go around the line into the opposite lane, especially for those drivers going north on Eden Avenue and also having to deal with an obscured view because of the hill.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sharon Gregoire
5101 W 44th St.
Edina, MN 55436



Memorandum

To: Edina City Council

From: Tony Heppelmann, PE
WSB & Associates

Date: May 15, 2014

Re: Blake Road Corridor Study
Open House #1
WSB Project No. 01787-240

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the City Council with background information about the Blake Road Corridor Study prior to the June 25th Open House meeting.

Background

The City of Hopkins is leading a corridor study for Blake Road/Aquila Avenue to plan for changing transportation needs due to the construction of the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) line. The study area extends from 36th Street in St. Louis Park to Interlachen Boulevard in Edina. The study is being completed in partnership with the Cities of Edina and St. Louis Park, Three Rivers Park District, Hennepin County, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, the Southwest LRT Project Office, and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). The study is intended to address infrastructure needs in order to:

- Provide better transportation accommodations for pedestrians, bicyclists and bus transit
- Provide better connections and access to the planned light rail station at Blake Road and 2nd Street for all modes
- Provide better connections and access to adjacent neighborhoods, commercial nodes and recreational facilities
- Provide the necessary transportation infrastructure to support redevelopment in and near the corridor that will enhance economic growth, community connectivity, and residential diversity

The study is guided by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) with representatives from each of the partner agencies listed above.

Schedule and Scope

The Blake Road Corridor Study began in March 2014 and is anticipated to be completed by February 2015. The scope of the study includes the following:

Spring 2014	Data collection: traffic, safety, trails, planned improvements, previous studies, Analyze future traffic conditions Develop corridor goals and objectives
Summer 2014	Develop and evaluate alternatives for improvements to the corridor Attend City Council work sessions/meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open House 1: June 25 (collect input on needs, issues, etc.)• Open House 2: August/September (present and collect input on alternatives)
Fall 2014	Select a preferred alternative Develop an implementation plan: costs, timing and funding sources Provide update to City Councils <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open House 3: November/December (present preferred alternative)
Winter 2014/2015	Finalize implementation plan Prepare final report

Goals and Objectives

The project team has developed goals and objectives to guide the study. These will be the basis for developing and evaluating potential alternatives. The following goals and objectives have been drafted by the TAC:

Goals

1. Facilitate access to future Southwest LRT Blake Road station for residents/workers in Hopkins, St. Louis Park, and Edina
2. Create a corridor that is comfortable, safe, and functional for all modes: pedestrians, bicyclists, motor vehicles, freight, and transit
3. Facilitate redevelopment and support a vibrant corridor
4. Enhance natural resources adjacent to the corridor
5. Improve access to and connectivity across TH 7
6. Improve connections between the corridor and adjacent neighborhoods, parks, and trails

Objectives

1. Conduct technical analyses of existing and future corridor issues and needs, including:
 - a. Traffic operations
 - b. Safety for all modes
 - c. Business access locations
 - d. Bicycle facilities
 - e. Sidewalks
 - f. Pedestrian and bicycle crossings

- g. Connectivity to the future Southwest LRT Blake Road station
 - h. Connectivity to adjacent neighborhoods, parks, and trails
2. Generate and evaluate alternative concepts that address established goals for the corridor
 3. Develop an implementation plan that coordinates improvements with other projects
 4. Involve stakeholders in the planning process to obtain community and agency agreement and to ensure that study recommendations reflect the needs and desires of residents in the corridor
 5. Identify grant programs to support implementation of study recommendations
 6. Develop roadway improvement concepts in time to apply for grants

Public Involvement

Public and agency involvement is an important part of the Blake Road Corridor Study. It is essential to involve stakeholders in the planning process to obtain community and agency agreement on study recommendations. The project team will engage the following key stakeholders using the following techniques:

General Public

The project team will use several techniques to gather input from the general public, including:

- *Three public open houses*
- *Project website*
- *Coordination with the Blake Road Corridor Collaborative*
- *News releases*

Public Agencies

A TAC has been formed to help provide direction for the study. Members of the TAC represent public agencies with an interest in improvements to the Blake Road Corridor, including:

- *City of Hopkins*
- *City of St. Louis Park*
- *City of Edina*
- *Hennepin County Transportation Department*
- *Hennepin County Housing, Community Works & Transit*
- *Three Rivers Park District*
- *Southwest LRT Project Office*
- *Minnehaha Creek Watershed District*
- *Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)*

City Council

The project team will provide materials and present at Hopkins, St. Louis Park, and Edina City Council Work Sessions/Council Meetings to inform the City Council on study progress and agency and public feedback.

- *June 2014: Memo summarizing corridor study goals and objectives, existing conditions, and direction of the study*

- *August/September 2014: Present at council work sessions and seek feedback on alternatives for corridor improvements, share initial public feedback*
- *October/November 2014: Present and seek feedback on preferred alternative for corridor improvements, share public feedback on alternatives*
- *February 2015: Presentation of final report and recommendations*

Southwest Community Works Steering Committee

The Southwest Community Works Steering Committee represents public agencies with an interest in the Southwest LRT Corridor. The project team will present to the Steering Committee in August or September 2014 and will seek feedback on alternatives.

Businesses within Blake Road Corridor

The project team will hold two meetings with representatives from businesses within the project corridor. The first meeting will be held in June 2014 to collect feedback on existing conditions and the direction of the study, particularly around business access. This meeting will be held before the first open house. The second meeting will be held in August 2014 to collect feedback on alternatives.

Additionally, the project team will explore opportunities to coordinate the public process with a Blake Road Market Study led by Southwest LRT Community Works. Information about the market study could be distributed at the June open house. There is potential to host a joint open house in August/September.

