

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: MAYOR & COUNCIL

Agenda Item #: IX. A.

From: Debra Mangen
City Clerk

Date: October 21, 2014

Subject: Correspondence

Action
Discussion
Information

Action Requested:

No action is necessary.

Attachment:

Attached is correspondence received since the last Council meeting.

*You are cordially invited to a
Celebration of*

*Edina Public Schools
Confucius Classroom*

Friday, October 31, 2014

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Edina High School

6454 Valley View Rd, Edina, MN 55439

(Please enter through Door #7)

Reception following program

RVSP to Cindy Heim

952-848-3803 or cynthia.heim@edinaschools.org

David Bly
State Representative

District 20B
Le Sueur and Rice Counties



Minnesota House of Representatives

Dear Minnesota Regional Leader:

I am writing to invite you to a meeting of elected and appointed officials on **Thursday, October 16 in Northfield** to discuss the possibility of restoring **inter-city passenger rail service** in our region, and how we might work together to pursue this service. Following several meetings of regional leaders on this topic back in 2010, this meeting will provide an update on the State Rail Transportation Plan which is currently under revision, consider the map of regional passenger rail projects that are now being pursued across the state, and look also at options for connecting our region with the potential passenger rail network as well as with the light rail projects that are already underway in the metro area. We will also consider the organizing strategies of three other regional passenger rail initiatives that are now underway in the state.

When talking to my constituents, I find growing interest in alternative transportation systems due to concerns with factors such as the environment, increasing issues related to population growth, and dependence on fossil fuels. Increased roadway wear and tear as well as congestion have also become cause for concern.

In 2001, a study was done to investigate the possibility of *commuter* rail on the Dan Patch corridor. This plan was met with strong opposition, which resulted in shutting down any statewide conversation about passenger rail in this corridor. The purpose of this meeting is to try to pull together an advocacy group to represent the interest in organizing to pursue regional *inter-city passenger* rail as a way to meet the identified needs of businesses and workers within our communities. Please join us to hear these reports and to share your ideas for how we might work together to advocate for needed policy changes and investment in our region.

2014 Regional Leaders Meeting for the Northfield Corridor Regional Passenger Rail Project

Thursday, October 16, 2014, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Great Hall, Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota (Enter campus at College and 1st Streets; the Great Hall is accessible through the Sayles Hill Campus Center which will be on your left at the end of the cul-du-sac. On-Street parking is available on College and First Streets, immediately adjacent to campus.)

Please RSVP to Rep.David.Bly@house.mn and feel free to share this letter with those in your office who you feel may find the meeting of interest.

We thank Carleton College for hosting this meeting, which is being organized by a working group of the Northfield Grass Roots Transit Initiative. For more information on this project, feel free to contact me at Rep.David.Bly@house.mn or Suzie Nakasian in Northfield at SuzieNakasian@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Bly".

David Bly
State Representative

211 N. Lincoln St., Northfield, Minnesota 55057
State Office Building, 100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1298

FAX: (651) 296-8605 Email: rep.david.bly@house.mn

(612) 327-0119
(651) 296-0171



Heather Branigin

From: Hall, Gen E. <ghall@larkinhoffman.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 08, 2014 11:03 AM
To: Edina Mail; 'jonibennett12@comcast.net'; Mary Brindle; 'joshsprague@edinarealty.com'; 'swensonann1@gmail.com'; Cary Teague; Scott H. Neal; 'rknutson@ck-law.com'
Subject: FW: LT TO CITY OF EDINA
Attachments: Document.pdf

On behalf of Bob Long, please forward this letter to the Planning Commission members. Thank you.

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

From: Hall, Gen E.
Sent: Wednesday, October 08, 2014 10:53 AM
To: Hall, Gen E.
Subject: LT TO CITY OF EDINA

Please open the attached document. This document was digitally sent to you using an HP Digital Sending device.

To view this document you need to use the Adobe Acrobat Reader. For more information on the HP MFP Digital Sending Software or a free copy of the Acrobat reader please visit:

http://www.hp.com/go/HP_Digital_Sender_Module.com

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Larkin Hoffman Daly & Lindgren Ltd.

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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55431-1194

GENERAL: 952-835-3800
FAX: 952-896-3333
WEB: www.larkinhoffman.com

October 8, 2014

Chair Staunton and Planning Commission
Members
City of Edina
4801 W. 50th St
Edina MN, 55424

Re: Citizens to Preserve the Edina Regional Medical District
Beacon Interfaith Supportive Housing Project, 3330 West 66th Street, Edina, MN

Dear Chair Staunton and Planning Commission Members:

We represent the Citizens to Preserve the Edina Regional Medical District (“CPERMD”) with regard to opposition to the City’s Comprehensive Plan amendment and rezoning actions on behalf of the Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative (“Beacon”) supportive housing project located at 3330 West 66th Street (the “Project”), located in the City of Edina (the “City”). CPERMD is comprised of property owners, business owners, and tenants of the Edina Regional Medical District (the “District”) and was formed to advocate for the ongoing integrity of the District as one of the state’s premier medical districts. This letter is intended to provide the City with notice of substantial concerns regarding the City’s handling of the Project and the Project approvals.

Forthcoming Legal Challenge

Please be aware that CPERMD will be filing a complaint requesting judicial review of the City’s Comprehensive Plan amendment and rezoning decision in Hennepin County District Court.

Final Rezoning is in Violation of State Law Due to Conflict with the Comprehensive Plan

As of today, the City’s Comprehensive Plan amendment to allow the Project to proceed has not yet been approved by the Metropolitan Council (the “Met Council”) and the City’s consideration of the final rezoning and final development plan is not authorized under Minnesota law. Under Minnesota Statute, the City cannot implement any measures that would allow development or rezoning in a manner which conflicts with the City’s Comprehensive Plan. *Minn. Stat. § 473.865*. Any changes to the Comprehensive Plan must be reviewed by the Met Council before the proposed amendment can go into effect and before any rezoning can be permitted under Minnesota law. *Minn. Stat. §§ 462.355, 473.864(2)*. Therefore, the Comprehensive Plan must first be properly amended, then, and only then, can the City consider rezoning. *Minn. Stat. § 473.175, subd. 2*.

The proposed final rezoning for the Project is an official control in direct contradiction to the City’s Comprehensive Plan and cannot be considered until the City follows the state-mandated procedures

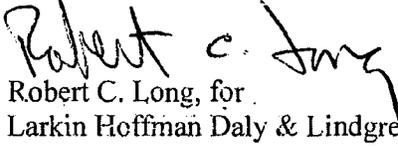
Chair Staunton and
Planning Commission Members
October 8, 2014
Page 2

to amend the Comprehensive Plan as described above. An approval to rezone for the Project in conflict with the City's current Comprehensive Plan and prior to the proper approval of the proposed amendment violates Minnesota law. The Comprehensive Plan amendment must be completed and take effect prior to the consideration of a rezoning proposal.

