

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Agenda Item #: IX. A.

From: Debra Mangen
City Clerk

Date: May 21, 2013

Subject: CORRESPONDENCE

Action
Discussion
Information

Action Requested:

Attached is correspondence received since the last Council Meeting.

No action is requested.

May 5, 2013

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

Re: Tim Hunter of the City of Edina Police Department

Dear Mayor Hovland:

On behalf of the Creek Valley Road Neighborhood Watch Association, I wanted to send you this letter to let you know the fine work Officer Tim Hunter is providing to the City of Edina as evidenced at our recent Neighborhood Watch meeting. Officer Hunter provided a one-hour informational session on coyotes to 35 neighbors in attendance at Gary and Barb Griffiths' home on April 22nd. Furthermore, he answered questions for another hour to ensure each person had their individual question answered thoroughly and respectfully. The meeting was informative, challenging, insightful and entertaining as Officer Hunter answered questions with tact and diplomacy. I had earlier heard of the coyote hazing efforts that had been promoted by the City of Edina but they made no sense to me whatsoever until I heard Officer Hunter.

Too often, the fine work of the City of Edina Police Department is not recognized. However, I thought it was important to bring Officer Hunter's work to your attention as he caused many who were ready to take up arms to battle the coyotes to consider the value of hazing to ward off the coyotes.

We live in a wonderful city and the engagement of the police in our community is one of its strengths. Please let others know within city government that Officer Hunter is of great service to our community.

Thanks for your efforts.

Sincerely,



Rich Forslund
Creek Valley Neighborhood Watch
5716 Creek Valley Road
Edina, MN 55439

From: [Jane Melroe](#)
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 9:33 AM
To: lisa.kaczke@emc-inc.com
Subject: Edina Neighborhoods

In response to your article on May 9th in the Edina Sun Current:

What this mandate to establish associations says to me is that the city doesn't want to be bothered by communication from one resident & unless the whole neighborhood feels strongly enough about one issue, it won't be addressed by the elected officials. Not quite the representation I was looking for as a city resident. Who determined there was a communication gap between the city & residents? Was this made up by the city officials so they could create another watch dog group to contact before we're allowed to call the city officials ourselves?

How long before association membership isn't a choice and fees will be charged for all the work the volunteer watch dogs think they are doing for the good of the neighborhood?

City project communication is important – we don't need another way to get that information to the general public. What about the already several means of city paper publications and internet communication – isn't that more than enough to communicate with the residents the city events, rules & regulations? We don't need another level of government to decide whether our concerns are important enough to take to the city officials.

Josh Sprague is not the best person to comment on any community issues since he is one of the few residents who has parking in front of his house & his rental on West 70th Street. Where was he when there was a community group from the West 70th Project who tried to work with the city about the changes that were forced on the area? If the city doesn't know where homes are in a geographic area to discuss issues, then they should refer to a big map of Edina that is sent out to all the residents in one of the several yearly publications. If the city officials need a neighborhood visual to know where the residents live, that's one thing, but to force associations on the residents is another issue. In my opinion, it's just the start to dictated membership, fees, single garbage pick-up, single lawn care companies & the list will expand from there until we have a complete socialistic community with no choice in any individual services ... except to move.

We'll see what tomorrow brings.

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 12:51 PM
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: MN SRTS Coalition update and action requested 5-14-13
Attachments: Mission Readiness Press Release MN SRTS.PDF

Importance: High



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389
lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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

From: Rachel Callanan [mailto:Rachel.Callanan@heart.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 12:30 PM
To: Rachel Callanan
Subject: FW: MN SRTS Coalition update and action requested 5-14-13
Importance: High

Hi Again. I have one more request for action: We've just learned the Speaker of the House, Paul Thissen, Senate Majority Leader Bakk and the Governor are meeting this afternoon to determine the fate of the Transportation Funding bill(s). We need calls in to them ASAP. Particularly Speaker Thissen. If you can please make the time to make one call now or early this afternoon—please call the Speaker and ask that the House support funding a COMPREHENSIVE transportation bill that includes investments in improved access for biking and walking.

Speaker Paul Thissen: 651-296-5375

Message: I urge Speaker Thissen to support a final transportation package that is comprehensive and provides more biking and walking investment including Safe Routes to School.

Thanks for your help!

Rachel Callanan, JD MNM

Regional Vice President of Advocacy, Minnesota & Wisconsin

American Heart Association, Midwest Affiliate

4701 West 77th Street

Minneapolis, MN 55435

Tel.: (952) 278-7915

Fax: (952) 835-5828

E-mail: Rachel.callanan@heart.org

www.yourethecure.org/Minnesota

Heart Disease and Stroke. You're the Cure.