Initial Analysis of Existing Conditions

The project team has completed a review of 2011- 2013 crash records in the corridor. Initial crash analysis has identified several intersections with higher than average crash rates, including 36th Street, 37th Street and Trunk Highway (TH) 7. At TH 7, crash severity is higher than expected. Much of the corridor also has higher than average crash rates, including the segments between 36th Street and TH 7, and between Cambridge Street and Excelsior Boulevard. Throughout the entire corridor, there were four crashes involving pedestrians and three crashes involving bicyclists.

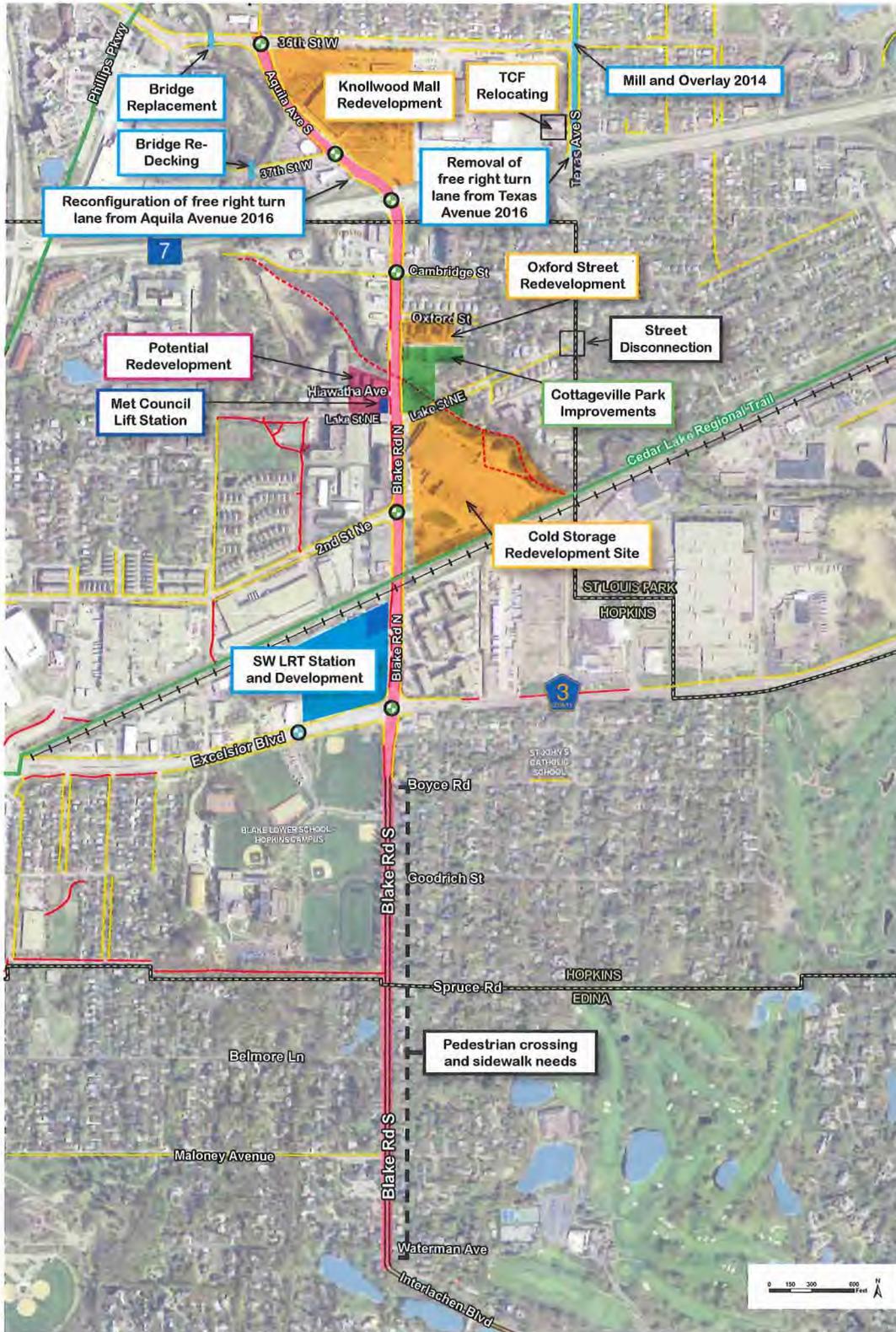
The project team has also conducted a review of existing traffic conditions at intersections in the corridor. Vehicles at the intersection with TH 7 experience the greatest delays in the corridor. There is also some delay for vehicles at Excelsior Boulevard.

In addition, the project team has collected site plans and other information about proposed public infrastructure and private development in the corridor. This information will inform the recommendations of the study and ensure that traffic analysis includes information about planned development.

Next Steps

A project open house is scheduled for June 25 from 6-8 PM at Eisenhower Community Center (1001 Highway 7, Room 233).

The project team is currently developing alternatives for improvements to the Blake Road corridor. Alternatives will include the number of lanes needed, median locations and widths, bicycle facilities, sidewalks, boulevards and landscaping, and other elements. This information is in progress and will not be presented at the June open house meeting. Prior to any alternatives being presented, a work session with each of the cities will be held to receive feedback and input. For your community, this session has been tentatively scheduled for August 19. Following the council meetings, the second open house presenting the alternatives will be held in September.



KEY	Project Study Area	Bituminous Path	On Street Bike Lane
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redevelopment Site Signals Proposed Signal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing Sidewalks Existing Regional Trail Proposed Trail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Municipal Boundary Railroad



Blake Road Corridor Study: *Opportunities and Constraints*