The Planning Commission should not recommend approval of the final rezoning required for the Project as the final rezoning proposal is in conflict with the City's current Comprehensive Plan and would be in violation of Minnesota law.

If you have any questions about this letter or the information above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Long, for
Larkin Hoffman Daly & Lindgren Ltd.

Direct Dial: 952-896-3232
Direct Fax: 952-842-1779
Email: rlong@larkinhoffman.com

cc: Mayor Hovland and Council Members
Scott Neal, City Manager
Roger Knutson, City Attorney
Cary Teague, Community Development Director

Heather Branigin

From: Eric Ice <Eric.Ice@genmills.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2014 8:44 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Fred Richards Development - Platform Tennis Court

Please pass the following onto City Council and the Park Board:

I would like to encourage the board to consider installing a public platform tennis court as part of the redevelopment plan. Minnesota only has two public platform courts available right now, both located in Deephaven. Currently, the only other options for platform tennis enthusiasts are local country clubs. The repurposing of the Fred Richards course presents a great opportunity to change that.

- Why platform? Look at the city of Hinsdale, Illinois as a perfect model. The city has similar demographics to Edina and despite only having 18,000 people, they now have over 250 participating in leagues and 1,000 regular players participating since installing five platform courts. Edina is saturated with hockey rinks but there is an untapped market for public platform courts and this city has the means and public interest in the sport to capitalize on it. I regularly play on the weekend in Deephaven and often have to wait to get a court. Let's create more availability in Minnesota!

http://www.platformtennis.org/news/GrowingTheSport/Growing_the_Sport_in_Hinsdale_Illinois.htm

- There are grants available for public courts. The City of Deephaven received funding as did the following cities:

Congratulations to the following six grantees (and their proposers):

Charleston, South Carolina (Jerry Albrikes)
Kansas City, Kansas (Chace Brundige)
Northbrook, Illinois (Dan Niswonger)
Pine Manor, Massachusetts (Jeff Ward)
Scituate, Massachusetts (Bill Horne)
Stonington, Connecticut (Russ Burgess)

If you are a local organizer or player with a project in mind, please contact the [Growth Committee](#).

- This is sport for all ages and abilities. Couples love playing together and I often see families enjoying the sport out in Deephaven. What a great way to spend a weekend winter day in Minnesota. Please consider looking into this opportunity as you consider options that will increase public interest in the parks and differentiate Edina moving forward.

...and finally, for those not familiar with the sport – here's an example point from some high level players in the Chicago area. There is absolutely no reason we cannot have these weekend mixer events to bring the community together at a PUBLIC park like here in Chicago's North Suburbs and not a local country club.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lt-1F8SKVfQ>

Regards,

Eric Ice

Heather Branigin

From: rebali123@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2014 11:43 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Contact Us form submission

Name: Jeanne

Organization:

Website:

Address_1:

Address_2:

City: Edina

State: MN

Zip_Code:

Email: rebali123@aol.com

Phone: 952-201-3555

Referrer: google

Message: Shame on you for approving the bldg in front of the Yorktown apartments. Now they are cutting down beautiful full grown trees. It is not progress, but is just destruction.

Heather Branigin

From: Knutson, Katie (CI-StPaul) <katie.knutson@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2014 12:04 PM
To: Knutson, Katie (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Meeting Materials from the
Attachments: 2014 Cost participation and Maintenance summary Draft 9-30-14.pdf; MNDOT_84percent_Presentation.pdf; 84Coalition.pdf; Transportation Presentation to Governors.pdf; 84% Coalition_final_10-1-14.pdf; Funding Options For Cities.docx

Hello,

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the October meeting of the 84% Coalition: Mayors for Municipal Roads. We had great presentations from our speakers and an intelligent and informative discussion. I have attached the power points and handouts from our presenters, please note the 2014 cost participation and maintenance summary from MNDOT is attached in DRAFT form.

Also attached you will find the "menu" of options to address city street needs. This list compiles all the ideas we've heard in our conversations over the last few months. Please review the list and come prepared to the final meeting, on November 7th, to discuss these options. If there is a solution or idea not included in this list that you would like considered please reach out to me.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns feel free to reach out to the co-chairs Mayor Coleman and Mayor Froehlich or myself at any time.

Best,

Katie



Katie Knutson
Government Relations Associate
Office of Mayor Christopher B. Coleman
15 West Kellogg Blvd, Suite 390
Saint Paul, MN 55102
P: 651-266-8519
katie.knutson@ci.stpaul.mn.us

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**Lake Harriet Area Regional Sewer Rehabilitation Project –
Construction Update October 10, 2014**
(all dates are approximate and depend on weather and construction conditions)

Upcoming Work in the 50th Street and France Avenue Area

- Starting Monday night, October 13, the existing sewer pipes will be cleaned and lined. This work will occur between 8:00 p.m. and 5 a.m., Sunday nights (except October 12) through Friday mornings. Work will begin at 49th St. and France Ave. and will proceed south on France Ave. to 50th St., east on 50th St. to Drew Ave., north on Drew Ave. to 49th St., and east on 49th St. Noise from the nighttime work will be primarily from trucks and generators.
- "Lay flat hose" will be used for temporary wastewater conveyance between the sewer access shaft at Halifax Ave. and Drew Ave. along 50th St. while the cleaning and lining work is being done each night. This hose will be rolled up each morning so that traffic is not affected during the day.
- Parking will be restricted on both sides of France Avenue and 50th Street at night while sewer pipes are cleaned and lined.
- There will be one night where affected properties in the block where work is occurring will be asked to refrain from discharging water into the sewer system (flushing toilets and draining water) during the nighttime work hours while the sewer system is disrupted. Regular water usage and drainage may resume after 5 a.m. Affected properties will be notified 48 hours in advance by project personnel with a door hanger of sewer service disruption.
- There may be a resin smell from curing of the new sewer liner and/or a sewer odor while this work is done although every effort is made to minimize these odors. We encourage property owners to make sure there is water in all of the drain traps in their property, as this helps contain odors in the underground pipes.
- During this repair work, the temporary pumps and temporary pipes will convey wastewater past the repair area and back into the existing sewer system. The temporary wastewater conveyance pipes are active pressurized sewers. If you notice any vandalism to these pipes or other construction equipment, please report it to the police.

Who Should You Contact?

For questions or concerns about this work, contact MCES staff:

- **Tim O'Donnell**, Project Citizens Liaison, 651-602-1269, tim.odonnell@metc.state.mn.us
- **Sarah Hachey**, Assistant Contract Administrator, 651-325-6219, sarah.hachey@metc.state.mn.us
- **Dave Elzinga**, Construction Contract Administrator, 651-602-8924, david.elzinga@metc.state.mn.us

For complaints regarding after-hours construction activity, contact Minneapolis Information and Services by dialing 3-1-1 in Minneapolis or 612-673-3000 from cell phones and phones outside of Minneapolis.