From: Rachel Callanan
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 11:32 AM

To: Rachel Callanan

Subject: MN SRTS Coalition update and action requested 5-14-13

Importance: High

Hello Minnesota Safe Routes to School Coalition! This legislative session is winding down—the Legislature adjourns on Monday May 20th. We have just a few days to influence the final bills—and whether they include funding for Safe Routes to School.

Reminder: There are two components to our bill (SF687/HF797). The first is a \$3.2M request for General Fund dollars to pay for non-infrastructure SRTS costs such as planning, training, etc. The second component of our bill is a request for \$12.8M in bonding dollars to pay for the infrastructure needed for SRTS (sidewalks, walk bridges, signals, etc.).

- **Safe Routes to School (general fund \$ for non-infrastructure)**—On Friday, the Minnesota Senate passed a would-be-historic comprehensive transportation funding bill – [HF 1444](#). The bill includes the first-ever state dedicated funding for walking and biking (up to \$12 million per year) and it includes specific funding for the Minnesota Safe Routes to School Program (\$375,000 per year). Because the House passed a “lights-on” transportation bill earlier this session, the next step is a conference committee where both sides will work out the differences. (The House bill does include \$250,000/year for SRTS.) That is why we need your help to push the Conference Committee to pass a comprehensive transportation bill that includes investment in all modes of transportation—including bike/walk. The conference committee faces a particular hurdle in the governor—he has said that he does not favor a gas tax to fund the roads/bridges part of the bill. However, without the roads and bridges portion, the whole bill collapses because they cannot get the Greater MN votes necessary to pass the bill. That’s why a COMPREHENSIVE bill is needed.

Action Requested: Please respond to the action alert below which will create a hard-targeted email to each of the 10 Transportation Finance Conference Committee members. Please forward this Action Alert to your networks as well. Or reach out and call the conferees directly:

Rep. Frank Hornstein 651-296-9281

Rep. Connie Bernardy 651-296-5510

Rep. Ron Erhardt 651-296-4363

Rep. Mike Sundin 651-296-4308

Rep. Mike Beard 651-296-8872

Sen. Scott Dibble 651-296-4191

Sen. Vicki Jensen 651-296-9457

Sen. Susan Kent 651-296-4166

Sen. Bobby Joe Champion 651-296-9246

Sen. Jim Carlson 651-296-8073

More on SRTS (bonding dollars for infrastructure): The status on the bonding portion of our bill is less clear—the House Omnibus bonding bill includes \$2M for SRTS. The Senate still has not released their proposed bill. We have been working hard to keep the issue front and center. On Friday, Mission: Readiness sent out the attached media release quoting retired Major Gen. Hannula (Maplewood, MN) announcing their support for SRTS. Mission: Readiness is a group of retired military leaders who are seeking to address childhood obesity from the angle of national security. Please feel free to forward this on to your own networks and share on your Facebook pages. There is a link to the media release on their website at <http://www.missionreadiness.org/2013/minnesota-safe-routes/> and you can share from their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/missionreadiness>.

The concern of Mission: Readiness is that the obesity epidemic may threaten national security because it hampers their efforts at recruitment (**1 in 4 young adults cannot join the military due to weight**). It is also very costly to the military: over **\$1 billion is spent by the military each year in medical costs attributed to obesity/overweight**.

Action requested: Please reach out to members of the Senate Capital Investment Committee and ask them to support bonding for SRTS **THIS YEAR!** Senate Capital Investment Committee members contact info may be found here: http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/committees/committee_members.php?ls=&cmte_id=1002

Thanks for your help this session! We are nearing the home stretch—let's finish strong!

Rachel Callanan, JD MNM

Regional Vice President of Advocacy, Minnesota & Wisconsin

American Heart Association, Midwest Affiliate

4701 West 77th Street

Minneapolis, MN 55435

Tel.: (952) 278-7915

Fax: (952) 835-5828

E-mail: Rachel.callanan@heart.org

www.yourethecure.org/Minnesota

Heart Disease and Stroke. You're the Cure.



Last Opportunity to Take Action for Safe Routes to School Funding

Dear Advocate,

Thanks for your help advocating for Safe Routes to School Funding this session. Now that we are less than a week away from the end of session, we need your help again to push for funding for Minnesota's Safe Routes to School program and other bike/walk investments in the Omnibus Transportation Finance bill.

