

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Agenda Item #: IX. A.

From: Debra Mangen
City Clerk

Date: June 4, 2013

Subject: CORRESPONDENCE

Action
Discussion
Information

Action Requested:

Attached is correspondence received since the last Council Meeting.

No action is requested.



May 28th, 2013

Mayor Jim Hovland
Office of the Mayor
City of Edina
4801 W. 50th St.
Edina, MN 55424

Dear Mayor Hovland,

Please accept this letter as our cordial invitation to attend the World's Largest Swimming Lesson on Tuesday, June 18th from 10-11 a.m. at the Edina Aquatics Center. Each year, non-profits, public health organizations and municipal governments organize coordinated swim lessons for children around the world. This year, we are expecting that the Edina event will have a record number of participants. In fact, we believe that our event has an excellent chance to break the world record for the largest swim lesson at a single facility. Your presence, participation, and brief remarks will help us to not only draw attention to the importance of swim lessons, but will also raise the profile of the event in our community.

As you know, last year, we had a record number of drownings in Minnesota. We believe that the vast majority of these incidents could have been prevented if children had been taught appropriate swimming skills and prevention techniques. It is our hope that our swim lesson will contribute to a safer summer for the Edina community.

The Edina community, over the years, has been so supportive of our foundation's mission. Your presence at this event would be another great opportunity to showcase our partnership and your commitment to the children of Edina.

Please contact me or our program coordinator, Sam Carolus at sam@abbeyshope.org or 952.303.5421 if you'd like more details about our event. We look forward to hearing from you about your participation!

Keep the Faith,

Katey Taylor
Co-Founder, Abbey's Hope Charitable Foundation

6605 Kenney Place
Edina, MN 55439
May 29, 2013

Ann Kattreh
Park and Recreation Director
City of Edina
4801 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424-1394

Dear Ann,

Effective immediately, I am submitting my resignation as the Chair of the Edina Veterans Memorial Committee.

I am extremely proud of what the committee has accomplished to date, regarding the establishment of a memorial honoring the veterans from the Edina community who served their country. However, I believe that a change in the committee's leadership at this time would increase the probability that the memorial project will move forward resulting in the construction of the memorial.

I remain steadfast in my belief that a memorial in this community is long overdue and I will continue to support the committee's efforts in this regard in any way I am able.

I look forward to the day that the memorial is dedicated to all veterans, but especially to those who lost their lives in the service of their country.

Regards,

Michael G. Goergen

Cc: Mayor James Hovland
Kristin Aarsvold

Florence M. McCarthy
5501 Dewey Hill Road #321
Edina, Minnesota 55439

May 24, 2013

Scott Neal, City Manager and Jeff Long, Police Chief
City Hall
4801 W. 50th Street
Edina Minnesota 55424

Dear City Manager Neal and Police Chief Long,

I am writing to express my deep appreciation for the kindness, courtesy, and professionalism of an Edina police officer, Officer Scott Thompson.

Recently, my husband experienced a severe heart attack while driving his car. We are both in our 80s.

My first indication that this event had occurred was when Officer Thompson knocked on my door to advise me what had happened and to help get me to the hospital.

From my first contact with him, Officer Thompson was the essence of thoughtfulness, respect and consideration. I simply can not imagine how any person could have helped me through those first minutes and hour of that horrible time as well as Officer Thompson did.

He is an amazing person and a consummate professional who is a credit to the City of Edina and to the Edina Police.

I commend him to you and hope that he receives whatever recognition is appropriate for providing invaluable help and assistance to a citizen of Edina at what was a very difficult time. I am more grateful than you will ever know.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



P.S.: City Manager Neal has my permission to share this letter with the Council if he wishes and if Chief Long and Officer Thompson consent.

cc: Officer Scott Thompson

Subject: MSP FairSkies

Mayor Holvand,

My family just bought a home in SW Minneapolis, blocks from Edina, and we have many reasons why we're unhappy with the increased plane noise.

The first is our daughter's health.

According to a study commissioned by Germany's Federal Environment Agency, living under a flight path can seriously damage your health. German researchers have discovered that people who are exposed to jet noise have a substantially increased risk of stroke, high blood pressure and heart disease.