To sign up for project e-mail updates, send an e-mail to: MCESLakeHarriet@zanassoc.com stating that you would like to receive Lake Harriet Area Sewer Rehabilitation Project e-mail updates. Additional information about the Lake Harriet Area Sewer Rehabilitation Project will be posted and updated periodically on the Metropolitan Council's website: www.metrocouncil.org/sewerconstructionupdates

NINA S. FLANDERS
7151 York Avenue South Apt 1114
Edina, MN 55435
952-830-1289
Email: nsflanders29@gmail.com

October 13, 2014

Mr. Dexter I. Sidney, Director
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Minneapolis Field Office
910 - 2nd Avenue So.
Suite 1310
Minneapolis, MN 55402-4012

RE: Yorktown Continental Apartments
Disrespect and Disregard for Residents Rights

Dear Sir:

As every aging tree was felled and every lilac bush on the property was destroyed, it isn't just the residence of Yorktown Continental who felt the loss; others in the area expressed their disbelief and dismay at what was happening as they too spoke with anger by the devastation.

Ten years ago when I moved here, I was given a HUD booklet on Residents Rights and Responsibilities. Are these still valid or do we no longer have any rights, any voice in what is happening to our homes? From the Edina City Council to the Minnesota Housing Authority and even HUD it appears the words in the booklet are meaningless. A few of us spoke for many at the Edina City Council; they generously gave each speaker three minutes of their time and once we spoke, we were silenced with the threat of forceful ejection if we said anything more. The developer had all the time he wanted to convince the Council to approve this project with all the variances to accommodate a building too large for the berm where it will be erected. Some of our residents have lived in this building for over 30 years; they truly call it home. But this project gives them no voice in any planning. We are forced to the back of the building as the new building takes precedence in everything. Those who have lived here for 30 years saw the small saplings grow into stately trees that protected us from the pollution spewing from trucks, cars and motorcycles that are ever present on York Avenue. People with lung disease will soon feel the loss in the breathe (oxygen) produced by the trees as the protective berm is wiped out. The new building's residence get preference with an underground parking garage and the space along the north side of Yorktown Continental is for their caretakers autos and on the south side,

a few spaces for their guests.

There is a lot of anger in grief and many of us mourn what was lost as trees, lilac bushes, gardens – our environment – was destroyed. On Thursday, the 7th, I was selling raffle tickets for the Residents Association annual fund drive and spoke then of having a funeral for the trees. Flowers can be replaced quite easily but not these aging trees. After I was finished, I went upstairs and made a sign so others would know of the planned service. At 6:00 AM on the 10th, I went downstairs and posted 6 of them in the common areas. This is exactly how the sign read:

*FRIDAY OCTOBER 10TH –
11AM DINING ROOM*

A FUNERAL – A TIME TO GRIEVE WHAT WE HAVE LOST IN THIS TAKE-OVER BY PREMIER MANAGEMENT. THERE IS A LOT OF ANGER WHEN WE LOSE SOMETHING OF GREAT VALUE – IN THIS INSTANCE OUR TREES, FLOWERS AND THE LANDSCAPE AS WELL AS MANAGEMENT'S CHOICE TO SHOW NO REGARD AND DISRESPECT THE ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED.

When I went downstairs that morning, I discovered all the signs had been removed, Even at that we had ten residents attending that memorial service. A prayer was said, Kipling's poem Trees was read and people were allowed to express their emotions in a caring environment.

After the service was over, I went to the managers office with a copy of Residents Rights and Responsibilities in hand and asked the Manager which one of them had taken down my signs as I read from HUDS pamphlet about my “*right to post materials in common areas informing other residence of their rights and opportunities to involve themselves in their project.*” Further, “*The right to organize as residents without obstruction, harassment or retaliation from property owners or management.*” The office manager had nothing to say but the bookkeeper came from her office, handing me one of my signs, said she had taken them down stating I couldn't demean management in any posted material. There is absolutely nothing demeaning in what I wrote; it simply states the loss we feel in what is happening; we have been disregarded and disrespected by this management company.

Originally, we were told they would keep us posted on when work started; however most of us were startled out of our sleep when about 6:00 AM on the 9th, we heard the big equipment moving a shed and digging up an old tank as they also started felling the trees on the berm; by 10:00 AM most of them were gone even as we'd been told that project probably wouldn't start until spring.

I believe it was the same day or possibly on Tuesday, October 10th, once the office closed one of the maintenance men posted a sign in each elevator regarding parking in the back with five handicapped spaces. Now if they respected the residents here, those handicapped signs would have been removed right then and moved to the front of the building. Instead they were being bulldozed by the contractor. Residents were ordered to park in the very back of the lot in the adjacent office building. For many of the elderly who still drive, that's quite a long

walk for those recovering from knee or hip surgery, arthritis and other physical ailments. Is that disregarding Residents needs? Did they respect the handicapped who couldn't find parking in front of the building.

We have had to be recertified at least three if not four times this year and each time we had to call the Social Security office with a specific date in mind. Management had no problem putting a message on or under our doors for these specific things – but when it came to the parking, Premier didn't find it necessary to inform residence far enough in advance to make arrangements for moving a car. A sign in each elevator was the extent of their contact as again on Friday, October 11th about 4:30 when the office closed for the day, another sign went up – one in each of the two elevators demanding people on the south side move their cars by 7:00 AM Saturday the 12th with a warning they would be towed if they didn't comply with the order. People often leave town and leave their cars in the lot while they are gone; others may be hospitalized and there are those who come downstairs once a day for mail; then return to their apartments until the next day's mail. Four cars were towed to the impound lot and with the office closed, those residents were asking other residents “*What impound lot has my car?*” Can you imagine the frustration and the time lost trying to find your car? Would you call this respectful of the residents? Today I learned that since Thursday, there are no lights in what is left of our parking. That's a disaster just waiting to happen!

Even as most residents have Social Security, perhaps a small pension, all have worked and played by the rules (you know the Gospel of the American Dream) today we are treated as second class citizens – no right to speak up about the place we call home. But I do have the courage to address a problem and speak for those who feel powerless – who have no voice.

An advocate for the Yorktown Continental Residents,



Nina S. Flanders

CC: Joseph Holmbeg and Andrea De Bleeckere, Premier Management
✓ City of Edina Mayor James Hoveland
Rose Turovsky, Management Officer Minneapolis Housing Authority
Archie Givens, Legacy Management

Heather Branigin

From: Knutson, Katie (CI-StPaul) <katie.knutson@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2014 12:04 PM
To: Knutson, Katie (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Meeting Materials from the
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Best,

Katie



Katie Knutson
Government Relations Associate
Office of Mayor Christopher B. Coleman
15 West Kellogg Blvd, Suite 390
Saint Paul, MN 55102
P: 651-266-8519
katie.knutson@ci.stpaul.mn.us

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Heather Branigin

From: John Demello <alexjohndemello@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2014 1:19 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: VV Road proposed improvement no. BA-377

Dear City Council and Engineering,

We would like to reiterate how happy we are that this long overdue project is finally becoming a reality.