Please contact the members of the Transportation Conference Committee and ask them to support a comprehensive transportation bill this year

The Minnesota Senate already passed a would-be-historic comprehensive transportation funding bill – [HF 1444](#). The bill includes the first-ever state dedicated funding for walking and biking (up to \$12 million per year) and it includes specific funding for the Minnesota Safe Routes to School Program (\$375,000 per year). Because the House passed a no-new-funding transportation bill earlier this session, the next step is a conference committee where both sides will work out the differences. That is why we need your help to push the Conference Committee to pass a comprehensive transportation bill that includes investment in all modes of transportation—including bike/walk.

Take Action! Ask the Transportation Conference Committee to fund Safe Routes to School as part of a comprehensive transportation bill



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: David Carrier, 202-464-5362, dcarrier@missionreadiness.org

**Retired Generals & Admirals Call on Minnesota State Legislators
To Fund Safe Routes to School Program As a Matter of National Security**

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (May 10, 2013) – The retired generals and admirals of Mission: Readiness are urging Minnesota state legislators to support \$16 million in funding for the Minnesota Safe Routes to School program to help combat childhood obesity.

"Obesity is now the leading medical reason why young Americans cannot join the military, and the Department of Defense has told Congress that weight problems, along with other factors, could undermine future recruiting efforts," said retired U.S. Army Major General Rodney R. Hannula from St. Paul, who is a member of Mission: Readiness. "Minnesota and our nation are at a crossroads in the battle against obesity and we must take advantage of new opportunities at both the state and federal levels to help children eat healthier and get more exercise."

Obesity and Recruiting By the Numbers

Between 2006 and 2011, the military reported that 62,000 recruits who showed up for processing failed their entrance physicals due solely to their weight. Obesity is not just a problem for potential recruits, but also impacts those who have already enlisted. In one year, the military discharged over 1,200 first-term enlistees before their contracts were up due to weight problems. And the Defense Department spends well over \$1 billion a year on obesity-related medical costs through TRICARE, the military's health-insurance system.

In Minnesota, 43 percent of young adults are either overweight or obese, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's criteria, which is broader than the military's. This is a 30 percent increase from less than two decades ago.

More exercise combined with healthier eating habits are key to maintaining a healthy weight. However, while many young Americans are doing a good job exercising their thumbs on video games, they are not getting the recommended 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per day.

Physical Activity and Safe Routes to School

Walking or biking to school is a proven way to increase physical activity among children. Unfortunately, since the 1960s, the percentage of kids who walk or bike to school has dropped from 42 percent to just 13 percent. One study of adolescents found that all of the students who walked to and from school met the recommended levels of 60 or more minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity on weekdays.

The federal Safe Routes to School program provides important funding to make improvements to the routes children use to walk and bike to school, like sidewalks, bike paths and marked street crossings, and for programs that promote safety and increased physical activity.

Unfortunately, this federal program alone does not adequately meet the needs of our schools or our children. In the last funding cycle, Minnesota schools submitted 82 applications for \$23 million in federal Safe Routes to School funding, but only \$3.8 million was made available and awarded to 16 applicants.

Last year, the state legislature established a Minnesota Safe Routes to School program, but did not fund it. The retired generals and admirals of Mission: Readiness urge Minnesota's state legislators to support \$16 million in funding to help meet the statewide demand for Safe Routes to School projects. Doing that, combined with improving access to healthy foods in the schools while reducing the availability of unhealthy snacks, will go a long way toward improving the fitness of our youth.

In its latest report, "Still Too Fat to Fight," Mission: Readiness documented the hundreds of billions of calories of junk food that children consume at school every year, and called for supporting the U.S. Department of Agriculture in updating decades-old standards for foods sold in school vending machines and cafeteria snack lines. These standards should be based on nutrition science without interference from special interests.

"We need to ensure that our children are healthy and fit to do the work of the nation," said General Hannula. "Good nutrition and exercise are keys to ensuring that the current obesity crisis does not become a national security crisis."

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***Mission: Readiness** is the nonpartisan national security organization of over 350 retired generals and admirals calling for smart investments in America's children. It operates under the umbrella of the nonprofit Council for a Strong America.*

www.missionreadiness.org

A poll done in January 2013 found that more than 2/3rd of Minnesotans support including funding for walking and biking in a comprehensive transportation bill. Investing in safe routes for biking and walking is critical to make sure kids and adults can safely get their 60 minutes of physical activity every day.

Thank you for your help to build healthier lives, free of cardiovascular disease and stroke.