The second is the noise impacts being outside in our yard or at the park one block from our home. The plane noise is much worse than it ever has been so now we're impacted inside and outside the home. The reason we moved to SW Minneapolis is because of the beautiful nature, the low crime rates, the good schools and the home values which have appreciated at a higher rate than average. Now with this increased plane noise we have a much noisier home inside and out and one that won't be appreciating at a good percentage because it's now a less desirable area. Lake Harriet will also feel the environmental strain of this proposal.

We have an airport used by the state of Minnesota yet a high percentage of the flights are going over a very narrow corridor that happens to be a fully developed urban area. This will have a negative effect on the safety, health and livability of our neighborhoods.

Please overturn the federal statute since the FAA is not subject to state laws.

Thanks,
Tim

Tim Kresse | Senior National Underwriting Account Executive | American Public Media W 651.290.1521 | C 612.702.1482
| F 651.290.1149
480 Cedar Street | St. Paul, MN 55101
tkresse@americanpublicmedia.org

Susan Howl

From: Lynette Biunno on behalf of Edina Mail
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2013 10:43 AM
Cc: Susan Howl
Subject: FW: Growing Number of Americans Go Carless (CNBC Article)



Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov

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

From: Andrew Brown [<mailto:andrew.r.brown@att.net>]

Sent: Friday, May 24, 2013 10:31 AM

To: Sen.Melisa.Franzen@senate.mn; sen.david.senjem@senate.mn; rep.ron.erhardt@house.mn; rep.paul.thissen@house.mn; Dayton.Budget@state.mn.us; Charlie.Zelle@state.mn.us; Edina Mail; jacobsjeffrey@comcast.net; susan.haigh@metc.state.mn.us; steve.elkins@metc.state.mn.us; james.brimeyer@metc.state.mn.us; dana.graham@ci.northfield.mn.us; abrede@rochestertermn.gov; rep.mike.beard@house.mn; rep.david.bly@house.mn; rep.kurt.daudt@house.mn; rep.frank.hornstein@house.mn; rep.phyllis.kahn@house.mn; rep.ann.lenczewski@house.mn; rep.paul.rosenthal@house.mn; rep.kurt.zellers@house.mn; sen.scott.dibble@senate.mn; sen.jeff.hayden@senate.mn; sen.lyle.koenen@senate.mn; sen.julie.rosen@senate.mn; sen.katie.sieben@senate.mn; sen.dave.thompson@senate.mn; sen.kevin.dahle@senate.mn

Cc: whitney@tlcminnesota.org; Courtney Whited; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague@edinarealty.com; Jonibennett12@comcast.net; swensonann1@gmail.com; kpetersen@zanassoc.com; autumn.lehrke@co.washington.mn.us; councilmemberjen@aol.com; janice.rettman@co.ramsey.mn.us; linda.higgins@co.hennepin.mn.us; mike.slavik@co.dakota.mn.us; ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us; kfranke@stpaulpark.org; BHollenbeck@ci.hastings.mn.us; jkeller@gausman.com; sg60000@hotmail.com; Cam.Gordon@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Subject: Growing Number of Americans Go Carless (CNBC Article)

<http://www.cnbc.com/id/100762511>

The above article is for your information.

It is even more important now that we invest heavily in Light Rail, Street Cars and Inter City Passenger Rail so we remain a competitive state where people want to live, work and learn.

Do this to help generations of Minnesotans to come.

Please take next year's legislative session to invest heavily in:

SouthWest Light Rail

Bottineau Light Rail

Red Rock Rail (To Red Wing)

Zip Rail (to Rochester)

Northern Lights Express (to Duluth)

Extend NorthStar Rail to St.Cloud and Beyond to Cabin Country

Remove the Dan Patch Corridor Gag Rule

Street Cars in Minneapolis, St.Paul, State Fair Grounds, & Inner Ring suburbs

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Andy Brown

5512 Park Place

Edina MN 55424

612-220-3045

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AUTOMOBILES

Hot Trend in Automobiles: Not Owning One

Published: Friday, 24 May 2013 10:17 AM ET

By Paul Eisenstein, CNBC Contributor

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Whether by choice or through financial reality, the percentage of American households without a car has doubled over the past two decades—and is now approaching 1 in 10.