The proposed plan seems to meet most everyone's needs. However, we see many people run/bike around the nature preserve located on the east side of VV Rd, North of Breamar Blvd., West of Gleason Rd. and South of Mark Terrace. Therefore we would like to suggest a walking/bike trail around the preserve similar to Bredesen Park, connected to the bike trails and sidewalks proposed in your plan. We realize that this would add to the cost and assessments per property, but would be well worth the investment for the neighborhood while taking advantage of the equipment already in place for this project.

Our property 7108 ValleyView Rd has a very steep driveway, with it's steepest incline off the road. You have included a picture of a neighbors steep driveway in your engineering plan, but ours is much steeper. Our concern is that the additional road width will create such a steep grade which will make our driveway impossible to climb with a car, especially in the winter, since it is already at that limit now. In addition you may want to consider our hard surface run off with regard to water within your tiling plan.

Could you please comment on how the reconstruction will impact the grading of our driveway and tiling upon completion and also the access to our home during construction.

Best regards,

John and Alexandra Demello
7108 Valley View Rd
Edina, MN 55439
c) 651-249-4924

Heather Branigin

From: nsourova@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, October 12, 2014 12:12 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Opinion on Columbus Day Change

Dear City Council:

It came to my attention that you are planning to vote for resolution to change the meaningful Columbus Day on Edina calendar to vague Indigenous People's Day.

I strongly object to this change.

1. Objection to rewriting History

October 11 was the day Columbus' first ship reached the continent. Replacing the name of this event means to show no respect to those brave and adventurous Europeans who discovered the New World and thank to whom we have been enjoying our life here. United States has a very short history - successful experiment of 200+ years. Columbus Day is one of very important milestones.

Do not try to change the historical past of our country via dumping the names of historical figures. If there is a need to attract public attention to a broader picture of this major historical event you should have instead set a separate day for that and not make it antagonistic.

2. Transparency and Publicity

Majority of Edina residents are not aware of your plans to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day. The decision of this magnitude should be properly published – with flyers delivered to our doorsteps, like it is done when you consider construction plans that may affect existing neighborhoods.

I have a number of friends from Edina with a wide spectrum of views, values, political and ideological preferences. None of them heard anything about Columbus Day change plans by Edina. When they found out the reaction was the same – surprise first; then disbelief. 100% were negative about Columbus Day resolution for which you are about to vote.

After brief research I now understand that attack on Columbus Day is a part of ideological movement. I believe that Edina City Council - which is elected by residents to keep the city which we love safe, clean, and beautiful, etc. - should not make decisions that changing social landscape without approval by majority of Edina residents. At this time you don't have such approval.

Sincerely,

Natasha Sourova
Edina Resident
Tel: 612-280-2973

Heather Branigin

From: Dennis Wegner <jdten20@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2014 12:00 AM
To: James Hovland; Scott H. Neal
Subject: Olinger Road

Gentlemen,

I have lived at 5705 Olinger Road for just shy of 46 years. You most likely do not know who I am because I am not in the habit of complaining or making demands. However, the time has come for a complaint.

No one who travels Olinger Road will dispute the fact that the surface of Olinger Road is in VERY sad shape. A month or so ago engineering told me that the surface was scheduled to be milled and a new surface applied. This past week the milling took place. Unfortunately, the milling only took place on a portion of the west side of the street. None of the east side of the street was milled. This is not because the east side is in any better condition than the west side was. No, both sides are/were in equally poor condition. I am told there is not funding nor time to do the entire street. I find this explanation unacceptable. Olinger Road is the route that City trucks use to haul tons and tons of snow every winter to snow "storage" at Bredesen. This is a lot of extra "City business" traffic on Olinger and a huge reason for the street's sorry state.

I am hopeful that, upon further consideration, the funds and time can be found to mill and resurface ALL of Olinger Road.

Best regards,
Dennis Wegner
612-834-4245

Heather Branigin

From: Patricia E. Harris <Arts@bloomberg.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2014 5:09 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge

Dear Mayor Hovland:

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge.

The Public Art Challenge is a new program to support temporary public art projects that can transform civic spaces and drive economic development. We are inviting mayors of cities with 30,000 residents or more to submit proposals for innovative temporary public art projects that demonstrate close collaboration between artists, arts organizations and city government. At least three cities will be selected to receive up to \$1 million each over two years. Our hope is that these projects will engage communities, enhance creativity, and enrich the vibrancy of cities.

For more information on how to apply, visit publicartchallenge.bloomberg.org. Please note each application requires a partnership between an artist or arts organization and the host city's mayor. The deadline for submission is Monday, December 15, 2014.

I hope you will be part of this exciting new initiative. If you have additional questions, contact Anita Contini at (212) 205-0222 or arts@bloomberg.org.

Sincerely,

Patricia E. Harris
Chief Executive Officer
Bloomberg Philanthropies

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Heather Branigin

From: David Bly <Rep.David.Bly@house.mn>
Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2014 9:38 AM
Subject: RE: October 16, Dan Patch Regional Passenger Rail Advocacy Meeting

This is just a friendly reminder about the regional leaders meeting tomorrow afternoon in Northfield to discuss inter-city passenger rail service. Please note that following this meeting, the MnDOT Office of Passenger Rail and Office of Freight & Commercial Vehicle Operations will host a public outreach meeting to gather input regarding revisions to the state rail plan. Please make an effort to attend one or both, and if you're unable to make it, feel free to send someone in your office who may be interested in this topic.

Please let me know if you plan to attend or if you have any questions.

>>> David Bly 10/10/2014 9:08 AM >>>
October 16, Dan Patch Regional Passenger Rail Advocacy Meeting

I am writing to invite you to a meeting of elected and appointed officials on **Thursday, October 16 in Northfield** to discuss the possibility of restoring **inter-city passenger rail service** in our region, and how we might work together to pursue this service. Following several meetings of regional leaders on this topic back in 2010, this meeting will provide an update on the State Rail Transportation Plan which is currently under revision, consider the map of regional passenger rail projects that are now being pursued across the state, and look also at options for connecting our region with the potential passenger rail network as well as with the light rail projects that are already underway in the metro area. We will also consider the organizing strategies of three other regional passenger rail initiatives that are now underway in the state.

Please join us to hear these reports and to share your ideas for how we might work together to advocate for needed policy changes and investment in our region.

2014 Regional Leaders Meeting for the Northfield Corridor Regional Passenger Rail Project

Thursday, October 16, 2014, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Great Hall, Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota (Enter campus at College and 1st Streets; the Great Hall is accessible through the Sayles Hill Campus Center which will be on your left at the end of the cul-du sac. On-Street parking is available on College and First Streets, immediately adjacent to campus.)

Please RSVP to rep.david.bly@house.mn.

We thank Carleton College for hosting this meeting, which is being organized by a working group of the Northfield Grass Roots Transit Initiative. For more information on this project, feel free to contact me at Rep.David.Bly@house.mn or Suzie Nakasian in Northfield at SuzieNakasian@gmail.com.