Your Minnesota Advocacy Team,
Anne, Justin and Rachel



[Click here to unsubscribe.](#)

Dear Mayor Hovland,

We need you to take action now for increased transportation options! Speaker Thissen, Majority Leader Bakk, and Governor Dayton will meet this afternoon to discuss transportation funding. They need to know that we expect them to get a comprehensive Transportation Funding Bill to the finish line. It is clear that other states across the country are not waiting to make investments in transportation. Minnesotans cannot afford to wait either: jobs and key projects are at stake, and our region cannot fall further behind.

On Friday, the Senate passed a bill that increases the dedicated sales tax for transit in the metro by ½ cent with allowance for a small percentage for bicycle and pedestrian connections. The Senate bill also includes a 5-cent gas tax increase, which is essential for securing Greater Minnesota votes.

Don't wait:

1. Call or email Speaker Thissen **right now** and tell him:
 - We need and expect them to get HF 1444 (as amended by the Senate) to the finish line with increased funding for transit, bicycle, and pedestrian improvements, and
 - We are ready and willing to pay an increased sales tax for this essential investment in the transportation system Minnesota needs.

Speaker Thissen: 651-296-5375, Rep.paul.thissen@house.mn

2. Join us on **Wednesday, May 15, at 11:30am at the State Capitol** to keep up the pressure on elected officials, and thank Senators for their bold action on Friday ([RSVP here](#)):



What: Transit Action at the State Capitol

When: Wednesday, May 15, 11:30am-12:30pm

Where: State Capitol; outside Governor Dayton's office

Thank you for your support throughout session! We will continue to fight until we get the new transportation funding Minnesotans deserve.

Best,

Barb Thoman

Transit for Livable Communities (facilitator of Transit for a Stronger Economy)

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2013 8:15 AM
To: Karen M. Kurt
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Name Your Neighborhood Project

Good morning,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members and Karen Kurt.



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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From: daniel and cheryl dulas [<mailto:dulas001@msn.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 7:09 PM

To: Edina Mail

Subject: Name Your Neighborhood Project

Dear Mayor Hovland, City Council members, and Project Chair Hope Melton,

I read in the Edina Sun Current last week that the neighborhood project was approved by the City Council. Thank you for considering our suggestions and those of other residents in the final version (specifically allowing the Sunnyslope and Country Club neighborhoods to maintain separate names/borders, and incorporating the "Wedge" neighborhood into Todd Park neighborhood).

I still have concerns about the logistics of implementing/maintaining the voluntary neighborhood associations; nevertheless, I appreciate all of your hard work and efforts on behalf of Edina's residents.

Warmly,

Cheryl Dulas

4609 Bruce Avenue

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 8:42 AM
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Air traffic over Fulton Neighborhood & Edina



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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From: Kathy Schoenbauer [<mailto:keschoenbauer@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2013 4:31 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Air traffic over Fulton Neighborhood & Edina

Dear Mayor Holvand,

The MSP FairSkies Coalition is composed of neighbors from Minneapolis and Edina. We were there to change the direction of the FAA RNAV implementation in November 2012 at the Mpls/St Paul airport and we will be there in the future to make sure our voices are heard as the FAA and Metropolitan Airport Commission (MAC) push to expand the airport.

Together, we advocate for:

- Equal distribution of airport noise across all neighborhoods
- Firm noise and air pollution limits including the amount of environmental impact over homes, schools, and parks
- Expansion of alternative airports and regional rail that will alleviate the growth pressure on MSP and spur economic development of greater Minnesota
- Retention of the current flight paths and departure percentages throughout the area

I urge you to work with us on these goals and find a way to balance the growth of the airport with the livability of our neighborhoods.

Thanks for your support!

Kathy Schoenbauer
5054 Drew Avenue South / Minneapolis, MN 55410

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 9:29 AM
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Airplanes over Edina
Attachments: Fulton neighborhood flight update May 2013.pdf

Importance: High



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389
lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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From: Rob Albright [<mailto:rdalbright@comcast.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2013 7:12 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Airplanes over Edina
Importance: High

Mayor Hovland:

Please take this as my written request to fight the planned rerouting of high volume airline traffic over Edina (practically right over my house – see attached rerouting). We specifically moved out of Minneapolis into Edina for, among other reasons, the lack of airline traffic/noise...and paid the 'Edina premium' to do so. In addition to the inconvenience and annoyance of this air traffic, it will have a direct impact on our property values, which is damaging to all stakeholders in Edina.

Please fight this rerouting/increased traffic vigorously!