The impact of this trend could be significant, especially when it comes to alternatives to driving, such as car-sharing and mass

transit, according to research by CNW Marketing.

"While the recession was in large part responsible for the latest spurt, the trend was already clear," said CNW's research chief Art Spinella. "A growing number of Americans felt they didn't need or want a personal car."

[\(Read More: Younger Americans: No House, No Car, Less Debt\)](#)

According to CNW data, the number of U.S. households without a car stood at a modest 5.7 percent in 1991. That figure stayed relatively stable through the early part of the new millennium. But it has been increasing slowly since then, with a "rapid rise" beginning in 2007. By last year, the total number of carless households hit 9.3 percent.

[\(Read More From the Detroit Bureau: Sales Soaring, Detroit Makers Trim Summer Break to Boost Production\)](#)

The new research is in line with a separate study released last week by the U.S. Public Research Interest Group, or PIRG, which declared that "the driving boom is over." It noted a decline in the average household vehicle fleet, for one thing, and it found that millennial motorists are both waiting longer to get a driver's license than previous generations and clocking fewer miles on the road.

[\(Read More: Study Indicates That America's Driving Boom is Over\)](#)

CNW's research found that it's not a phenomenon limited to just millennials. The trend, said Spinella, is particularly noticeable among "both youngest and oldest Americans."

Where there's resurgent urbanization among U.S. youth, he pointed out, a growing number of the elderly have moved to retirement communities where owning a car is no longer a requirement for getting services, for example. That's a particularly notable shift for older baby boomers, a generation that defined America's "on the road" car culture.



BEHIND THE WHEEL WITH PHIL LEBEAU



Tesla Pays Off \$465 Million DOE Loan
The company became the first automaker to repay money under Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing program.



Lutz Sees Stripped Down Fisker as Potential Gem
Bob Lutz is teaming up with Wanxiang Group, a Chinese auto parts supplier, in a bid to buy the ailing Fisker.



Mercedes S-Class: Ups Tech and Luxury
Mercedes-Benz is digging in and putting more features into its redesigned flagship S-Class sedan.

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(More From the Detroit Bureau: Chevy's New Spark Battery Car Will Cost Under \$20k)

Without a sudden reversal, the trendline suggests that the number of carless households could reach 10 percent this year or soon afterward. The question is whether the trend is going to continue indefinitely. As the recession clearly has been a factor in the shift, the economic recovery could lead at least some carless households to add wheels. But various studies suggest there are other factors at work and that there may never be a return to the high level of households with cars seen as recently as the 1990s.

The impact is likely to be felt in a number of ways

While the U.S. new car market is recovering after its worst downturn since the Great Depression, few people expect demand to reach the more than 17 million peak seen during past recoveries

And as the number of no-vehicle households rises, CNW forecasts the auto industry may be forced to shift more vehicles into fleets, whether commercial, government or even the fast-growing list of car-sharing services.

(More From the Detroit Bureau: Driverless Cars Draw Strong Public Interest)

"While the full impact of these trends are years away, we can see the formation of a future that includes more car-sharing, increased use of public transportation and diminishing status of owning a new vehicle," said Spinella. "Again, this is years away—perhaps a decade—but the shift is clearly taking root."

By CNBC Contributor Paul Eisenstein. Follow him on Twitter @DetroitBureau

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COMMENTS

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javfa | May 24, 2013 08:34 AM ET

My employer supplies mine, otherwise I would be driving a limo. Automobiles are one of the largest drains on personal income. College is the other.

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asisaid | May 24, 2013 08:38 AM ET

oh yeah I well I even saw a pig driving a car on tv

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juDiamond | May 24, 2013 09:02 AM ET

Instead of wrapping a fancy care around a fat a55

how bout

losing weight?

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Radical_1 | May 24, 2013 09:22 AM ET

Maybe it has something to do with that 20-25% jump in prices for both new and used that they've taken in the last few years. But just remember, there is NO INFLATION!!!