Immediately following this Regional Leaders Meeting, the Minnesota Department of Transportation - Office of Passenger Rail and Office of Freight & Commercial Vehicle Operations, will host a public outreach meeting from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., also in the Great Hall at Carleton College. The purpose of this event is to gather public input and suggestions to inform the revision of the Minnesota State Rail Plan relating to freight and passenger rail planning in the state and region. Information on the Minnesota Rail Plan is available at www.dot.state.mn.us/planning/railplan for additional information on this meeting contact dave.christianson@state.mn.us.

Heather Branigin

From: David Hanten <david.hanten@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2014 11:22 AM
To: jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast); joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com; Edina Mail
Subject: Cub Scouts - voting lesson

Hello Sir / Ma'am –

My name is Dave Hanten, and I am an adult leader for Cub Scout Pack 48 at Creek Valley Elementary here in Edina. We are having our biennial mock election on October 23, and I have been trying to track down a local elected official to spend 10-15 minutes talking to our scouts and scout parents about the importance of voting.

One major element of Scouting is citizenship. With this in mind, every two years (in conjunction with the congressional and presidential elections) we hold a mock vote. Although the scouts vote on silly topics like the choice of meals for the annual Blue and Gold banquet, we use the opportunity to pass along information on the rights and responsibilities of citizens to vote. In the past, we have tried to have an elected official attend the meeting and provide their thoughts on why voting is such a special right.

Would any of you be free around 715pm on the evening of Thursday, October 23? The meeting will take place at Calvary Lutheran Church on Antrim Road, near Valley View Middle School. We would just need about 15 minutes of your time to talk to our scouts and parents (roughly 40 scouts and a similar number of parents), and perhaps answer a handful of questions.

Please let me know at your convenience, and thank you very much for your consideration!

Regards,

David Hanten
612-386-1636

#143748

- Dave Ehmler

- Josh Link

**Beverly J. Pester Bergman
Duane Jerome Solem
6112 Chowen Avenue South
Edina, Minnesota 55410-2724
October 11, 2014**

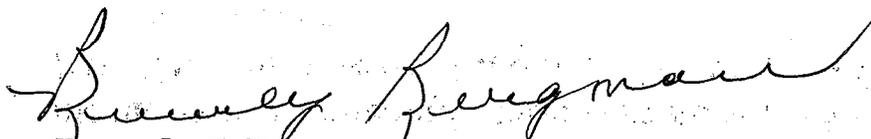
**Edina Fire & Rescue Squad
Edina Fire Department
Station #1
6250 Tracy Avenue
Edina, MN 55436**

Early yesterday morning, I needed to call 911. Two young men arrived at the house in about 5-8 minutes. They attended to Duane and made sure he was okay before they left. They also assured me that they were available in case we needed them again.

I wish to thank these two young men but in my concern for Duane, I forgot to get their names and/or badge numbers.

Will you be so kind as to pass this note on to them and thank them for me (us). Actually, thank you to all who work at the Edina Fire and Rescue Squad.

Sincerely yours,



**Beverly J. Bergman
Home: 952-920-6537**

Heather Branigin

From: Dianne Latham <Dianne@LathamPark.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 9:44 PM
To: Ann Swenson; James B. Hovland; Joni Bennett; Josh Sprague; Mary Brindle (Comcast)
Cc: Edina Mail
Subject: Please Support a Valley View Sidewalk Along the North Side of Valley View

10-16-14

Honorable Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council Members,

I was happy to learn of the proposed Valley View sidewalk as well as the bicycle lanes proposed for both sides of Valley View from McCauley to Braemar Blvd. My main concern is that the proposed sidewalk is planned for the south side of Valley View, instead of the north side. I understand that a sidewalk on the south side of the street is less expensive because the south side is flat and would not require a retaining wall as would a sidewalk on the north side of Valley View. The sidewalk should, however, be on the north side because the vast majority of residents and potential sidewalk users live on the north side of the street, because it is the safest route to school, and because the north side is otherwise impassible due to steep terrain, poison ivy and buckthorn brush.

Majority of Residents Live on North Side - The majority of the residents of the 195 household Indian Trails neighborhood live on the north side of the Valley View. Only 12 of these households (6%) are on the south side of Valley View. This means that the vast majority of sidewalk users must cross busy Valley View in order to access a south side sidewalk.

North Side is Safest Route for Youth Walking to School - The Valley View sidewalk will ultimately extend to the school complex in a subsequent phase of the Valley View street reconstruction plan per the city sidewalk plan found in the city's comprehensive plan. A south side sidewalk is especially dangerous for children seeking to walk to school. School children, as well as 94% of the Indian Trails neighborhoods' residents going north must cross busy Valley View to reach a south side sidewalk, and then cross again through the roundabout to reach the school or other northern destination. Many drivers find roundabouts confusing, let alone school children. If the sidewalk were on the north side of the street, north bound school children would not need to cross busy Valley View until they reached the school and then the school children can cross busy Valley View at an intersection where there is a school crossing guard. A sidewalk on the north side of the street enhances the Safe Routes to School program.

North Side is Presently Impassible - Residents are unable to walk along the north side of the street because of the slope of the hill from 7033 Valley View to Braemar Blvd. See photo below. Poison ivy at 7135, 7133 and 7116 Valley View also make the north side impassible. The Minn. Noxious Weed law (MN Stat 18.75 to 18.88 requires control of Poison Ivy M.S. 18.171, Subd. 5, or (ii)). In addition to the steep slope and poison ivy, thick buckthorn brush also results in residents having to walk in the street along the north side. The south side is completely flat and mowed, making it passable for anyone wanting to walk along the south side of Valley View absent a sidewalk.

Our neighborhood has been waiting patiently for a sidewalk since petitioning for one in 2004. Placing it on the north side will:

1. Make it accessible to 94% of the Indian Trails neighborhood households without having to cross busy Valley View.
2. Will result in a safer route to school because youth will not have to cross busy Valley View, and then cross through a roundabout, which many find confusing, even in a car.
3. Will effectively allow residents to use both sides of Valley View – the flat, mowed south side as well as a sidewalk on the north side, which is otherwise impassible due to the steep slope, poison ivy and buckthorn brush.

Please prioritize the accessibility of the majority of residents and a safe route to school above the cost of an additional retaining wall, and support a Valley View sidewalk on the north side of Valley View. I have one additional request - please try to save the Oak tree which is presently located where the roundabout is proposed. It would be wonderful if the oak tree could form the center of the roundabout. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.



Residents must walk in street along the north side of Valley View.

Dianne Plunkett Latham
7013 Comanche Ct
Edina MN 55439-1004
952-941-3542

Heather Branigin

From: Lori Grotz <lori@lorigrotz.com>
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2014 5:40 PM
To: Heather Branigin
Subject: Oct 14, 2014 Correspondence not included on record

Hello Heather,

I sent the below October 14, 2014 email to the Mayor, City Council Members and Manager Neal. I have just looked at the correspondence posted since the October 7' 2014 meeting and did not see my correspondence. Please enter it into the public record.