With best regards,

Rob Albright

Friends

Over that past semester, 10th grade students of Edina High School have been investigating a self-identified passion – and would like to report out to the community. Please join me and the class of 2015 as they demonstrate what they've learned, what they care about and how some have taken action in their community for our first PASSION FAIR on

**May 23 and 24
Thursday and Friday
between 8:30 -12:30 and 1:10 - 3:10
at the Edina High School Media Center
6754 Valley View Rd in Edina.**

Each hour, students will set up a "Passion Display" to show you what they've learned in their in-depth analysis of their topic. Some of the students passions are:

- Simple, sustainable and affordable (SSA) technology solutions to a problem
- Literacy – and a subsequent book drive
- STEM education in high schools
- Art therapy
- Religious discrimination
- Art as social action
- The grass fed meat industry
- Football safety
- Aircraft design for stronger defense
- How robotics increases communication and problem solving
- Studying abroad lowers ethnocentrism
- Environmental friendly guitars
- Fuel efficiency
- Animal neglect
- ADHD is misdiagnosed
- Culture and history of a time impacts music being created
- Institutional discrimination of Hispanics in high school
- Impact of athletics on academic achievement
- Teen alcoholism
- Exercise reduces depression and obesity
- Stopping human sex trafficking

I will have a comprehensive schedule by Monday, May 13 to post and share.

Please consider joining us – and feel free to share this invitation. Call with questions and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Julie Rogers Bascom
Service-Learning Coordinator
Edina Public Schools
952.848.3957

Subject: Re: Parklawn/Lake Edina Pathway

Thanks Lynette:

Since the Council apparently approved the project last night, you can also convey to the Mayor that I am no longer a supporter of him and I will begin today to organize enough people to sign a petition to vote him out of office when the next election cycle comes up. That goes for the council members that also voted for the project.

It's unfortunate, with all of the current economic problems that we face today, that we have local officials that find it necessary to erode our economic fiber. Perhaps they should do something like this near their homes???

Oh, that's right, that would hurt their property valuesŠ..

HypocritesŠ..all of them.

Mark Ahern

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 3:32 PM
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: aircraft noise



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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From: Chris Reichert [mailto:Chris_Reichert@precisionlens.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 2:47 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: aircraft noise

Mayor Hovland,

I live in Parkwood Knolls (actually across the street from your daughter) and just recently my neighbor and I have noticed a significant amount of air traffic flying overhead in the afternoon. It was my understanding that the airport was not going to change flight patterns until further studies were done. Has something changed that we have not been made aware of?

Thank you.

Chris Reichert
Precision Lens
5775 West Old Shakopee Rd, #80
Bloomington, MN 55437
(952) 881-0414
(952) 881-2453 fax
www.precisionlens.net



PRECISION LENS™

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 4:26 PM
To: Scott Neal
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: 3 Barricades on Xerxes 60th - Crosstown

Good afternoon,

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



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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From: SJGLBG@aol.com [<mailto:SJGLBG@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2013 4:25 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: 3 Barricades on Xerxes 60th - Crosstown

Dear Mayor, City Council Members & City Manager,

As the subject line indicates there have been 3 barricades in this area for well over a month.

We have called the Hennepin Co street department and they referred us to Wayne Houle as the person who directed that these be placed there. We have called Wayne Houle numerous times asking for an explanation for this annoying situation. Our calls have gone unanswered. The residents in this area who use Xerxes numerous times a day are fed up with this situation as there is no construction in progress and we see no good reason for it.

We live a few blocks from there and find that traffic is backed up for blocks at times and the ability to get onto the crosstown in either direction or through traffic to Southdale, Fairview Hospital and the many other businesses is at a standstill for sometimes three or more stoplights. Now that Penn Avenue traffic is detoured onto Xerxes this situation has been exasperated even further.

We ask that you do a traffic study immediately to remove these barriers so that traffic may utilize both lanes and keep traffic moving.

Scott & LaVonne Garoutte
6105 Abbott Avenue South
Phone: 952-920-0853

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 2:12 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Bike path next to the 8th fairway of Fred Richards is not safe



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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

From: Schleck Family [<mailto:dschleck@comcast.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 1:42 PM
To: joshsprague@edinarealty.com; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Edina Mail; Mary Brindle (Comcast); swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Bike path next to the 8th fairway of Fred Richards is not safe

Dear City Council Members,

I was surprised to hear that the path next to the 8th fairway of Fred Richards Golf course was approved last night. It never occurred to me that the walkway proposal would pass when the walkway is next to a golf course fairway. When my children were younger, we would walk down to the end of Kellogg and look for golf balls along the fence. We always found many golf balls. Because the chance that another golf ball coming over the fence was high, I always had my kids wear their bike helmets to protect their heads.