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Zachjp2010 | May 24, 2013 09:40 AM ET

Having lived in America for long enough

I would find it very hard to believe that you could make it in this country without a car. Simply job opportunities are spread out within 100's-1000's of square miles within each megaregion.

This may have more to do with people living closer to urban centers, the development of more mass transit options, and the amount of people out of work and on disability/retired than anything else.

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NoKoolaid4MeTks | May 24, 2013 09:40 AM ET

Don't worry, Obama is working on this... you will soon get a free car with your Obama Care Phone!

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Ghost_of_Xmas_Future | May 24, 2013 10:04 AM ET

Cars are a rip-off, plain and simple. If people can make this work, it's great. With Obama's economy producing nothing but low end retail jobs, and everybody's savings getting destroyed by zero interest rates and runaway food, fuel prices, this makes sense. Live in urban areas near shopping and work, take public transportation, walk or bike. You'll save money and probably burn calories also.

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Shelgame | May 24, 2013 10:16 AM ET

Look for this to continue and increase. America is becoming a 2nd world country and we have our government, our voting record, and our corporations for this problem.

Finally we see that everything does not grow on trees, and someone actually needs to go out and work, someone needs to take responsibility for their own healthcare, employment, retirement, and survival.

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digital24 | May 24, 2013 10:22 AM ET

More people live in urban areas, for which you do not need a car. The most fierce battleground for car sharing in Europe is Munich, home to BMW. It is also not a coincidence that Munich has one of the highest rates of people using bicycles to get around town. It costs 75-100 Euros per month to rent a car space in an apartment building. Then you pay at least \$5 per hour if you want to park the car while shopping in the city center. Gasoline costs are high. Finally, people are not earning enough to pay Adios cars. The next frontier is electric bicycles which allow you to arrive at work without having broken a sweat.

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tpn1 | May 24, 2013 10:24 AM ET

There is inflation, a modest 2% inflation comes out to 22% in ten years. I believe that car price inflation has outpaced the average inflation.

Years ago no bank in the country would give a car loan for more than 36 months. Cars have stayed more affordable even with above average inflation because the car loans have been extended out to 72 months. But that really hurts when you want to trade your car in. Before a person would have equity when they traded in their vehicle, now they are underwater.

And you know that most of that price goes to paying the interest on all the bonds that the mismanaged auto manufacturers have accumulated.

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Your Comments (Up to 1100 characters)

5/21/13

Dear Mayor James Howland, Jay Jensen
and Denise from the "Waters of Edina".

I was encouraged to write you this
letter from my friends at Colonial Church,
my ministers wife & other leaders - Deacons
etc. People I love & trust - my dear
grand children (Tom 80) -
because - - - -

I have been told in many conversations
with Janet & others at the "Waters"
about how thrilled they were that
the Edina Council voted yes! for
7 subsidized apt for the "Waters of
Edina"; over a year ago, also written
up in a huge article in the STAR
Wonderful Article! How others
churches would follow like
Colonial Church of Edina.

The Waters wrote me a letter
telling me how excited they were
I was coming to live there
1st me (subsidized), Janet took
Care of Rules & etc
I was invited to all the

information meetings at Colonial²
Church - met the Wonderful Chaplain
& insisted at the ground breaking.

Three weeks ago or so - I received
a letter from Denise about coming
in, at the office of the Waters of Edina
at Colonial Church to be one of
the first to choose my apt.

(I'd known from the beginning ^{two}
years ago I was to be subsidized!
my yearly income being \$18,800)

I called Denise at Colonial
Church about choosing my apt at
the Waters

she said: "O, NO ^{good} they? Decided
People who live in Edina don't
need to be subsidized - So we
are not subsidizing 7 apt!