Thank you,

Lori Grotz

From: Lori Grotz [mailto:lori@lorigrotz.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2014 7:56 AM
To: James Hovland (jhovland@krausehovland.com); swensonann1@gmail.com; jonibennett12@comcast.net; joshsprague@edinarealty.com; mbrindle@comcast.net; sneal@edinamn.gov; jjanovy@outlook.com; 'bob.stewart@theplatinumgrp.com'
Subject: 5509 Park Place 11 AM Demo Today

Good Morning All,

A building permit for 5509 Park Place has been approved and the house, to the north of us, is scheduled to be TORN DOWN, TODAY, October 14th at 11 A.M. I am asking you to **please come today to our house, this morning, prior to tear down, so you can see the retaining wall that has been approved for removal and the implications it will have on our property.** Our friends and neighbors cannot believe it.

The 2.5 foot retaining wall on the south property line will be permanently removed. The south grade along the foundation will be increased by almost 2 feet. The elevation will drop 4.5 feet in a short distance creating a steep grade where there is currently none. How can this steep slope not direct water and erosion to our foundation? I also want you to stand in the rear yard of 5509 Park Place and look down into our yard. You will see and understand our fear. ***It appears this plan could create as bad a storm water runoff situation as at 4236 Crocker but we have very little space in our yard to deal with it. From the storm water plan, it appears the builder wants to drain the south part of his yard into ours.***

My husband and I have spoken at the City Council meeting and at the Planning Commission so our drainage concerns are not new to you, but please come and look today before the demolition. Look at the two yards. We don't understand how Engineering and the Building Official approved this. We can show you the plans. We ask for your assistance. (I need to leave at 10:15 A.M. to take my Mom to a medical appointment but Jim will still be here.)

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Lori Grotz
5513 Park Place
952-926-2672

My husband and I had a meeting at the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District yesterday and the MCWD staff showed us plans submitted by the builder which were in direct conflict as to what was submitted to the City. The plans they had showed a retaining wall on the south side of the property; The plans submitted to the City show the retaining wall on the south side is to be removed. The MCWD plans show a rear yard drainage swale going SOUTH, then around the house to go WEST to the front yard; The City plans show a drainage swale in the rear yard going to the NORTH, yet the elevation contours do not appear to have changed from the plans that show the water flowing to the south. The MCWD plans show 8 out of 9 trees being removed. The City plans show 5 trees staying, 3 to be removed and the ninth tree is not shown as existing or to be removed. It was our understanding that a watershed permit is needed for demolition. The Minnehaha Creek Watershed, as of yesterday, has not approved the permit.

ANDREWS LAW OFFICE, PLLC

5200 Willson Road/Suite 150
Edina, Minnesota 55424

Todd D. Andrews, J.D., LL.M (ACTEC Fellow)
Nicole M. Vucenich, J.D., Of Counsel
William H. Dolan, J.D., Of Counsel
Steven V. Besser, J.D., Of Counsel

Telephone: 952/836-2724
FAX: 952/836-2725
Email: Todd@AndrewsLawMN.com
www.MEPAMN.com

16 October 2014

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

Re: Columbus Day

Dear Mayor Hovland:

I am writing to you as a resident of and business owner in Edina regarding the Edina Human Rights and Relations Commission's recommendation of changing the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day in Edina. I am totally opposed to the change.

First, who are the "indigenous people" in Edina? Certainly not what we now call Native Americans as they immigrated to North America via the Bering Straight islands. All people in Edina and North America are immigrants...so maybe we should call Columbus Day Immigrants Day.

Second, it sounds like the EHRRC is "doing the politically correct thing." Problem is whose position is politically correct? I believe that the Commission is forcing their politically correct agenda on the citizens of Edina without a full vote of all Edina residents.

Third, the Commission states that "Columbus did not "discover" or ever arrive in North America or Minnesota, nor contribute to American or Minnesotan culture; and ...the recognition of Columbus Day celebrates Columbus, an explorer who perpetuated extreme cruelty and violence against the Indigenous People." Again, the Native Americans are NOT indigenous people as I stated above. Also, shall we also add to the discussion the violence which the Native American's brought against the European immigrants during their migrations west? Although Columbus didn't "land" on North America shores he did land in the Caribbean Islands which are considered part of the extended North America and he did bring the European culture to the "new world" which was a good thing and which has benefited the Native American culture.

Very truly yours,
ANDREWS LAW OFFICE, PLLC

By 
Todd D. Andrews

TDA/z

Bloomberg Philanthropies

October 14, 2014

Mayor James Hovland
City of Edina
4801 W. 50th St.
Edina, MN 55424-1330

Dear Mayor Hovland:

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge.

The Public Art Challenge is a new program to support temporary public art projects that can transform civic spaces and drive economic development. We are inviting mayors of cities with 30,000 residents or more to submit proposals for innovative temporary public art projects that demonstrate close collaboration between artists, arts organizations and city government. At least three cities will be selected to receive up to \$1 million each over two years. Our hope is that these projects will engage communities, enhance creativity, and enrich the vibrancy of cities.

For more information on how to apply, visit publicartchallenge.bloomberg.org. Please note each application requires a partnership between an artist or arts organization and the host city's mayor. The deadline for submission is Monday, December 15, 2014.

I hope you will be part of this exciting new initiative. If you have additional questions, contact Anita Contini at (212) 205-0222 or arts@bloomberg.org.

Sincerely,



Patricia E. Harris
Chief Executive Officer

PEH:sb

October 12, 2012

Ms. Joni Bennett
The City of Edina
4801 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424

Re: Roseland Park Crab Apple Trees

Dear Ms. Bennett,

I am concerned about the health of the crab apple trees in Roseland Park. In 1997 I donated a bench to the park in honor of my husband, Donald Johnson. I also paid to plant three crab apple trees around the bench. They are located near the tennis courts.

When I was recently alarmed by the health of these trees I hired arborist, Keith Karch with Rainbow Train Tree Care. Together we went to the park to look at the trees. He confirmed that they have **Apple Scab** disease.

There is a tree about 40 feet from our bench that looks dead. Mr. Karch says it could be saved with spraying. The three trees surrounding our bench look ill and stressed and in all likelihood they will get worse without care.

I spoke to Tom with the Parks Board. He says that they do not spray trees in the park, primarily siting concerns that joggers and tennis players may be adversely affected.

The solution to the disease of these trees is spraying them as early in the spring as possible. I am willing to personally pay for the spraying of the three trees around our bench. Mr. Karch assures me they can be sprayed without danger to joggers or tennis players and that such spraying will assure the health of these trees in the seasons to come.

I respectfully request the permission of the City of Edina to spray these three trees as my own expense in Spring 2015 with the supervision of the Parks Board.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Susan Johnson
6566 France Avenue S. #903
Mpls, MN 55435
952 925-5292



Stressed trees around the Donald Johnson bench
needing spraying in the Spring of 2015



Near dead looking tree that arborist
says can be revived with spraying.
This is what I want to avoid for
my trees by spraying in the spring.