To have the city put in a walkway in that area is not safe for the residents. Has anyone contacted Edina's insurance carrier? Just like with a new pool or trampoline, the insurance carrier will be interested to know about a new path. Specifically when one of the goals of the path is to connect kids to an elementary school route, and this path for children is being placed next to golf course known to have many golf balls go over the fence.

Sincerely,
Laura Schleck
7408 Kellogg Ave.
612-865-7852

Subject: Parklawn/Lake Edina Pathway

Jim:

As you know, my family and I are residents of the Cornelia South neighborhood of Edina and I am writing to you in opposition to the proposed Parklawn/Lake Edina Pathway project being considered by the council at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2013. This plan has not been communicated to the Cornelia South neighborhood in a meaningful and realistic matter and should not be approved. We believe that the plan needs additional study and the matter should be tabled until it can be fully addressed to determine what if any impacts it will have on community services, taxes and City costs.

I respectfully ask that the matter be tabled until a future meeting. Additionally, if the project does go through, without due consideration from the "tax paying" residents of this neighborhood, I will personally organize the efforts to make sure that the next election cycle includes other "more qualified" candidates that would be more centered and conservative in their approach to managing our community. This type of "socialistic" approach to our community, and the lack of consideration for our property values, is exactly the opposite of what we need in our local government representatives.

The Pathway Project is an embarrassment to those taxpaying citizens that have "worked" hard to build a thriving community. To insult us with such a project is to basically say that you could care less about the equity that we have built in our homes.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Mark Ahern

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 9:08 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Walking Paths

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

From: PMG [<mailto:pmg@SisyphusCafe.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 6:20 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Walking Paths

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of additional walking paths being added to the southeast quadrant of Edina, including the Lake Edina area. I have lived in the area for more than 20 years and have always enjoyed opportunities to walk to the nearby amenities of Centennial Lakes and shopping areas.

My 16 year old daughter walks places with her girlfriend, who lives on the south end of West Shore Drive, so this is key for them, too.

I encourage the City Council to consider this expansion as a positive step for continuing to improve livability in Edina.

Thank you,
Paulette Hastings
4420 Dunham Drive, Edina

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 8:57 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Lake Edina Park proposal

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

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

From: Rachel Christian [<mailto:jedisheeley@aol.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 5:58 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Lake Edina Park proposal

Hello,

Due to an ill child I am unable to attend tonight's meeting regarding the trail proposal at Lake Edina Park and I am hoping my feedback may still be considered. I am concerned about the placement of the trail in a park is very secluded and is not visible from a street. Any activity that goes on at the park, although public land, is not visible for patrolling by any one other than the residents that surround it.

The letter mentioned the possibility of a playground. Once again, if you make this area more accessible and create public space, I hope there is commitment of public law enforcement to be monitoring it on a regular basis. While I love the idea of good use of public green space, it should not be a private resident's burden to deal with behavior that might occur in space that is clearly not easily patrolled.

Thank you for allowing me to express my concerns.

Sincerely,
Rachel Christian
4413 Gilford Dr.
Edina, MN

Sent from my iPad

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 8:56 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Lake Edina pathway



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389
lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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

From: Sara Smalley [<mailto:smalley.sara@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 4:37 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Lake Edina pathway

As a new resident of the Cornelia area of Edina, I was thrilled to hear about the proposed Lake Edina pathway! Before moving here, I spent months researching neighborhoods and touring schools in SW Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, and Edina. We fell in love with Cornelia Elementary and met some great people in the neighborhood, and moved into our house on Fondell Drive in December.

Our research paid off. Our two boys are thriving at their new school and we've already made friends with our neighbors. Truly the only drawback to living here is the lack of walkability -- I like that our new neighborhood is quiet, but I don't like that it feels disconnected.

The Lake Edina pathway would be a very welcome addition to our quality of life. I would love to take family bike rides to Centennial Lakes to go to the farmers' market and watch the model yachts. I would love to take long walks with our dog and feel like I'm connected to the rest of my new hometown of Edina.

I also want to note that one of the things I appreciate the most about our boys' school is how much it feels like a community where everyone is included. Having a path for my kids' friends to walk on from Parklawn seems like a very basic way we can ensure all students can arrive safely at their community school.