What a shock & lie -

I have been a member & Deacon
at Colonial Church for 27
years (32 at St Stephens, grew up in the
Country Club, my husband, who
coached (volunteer) Edina to & keep for
32 years) Raised our four children
in the Country Club - my
husband died suddenly, ^{after} running 21 years
ago - I went to Africa in 1982

3.
Civil Union Vision & the 3 Churches & their
Ministers in 1982 & again in 1990
Civil Colonial Church - in the names
& India - 4 Sioux Indian reservations every
year for 20 Cans & Cass Lake -

I have been working with seniors
for 18 years - Receptionists at Park Shore
Senior Campus - Summit Place, Eden Prairie
& I have now been a Companion to
Seniors through Promise Care - now
in 80 and no longer can work

I Love Edina (my Grandparents
lived one of the first homes - the Country Club)

I really need a letter of explanation
of why the 7 Subsidial that were
passed by the Council over a year ago
for the Waters of Edina were Reversed
to a No?!

I thought I was moving in there - was
told I was - Come Choose your apt!

I called with a No - No
Phone call to me or a letter
explaining why? Everyone at Colonial,
my family & friends, many also
encouraged me to find out why?

I am wondering why?
Thanks, Sincerely, Nancy Edmund

Over for my address & phone number -

1600 HOPKINS CROSSROAD
MINNETONKA, MINNESOTA
55305-2026

952-358-5177

September 20, 2011 RESENT November 7, 2011

Dear Nancy,

*and I received many letters & invitations to
Plans at Colonial, meeting
the Chaplain & Ground Breakings etc.*

On behalf of The Waters Senior Living, I'd like to thank you for your continued interest in The Waters of Edina, the planned senior living community adjacent to the Colonial Church of Edina.

I am excited to share with you an update on the building's progress. Thanks to your support, we recently received all necessary city approvals and are now in the process of finalizing funding and placing the finishing touches on architectural plans. From the positive feedback we've received, we are confident that the remaining phases of the development process will go smoothly.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring/summer of 2012 with a grand opening in 2013. Once the building is completed, we look forward to welcoming you as one of the first residents of the premier senior living destination in the Twin Cities.

As a reminder, I've included some highlights of the "gracious living and genuine caring" The Waters of Edina will offer:

- A gorgeous senior living campus designed to complement its neighboring landmark, the Colonial Church of Edina
- Outdoor areas that include fountains, waterfalls, extensive landscaping, and walking trails
- Spacious floor plans that include upscale finishes, nine-foot ceilings, upgraded kitchen features, walk-in closets, high speed internet, individually controlled heating and cooling systems, and 24-hour security systems
- A strong focus on wellness with features such as a therapy pool, spa area, exercise room and community room/chapel
- Round-the-clock health and personal services if needed, all in one location
- A variety of wellness programs, spiritual services, social activities and dining options in areas such as the bistro, restaurant, theater room, game room, library, craft room, and parlor

We will let you know as soon as pricing plans and housing applications are available. We will provide another update during the 2011 holiday season.

If you have any questions, please call 952-358-5177. We hope you have an enjoyable autumn!

Sincerely,



Jay Jensen
The Waters Senior Living

*see 8 - Do I apply
on do you ?*

Hello MN SRTS coalition--

Congratulations! The Minnesota Safe Routes to School program was funded at \$500,000 per biennium! This money is in the base funding for the Minnesota Department of Transportation which means it will be continued into future biennia. This is the first-ever commitment in the state transportation budget to ensure that our children are given the opportunity to safely walk and bike to school. This funding will help communities plan SRTS programs, provide training for staff and volunteers to support SRTS, and other non-infrastructure costs that are crucial to a successful SRTS program. This funding will be awarded on a competitive basis to schools across Minnesota.

Already Thinking Ahead to Next Year...While we had requested a total of \$16 million in bonding dollars ((\$12.8M infrastructure) and general fund (\$3.2M non-infrastructure) for SRTS, we were pleased that the Legislature supported this out of all the competing priorities for transportation dollars. We have a strong foothold in the bonding bill for next year. The House, Senate and Governor had agreed upon an \$800 million bonding package that included \$2 million for SRTS. That bill went to the House floor late last week and unfortunately fell short of the super majority vote needed to pass a bonding bill. (They were short just 5 votes.)