Heather Branigin

From: Laura Berzinski <berzinski@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2014 3:26 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Fred Richards Repurposing Plan

Dear Mayor Hovland:

As a resident of Kellogg Avenue, I am concerned over the traffic, parking, safety and noise issues generated by the proposed field area in the current master plan for repurposing the Fred Richards golf course. The current plan has all pedestrian, bike and car traffic converging to one park opening from the north. The lack of convenient parking for the new fields will leave our now quiet neighborhood streets lined with cars on evenings and on weekends by families accessing the fields from the north entrance. This entrance will also become a drop-off zone as families unload their players and go in search of parking. While eliminating the Kellogg circle may help, it will not solve the traffic problems this plan creates and will block access to two homes. The proposed plan will change the character of what is now a peaceful neighborhood, and it will generate endless hassles for residents.

In addition to car traffic, this plan directs bikers and pedestrians from the north to the same single access point. The car-lined streets will make it difficult to see small bikers and pedestrians creating a situation that is simply not safe.

The noise levels generated by the proposed fields and the building rental are also a concern. Four fields full of players, parents, referees with whistles, and the traffic will be loud. Leasing out park buildings for weddings raises noise issues for neighboring residents who may not enjoy the wedding party's band or choice of music. The noise level this plan will create changes the character of our peaceful neighborhood where residents currently enjoy quiet evenings on our patios.

I ask that the City Council put more thought into the impact of the proposed field area and park building rental. Please address the concerns for the safety and well being of the neighboring residents as well as the potential park users.

Thank you,

Laura Berzinski
7416 Kellogg Avenue

Heather Branigin

From: Lori Grotz <lori@lorigrotz.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 19, 2014 10:03 AM
To: James Hovland; James Hovland
Subject: 5509 Park Place- Grotz

Dear Mayor Hovland,

Thank you for your time and courtesy yesterday at the Braemar golf course during the "Walk with the Mayor."

We look forward to your visit today to our property to look at the south property line retaining wall at 5509 Park Place and the drainage conditions.

We will be home all day but would appreciate a call to let us know when you will be coming. We gave you our telephone number yesterday, but have also included it in this email.

As mentioned, the house at 5509 Park Place has been demolished with only a little foundation left to be removed. The south retaining wall could be removed tomorrow so we appreciate you fitting us into your schedule for today. We look forward to your call and seeing you today.

Respectfully,

Jim & Lori Grotz 952-926-2672
5513 Park Place

Heather Branigin

From: Mark Ahern <mahern@vantageoncology.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 19, 2014 10:28 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: You've All Lost Your Minds
Attachments: 6010EEEC-F29E-4119-98BD-A953431F668E[135].png

Our Illustrious City Council:

I have been outspoken before, as with the moronic move to open up a bike path at the end of Kellogg, where none of you actually live. Haven't seen one biker come through the area by the way, other than our local residents.

Now, to my amazement, the City Council has decided to oppose the Washington Redskins name (we live in the Minnesota by the way). And if that wasn't entertaining enough, our city council is proposing to change the name of Columbus Day. You have taken liberal socialism to new heights and should all be voted out of office.

Hopefully at least two of you will be replaced after the election in two weeks, but it still won't prevent the remainder of you from using the city council for your own personal views of the world. Let the voting begin. I vote. That's my way of sending a message. This is the other option, an email. With serious issues in our daily news, you've chosen to protest the name of the Washington Redskins....truly remarkable. And Columbus Day offends who? This has to be a joke! This is still America, even though we are in the Socialist Republic of Edina. Here's an idea, why don't you propose to change the name of Edina to Vladivostok? It's the largest city port in Russia and the final stop on the Trans-Siberian railway system.

This would actually be hilarious.....if it wasn't so sad.

Thankful for still having freedom of speech,

Mark Ahern
Chief Development Officer

[cid:15E09ECA-3487-47E4-B047-9EC27E7C2220]

Affiliate of Oak Hill Capital Partners

3800 American Blvd West
Bloomington, MN 55436

1500 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 400
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
Mobile: (612) 817-8119

Email: mahern@vantageoncology.com<mailto:mahern@vantageoncology.com>

Heather Branigin

From: Cami Flanagan <cami_flanagan@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, October 19, 2014 5:52 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Please make a Bike Park in Edina!!!!

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council,
I am writing to urge the city to purchase the 15 acres at 40th + France to be preserved as park land. It is a perfect location for a mountain bike park which is a growing sport. Off-round cycling is a low-environmental-impact healthy recreation that is growing quickly- up to 35 million annual participants. It is a sport that is accessible to kids through older adults and promotes healthy outdoor recreation. The City of Edina has a unique opportunity to create a valuable asset for our community and surrounding communities. There are existing organizations like IMBA and MORC that build trails through a network of volunteers making the primary cost of this park the land acquisition with very little development cost.

Please make the right decision and purchase this land to be preserved as park.

Thank you,

Cami Flanagan

Heather Branigin

From: Lori Yang <lavy4315@earthlink.net>
Sent: Sunday, October 19, 2014 6:15 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Mountain Bike course at Weber Park.

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council,

I am writing to urge the city to purchase the 15 acres at 40th + France to be preserved as park land. It is a perfect location for a mountain bike park which is a growing sport. Off-round cycling is a low-environmental-impact healthy recreation that is growing quickly- up to 35 million annual participants. It is a sport that is accessible to kids through older adults and promotes healthy outdoor recreation. The City of Edina has a unique opportunity to create a valuable asset for our community and surrounding communities. There are existing organizations like IMBA and MORC that build trails through a network of volunteers making the primary cost of this park the land acquisition with very little development cost.

Please make the right decision and purchase this land to be preserved as park.

Thank you,

Lori Anne Vossler-Yang
4315 Morningside Road
Edina, MN 55416

Heather Branigin

From: Scott LaFrenz <slafrenz@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 19, 2014 11:02 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Mountain Bike Trails

I am writing to urge the city to purchase the 15 acres at 40th + France to be preserved as park land.

It is is a perfect location for a mountain bike park which is a growing sport. Our youth have enough structured activities offered in the city- Providing access to an unstructured outdoor lifelong activity like Mountain Biking would be ideal for our kids.

Please make the right decision and purchase this land to be preserved as park. It will benefit all Edina citizens.

-Scott LaFrenz

--

Scott LaFrenz
612 222 1165 Mobile

Heather Branigin

From: Dianne Latham <Dianne@LathamPark.net>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 12:53 AM
To: Ann Swenson; James B. Hovland; Joni Bennett; Josh Sprague; Mary Brindle (Comcast)
Cc: Edina Mail; Tom Horwath; Cary Teague
Subject: Revised Tree Ordinance Still Misses the Mark

10-19-14

Honorable Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council Members,

The revised proposed tree ordinance to be discussed at the 10-21-14 Council Work Session still misses the mark. The big issue here is what problem do you believe you are solving? Is the problem to be solved that of the need for replacement trees, or is it perhaps that of the need for a drainage solution?