I hope the future of Edina is one of greater walkability not less; one of more connections not fewer.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sara Smalley

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 8:44 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Path connecting to Parklawn to South Cornelia neighborhood



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

From: Vaughn Asselstine [<mailto:vaughn052@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 4:29 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Path connecting to Parklawn to South Cornelia neighborhood

Although we are not able to come to the meeting tonight we would like our voices to go on record as strongly supporting the proposed path connecting our neighborhood to the Parklawn neighborhood.

The South Cornelia neighborhood is near so many wonderful parks, stores and shopping areas but it is very difficult to safely access them. A new path connecting us to Parklawn would give us a safer way to get to Centennial Lakes for the Art Fair, Farmer's Market, the restaurants and the beautiful park. It will also be easier for us to connect to 77th street and get across 100 to wind our way to the beautiful paths in Bloomington.

We raised two daughters in this neighborhood and we were always frustrated by having no walking access to our neighborhood from the South end. Many times kids will cut through the yards and of course never felt safe or comfortable doing that. The path will also give better access to the Cornelia Elementary students who live in that neighborhood so they do not have to walk on France Ave and cross the busy dangerous streets where they intersect with France Ave. I rode the bus to downtown Minneapolis for ten years, walking up to France Ave to the bus stop. It was always dangerous.

Anything we can do to make our little neighborhood friendlier for pedestrians and kids on bikes is an improvement and the new path is a step in the right direction. It has our full support and we know many neighbors who also support it. Please move ahead with this important development as soon as possible - we are waiting to use it!!

Vaughn Asselstine
Lorenzo Tunesi

--

Great minds like a think

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 11:13 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Cornelia School Access Decoy for Regional Bike Path Connection

Good morning,

This message has been forwarded to Mayor Hovland and Ann Kattreh.



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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From: jmpetersen4@aol.com [<mailto:jmpetersen4@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 10:41 AM
To: wwwwolfe3@comcast.net; colleenwolfe5@comcast.net; hunzelman@comcast.net; tsperunovich@msn.com; TimD@bloomingtonelectric.com; John.Velgersdyk@DaviscoFoods.Com; dschleck@comcast.net; dcamarotto@bassford.com; berzinski@comcast.net; hallingfamily@gmail.com; p.m.ahern@comcast.net; tnterwilliger@comcast.net; knasby@comcast.net; pastang@comcast.net; nvucenich@msn.com
Cc: joshsprague@edinarealty.com; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Edina Mail; Mary Brindle (Comcast); swensonann1@gmail.com
Subject: Cornelia School Access Decoy for Regional Bike Path Connection

All,

Very frustrating to waste valuable time. In 4 hours max, I received 35 signatures from 34 properties, only 3 properties declined or neutral. This was against 60 signatures, one property and I imagine, some multiple (2) signatures per unit. This had nothing to do with the proposed need regarding Cornelia School access. It certainly had nothing to do with our kids and their safety (easy access to Parklawn and France - Trader Joe's for ice cream?). It had everything to do with and city prepared to make case for connecting regional bike routes. Note - Not one resident from the original petition property showed for the Hearing to speak. Public Hearing should imply something.

If the goal was to accomplish Regional bike connection and access to Cornelia School, a path similar to West Shore to Aspasia, would have been more appropriate and cheaper through the twin-homes on Oaklawn.

Future Note - If the Playground goes through, it has to move East, beyond the adjacent green / longer away from the tee. Regarding the lady that was comfortable with people getting hit by golf balls, since the city has insurance. Imagine a toddler getting hit in the forehead while swinging / enjoying the Park.

Golf tip - You can daily find at least one golf ball in the park space South of Art's - you just may have to beat someone to it.

Jim Petersen
7401 Kellogg Avenue

cc: The Mayor and Elected City Council

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 3:25 PM
To: Ann Kattreh
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Lake Cornelia path

God afternoon,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members and Ann Kattreh.



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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

From: K B Montgomery [<mailto:kmschoolmail@aol.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 3:18 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Lake Cornelia path

Dear City Council:

I am a resident writing in support of the Lake Edina Pathway project. The project serves the goal in Edina's Comprehensive Plan of making Edina a walkable, live-able and connected city. Currently residents south of Cornelia school must walk on busy, car-centric France Avenue in order to get to places north. The pathway would create a safe mode of connectivity for all residents including students going to Cornelia School. This summer Cornelia is hosting a number of summer school activities including Book and Math Club. Transportation to these programs can prove difficult. The pathway would allow greater community participation. In addition, the path would provide a safer route for neighbors who wish to go to the Farmer's Market, Centennial Lakes and the Library as well as area businesses. Edina is committed to being a Do.Town. The pathway would help fulfill those Do.Town goals. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim Montgomery

K B Montgomery
kmschoolmail@aol.com

Susan Howl

From: Jennifer Bennerotte
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 1:09 PM
To: ED Everyone; Ann Swenson; James Hovland (jhovland@krausehovland.com); Joni Bennett; Josh Sprague; Mary Brindle (Comcast)
Subject: April Website Report

Good afternoon!

