

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

Lynn Selmer

Margaret Kurl

Tim Harstiel

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Cathleen R. Goddard
Lisa M. Thomas

Steve Domb

Jykeid

Bill & Lois Clynes

J. Basil

Mike and Judy Jensen

Bob and Betsy Nelson

Debbie Belfry

Julie Weig

Jim 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 Dankowski
Barbara Curry
Doris Musick Hayt
Jane & Larry
Peggy and George Crolich
~~John~~ Guter Moller
Marie Jackson
Karel
C. V. ...

April, 2014

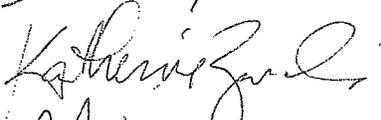
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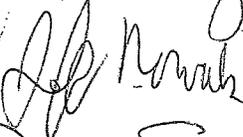
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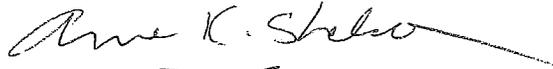

Gretchen Faust


Katherine Zuel


Jeff Kovach


Dana




Anne K. Stebo




Arthur R. Gotsell

April, 2014

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Judy Woolverine
Jane Woolverine

George Adelt
Sue Brice
John Z. G.

Lisa Phelps
Vand A.

Elizabeth Schwab

John J.

Pat Walters
Sarah Sullivan

Patricia Johnson

David Brown

Neil S. Del

Reggie Alexander

Linda J. Brocker

Tim A. M.

Ray Burns

Ellene R. Burns

Myke Brehm

David Sudduth

Kathia Langley

John H.

Chris Fisher

April, 2014

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Jacqueline Sullivan	Gail Jones
Julie M. Baker	Kathleen Helms
John E. [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
Ami 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.

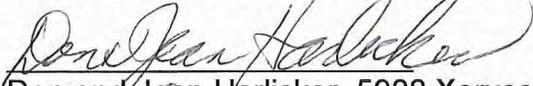
If a smaller design similar to Penn and Lyndale isn't an option then we DO NOT want any bumpouts on our block of 59th and Xerxes. We are under the impression that a solid white stripe would be painted on Xerxes Avenue similar to

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,



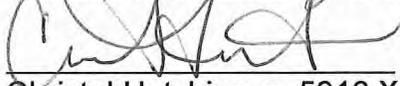
Lori McGowan 5904 Xerxes Ave. S.



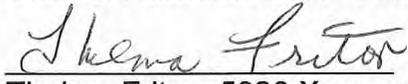
Don and Jean Harlicker 5908 Xerxes Ave. S.



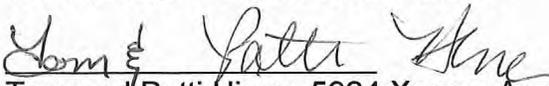
Gail and Rick Jones 5912 Xerxes Ave. S.



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.

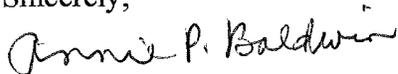
(5) Homeowners

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.

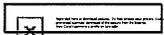
With very best regards,

~ 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

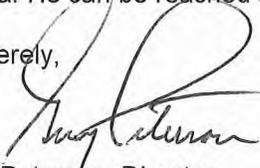
Dear Mayors Goettel and Hovland,

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:

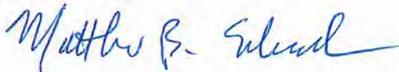
Each year, the Metropolitan Council prepares population and household estimates as of April 1 of the previous year. Local governments are invited to review and comment on the preliminary estimates. The Council will certify final estimates by July 15 for state government use in allocating local government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

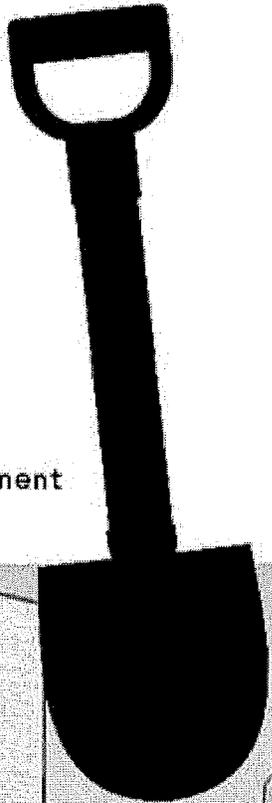
As always, thank you for your remarkable commitment to Edina, and your very hard work on behalf of all of us.

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
SOUTHDALÉ 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.