This required the Capital Investment Chairs, leadership and the governor to go back to the drawing board and ultimately they crafted a greatly scaled back bonding bill at \$176 million that included Capitol building renovations and a handful of other urgent projects which did garner the super majority to pass. The big take-away for next year: we know there is support for SRTS in next year's bonding bill (evidenced by the fact it was included in the original House/Senate/Gov agreement on bonding). However, we cannot rest on our laurels. We will need to be sure that SRTS projects are included in the tours that the Capital Investment Committees will be taking over the next year. We need to keep our coalition active to make sure legislators hear us. And we must continue to trumpet the successes and the need for more resources in Minnesota for SRTS.

Thank you for your help in achieving this tremendous success!

We again made a strong showing at the Capitol for SRTS as a coalition. Thanks to the **Minnesota Bicycle Alliance** for co-leading this effort with **American Heart Association**. Thanks to **Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota** for their invaluable contribution to this effort—thanks to Jill Chamberlain and Monica Dionne for providing the local projects at the district level for legislators. This was an incredible asset to provide to legislators who know all politics is local. Thanks to BCBS—MN for giving us time with their rock star communications expert, Steve Kinsella. Steve quickly identified opportunities to spread the word about SRTS throughout the process and was instrumental in creating the video that helped kick the campaign off. These assets brought by BCBS-MN in research and communications made a tremendous difference for those of us at the Capitol—it freed us up to concentrate on lobbying and it provided some of the most persuasive information we could share with legislators. Thanks to **Transit for Livable Communities** and **Fresh Energy** for their advice and support for the SRTS coalition—particularly for those of us new to lobbying on transportation issues. Thanks to **Mission: Readiness** and Major General Rodney Hannula (ret.) for communicating your perspective on national security and childhood obesity to lawmakers. It was a timely and persuasive message! And thanks to **American Cancer Society** for doing a lot of heavy lifting on lobbying legislators. I know I left off key stakeholders and individuals—but please know that this effort was **truly a team effort** and would not have been possible without the contributions of the entire coalition. Thank you for your role in this success.

Next Steps:

Please reach out to the following legislators and thank them for their support of SRTS this year:

Sen. Transp. Chair Scott Dibble sen.scott.dibble@senate.mn

House Transp. Chair Frank Hornstein rep.frank.hornstein@house.mn

House Capital Investment Chair Alice Hausman rep.alice.hausman@house.mn

House chief author of SRTS Rep. Melissa Hortman rep.melissa.hortman@house.mn

Senate chief author of SRTS Sen. Melisa Franzen sen.melisa.franzen@senate.mn

Thanks again! It is a pleasure to work with such a committed group of advocates!

Rachel Callanan, JD MNM

Regional Vice President of Advocacy, Minnesota & Wisconsin

American Heart Association, Midwest Affiliate

TO: CITY OF EDINA - CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM: 6566 FRANCE AVENUE SOUTH, CONDO # 1210 - Owner Norman Perl

DATE: MAY 15, 2014

RE: PROPOSED BUILDING AT 6500 FRANCE AVENUE

It is my position that the proposed building at 6500 France Avenue is too large for the space. The new proposal asks for a Maximum Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of 2.1% which is twice that allowed by the zoning ordinance. Also the site density requested by the developers is 88 units/acre. Similar senior housing developments in Edina are between 34 and 42 units/acre.

I am not opposed to a senior housing project, however, it should be built within the rules of the city ordinances.

Owner's Name Norman Perl NORMAN PERL

Signature Norman Perl

Hello!

Is there a reason why we weren't consulted before our nice, quiet street of retirement homes was destroyed?

The reason we lived + worked here was because you don't really need a car or 3! Getting older we may not want to

drive in a few years + we can walk to Library, Senior Center, Dentist, Bank, Grocery + drug stores + Bank.

Does this include J.M.S. Builders - destroying Edina?

We've already been through raising young families - the difference is that we watched our children + now no one checks on them. I pray to God they don't get killed - they are so precious.

We were told that J.M.S. has bought the city of Edina + we can do nothing. When we moved here 50 years ago we were hardly allowed to step a foot in either direction. What happened to all the wonderful City of Edina we loved + respected?
Thank you
Marcy Halpin