We use Google Analytics to monitor activity on our website. Activity on the City of Edina website reflected the following activity during the month of April 2013:

Total visits: 63,477
Number of unique visitors: 42,597
Average time of each visit: 2 minutes, 51 seconds
Total page views: 189,289

About 46 percent of visitors came just one time. Nearly 54 percent visited more often.

Besides the home page, the most visited page was the Edinborough Park home page with 10,137 page views. Other top pages included the following (with number of page views):

Braemar Golf Courses – 9,229
Edinborough Park General Info – 6,100
Edinborough Park Adventure Peak – 5,588
Job Opportunities – 4,652
Centennial Lakes Park – 3,839
Edina Aquatic Center -- 3,271
Edina Art Center – 2,914
Art Center Classes – 2,501
Edinborough Park Virtual Tour – 2,286

The most frequently accessed PDF among visitors was the park facilities map. Other frequently downloaded files included the following:

March Braemar Arena calendar
Chapter 6 of the Comprehensive Plan
Dan Patch Study
Auto Payment Plan for Utility Billing
Community Street Map
Life File form
Section 850 of the City Code (Zoning)
Edina Country Club Brochure
Section 185 Schedule A of City Code (Fees and Charges)

The most popular blog category was the Parks & Recreation Department, followed by City Manager Scott Neal's and Name Your Neighborhood blogs. The most popular blog posts were "National Public Safety Telecommunications Week," "Why We Leave Our Squad Cars Running," "PIO, Who Are You?," and "What is Inevitable About Aviation Noise."

The most searched for terms to get people to our site were "City of Edina," "Braemar Golf," "Edinborough Park Edina," "Edinburgh Park," "Edina Art Center," "Edina MN," "Braemar Golf Course," "Edinborough Park" and "Edinborough." The most searched for words or phrases people used once people arrived at our site were "employment," "jobs," "search," "wedding," "recycling," "zoning map," "road restrictions," "parking," "tennis" and "zoning."

Speak Up, Edina

Activity on the "Speak Up, Edina" website reflected the following activity during the month of March 2013:

Total visits: 379

Number of unique visitors: 275

Average time of each visit: 2 minutes, 2 seconds

Total page views: 1,233

More than 42 percent of visitors came just one time. About 58 percent visited more often. Much of the site's activity was centered around the residential redevelopment discussion.

Ecommerce

Ecommerce on our sites totaled \$178,642.07. Top sellers were Aquatic Center season passes, \$120,248.45; road restriction permits, \$15,000; building permits, \$8,879.40; Adventure Peak birthday parties, \$4,890; and golf lessons, \$4,275.

Webstreaming

We have been streaming video on our website through Granicus for several years. In April, there were 539 views through Granicus. The most requested videos on Granicus in April were the April 2 City Council meeting, 134 views; April 16 City Council meeting, 129; April 10 Planning Commission meeting, 35; March 28 Planning Commission meeting, 30; April 24 Planning Commission meeting, 24; March 19 City Council meeting, 23; late April episode of "Agenda: Edina," 12; April 3 City Council meeting, 9; April 16 City Council meeting, 8; and March 13 Planning Commission meeting, 8.

We have been streaming all programming on YouTube since January 2011. In April 2013, there were 3,790 views on the City's YouTube channel. The most requested videos on YouTube in April were the late April episode of "Agenda: Edina," 334 views; story on the first handicapped-accessible home in Edina in the late April episode of "Agenda: Edina," 229; story on the Byerly's redevelopment in the early April episode of "Agenda: Edina," 223; story on the Braemar Golf Dome in the early April episode of "Agenda: Edina," early April episode of "Agenda: Edina," Braemar Golf Dome commercial featuring "Fred," 90; Edina Rotary Foundation "Moses Miracle" video, 89; Braemar Golf Dome commercial compilation, 86; and story on the Hornets Nest in the early April episode of "Agenda: Edina."

Suggestions, Comments

Please continue to review our new website and think about ways to improve it. If you have suggestions or questions, contact me. If you have things that need to be fixed, please write to helpdesk@EdinaMN.gov.



Jennifer Bennerotte, Communications & Technology Services Director

952-833-9520 | Fax 952-826-0389

JBennerotte@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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