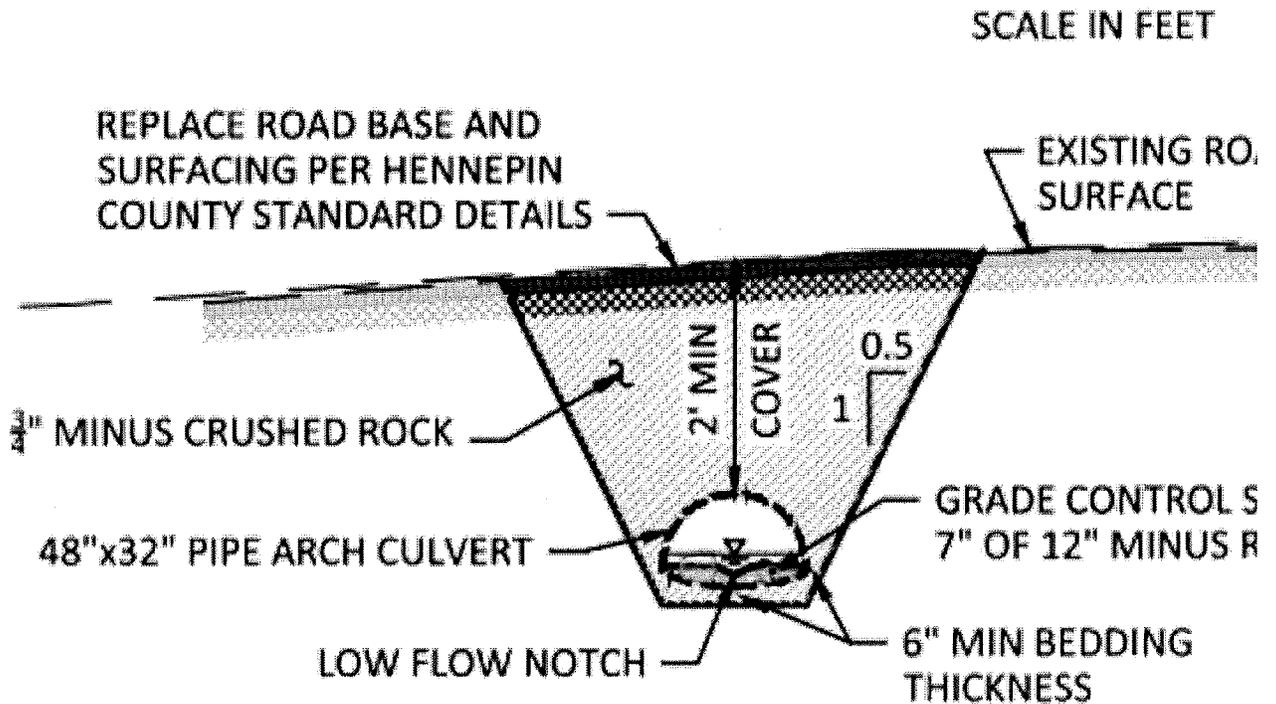
Heather Branigin

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

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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

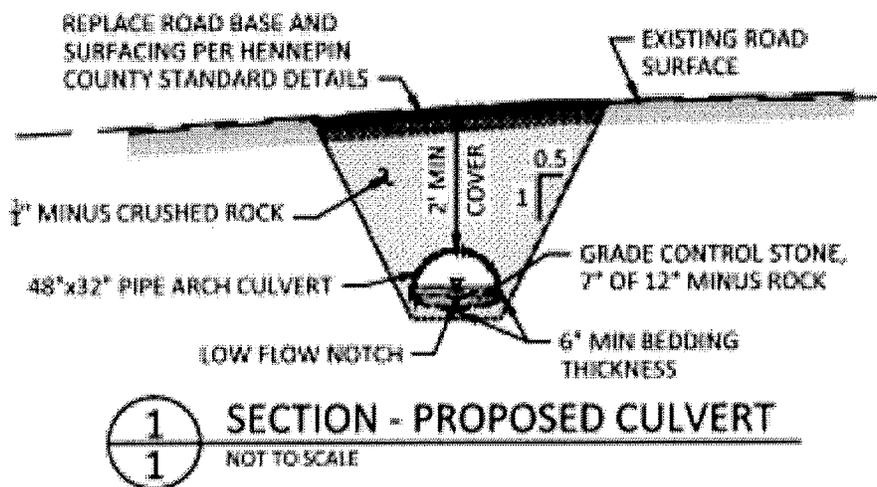
mail@edinamn.gov: Please forward to members of the council and the Transportation Commission.

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

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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

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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:

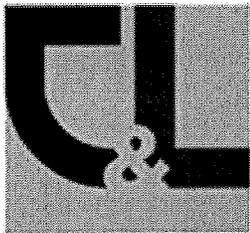
Please see our letter attached.

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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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55436

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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

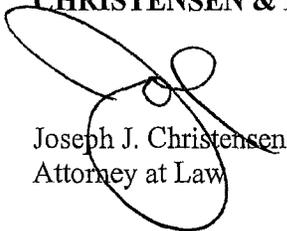
Dear Mayor Hovland and Members of the City Council:

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**