If the problem to be solved that of the need for replacement trees, the City of Edina Forester Tom Horwath, Planning Director Cary Teague and the EEC's Urban Forest Task Force Report all concluded that trees are in fact being voluntarily replaced as a part of building projects. Thus, an ordinance requiring what is already being done is unnecessary and costly in terms of staff time. Although the replacement trees are certainly smaller than the original trees, they will grow in due course and, by the time the original tree would have expired, a mature tree will stand in its place.

Is the problem to be solved that of drainage? If so, planting a few trees will not compensate for the greatly increased impermeable surface caused by the larger house, larger garage and/or larger driveway footprint. Although proponents have alleged that a mature over story tree can take up 100 gallons of water in a rain event, this is a very small amount during the large rain events in which drainage becomes an issue. A suite of strategies must be employed to solve drainage problems, not just planting a few trees. These strategies include, among others, grading, sump pumps, city sewer upgrades, or requiring smaller, permeable driveways, or requiring rain gardens. With the proposed ordinance a resident can opt out of the tree replacement requirement by donating the replacement trees to a city property, thereby completely eliminating tree replacement as a drainage strategy on their property, in any event.

There is no staff time to administer such an ordinance given that Edina has from 200 – 300 permits per year and an 80% Forester compared to Mtkka's 100 permits per year with a full time Forrester who has two full time forestry assistants . Furthermore, it is an easy ordinance to circumvent by removing trees one year and a day prior to applying for a building permit, or by waiting until after construction is finished to remove them. The proposed ordinance cannot and should not compel a resident to retain a tree that does not meet their needs.

If, despite the cost and pointlessness of the proposed ordinance, Council still wishes to proceed, please consider the following changes to the proposed ordinance:

1. 3 - Delete the "certified" tree inventory in favor of Mtkka's tree preservation plan. Having a certified tree inventory only adds to cost and will result in fewer, smaller trees being planted.
2. 2.a.i - Exclude Ash trees from Protected Trees due to Emerald Ash Borer
3. 10-82 - The ordinance should not apply to pools (swimming or reflecting) because these cannot be in proximity to trees or the leaves will foul the water.
4. 4 (c) - Do not specify the size of replacement trees. The smaller the tree, the easier it is to transplant and the more likely it is to survive. The smaller the tree, the less it will cost and a homeowner will be likely to plant more

of them. Furthermore, some small stature trees, which are either ornamental or have berries for birds, do not grow to a very great DBH, making starting with a 2.5" trunk unrealistic.

5. 2.a.ii and 4.c - Requiring a 20ft conifer to be replaced with a 7 ft conifer is entirely unrealistic. Large conifers are notoriously difficult to transplant and very expensive to do so. Our 6 ft professionally planted conifer cost us \$600 a decade ago, did not thrive, and had to be removed after the warranty expired. Some conifers become a security risk because they obscure the front door or windows and should be removed. Do not specify the size of replacement conifers. The seedling conifers we planted at the same time as our \$600 conifer are now 6 ft tall and our \$600 6 ft conifer was removed.
6. 4 (d) – Replacement plans should be approved by the Tear Down Supervisor, not the City Forester who does not even have enough time for all the tree health issues in Edina’s 600 acres of natural areas, let alone the time to look at 200 – 300 residential landscaping plans per year. I recommend sending the Tear Down Supervisor to a forestry course if they have insufficient forestry training to review landscape plans.
7. 4 (e) The City Forester does not have the time to find space in a public area and plant all the replacement trees that don’t fit on small lots. About all you could do is have the resident donate a nominal sum to a city boulevard tree fund, from which more boulevard trees could be planted when a street is reconstructed. But the receiving homeowner would need to sign an agreement to water the tree given that the city does not have staff to water new boulevard trees. Like Minneapolis, only those residents who agree to water the new boulevard trees should be allowed to have one.
8. 5 (a) and (b) should be aligned with Mtka and no mitigation required within 20 ft of a structure with footings and no mitigation required within 10 ft of a structure without footings (sidewalk, driveway or garage, etc) . Construction workers need adequate space to work and store construction materials. Replacement should be not more than one for one outside this defined building area. Lots where most complaints are lodged are less than 75 ft wide and there is little place to plant trees, which will cause them to be planted close to the property line, thus externalizing shade to their neighbor’s properties, disabling neighbors from having gardens requiring sun, or from having solar panels. Note that the table on p. 29 of the 10-21-14 packet is inconsistent with 5 (a) and (b) on p. 15 of the 10-21-14 packet.
9. 6 – ‘Sufficient Guards’ is vague. Staff would not have the time to review this even if it were clear what it means. Instead use Mtka’s definition, which is more specific. Mtka defines the “Critical Root Zone” as: “[T]he minimum area around a tree that must remain undisturbed. The critical root radius is calculated by measuring the tree's diameter at breast height. For each inch of tree diameter, 1.5 feet of root zone radius must be protected. For example, if a tree's dbh is 10 inches, then its critical root zone radius is 15 feet (10 x 1.5 = 15).”... A tree will be considered removed if girdled, if 30 percent or more of the trunk circumference is injured, if 30% or more of the crown is trimmed, if an oak is trimmed between April 1st and July 15th, or if the following percentage of the critical root zone is compacted, cut, filled or paved: 30 percent of the critical root zone for all species, except 40 percent for ash, elm, poplar species, silver maple and boxelder.”

Solution

I believe that tree removals are not really the problem here. Trees are a renewable resource and they are being replaced as part of construction projects. No one builds a \$500,000 - \$1,000,000 home and then fails to relandscape with trees. Even when a resident does not relandscape immediately, due to time and financial limitations, they do eventually relandscape. Developers are required to submit a landscape plan. That plan should be part of the meeting with the neighborhood. If the neighborhood meeting finds the landscape plan insufficient they should talk to the developer about it and work it out with the City Tear Down Supervisor. If the Tear Down Supervisor has some landscaping guidelines, the proposed ordinance is unnecessary.

Thank you for considering these recommendations. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Dianne Plunkett Latham
7013 Comanche Ct
Edina MN 55439-1004
952-941-3542

Heather Branigin

From: Dianne Latham <Dianne@LathamPark.net>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 12:59 AM
To: Ann Swenson; James B. Hovland; Joni Bennett; Josh Sprague; Mary Brindle (Comcast)
Cc: Edina Mail
Subject: Please Support Streetlights for Valley View Street Reconstruction Project

10-20-14

Honorable Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council Members,

Please support streetlights for the Valley View street reconstruction project. Having streetlights is very important to the use of the sidewalk and bike path amenities along Valley View after dusk. If the street light hoods adequately focus the light in a downward direction, light pollution to the neighbors and to the sky will be minimized. Thank you for considering this recommendation. If you have any questions about this recommendation, do not hesitate to contact me.

Dianne Plunkett Latham
7013 Comanche Ct
Edina MN 55439-1004

Heather Branigin

From: John Hamilton <johnh6125@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 8:55 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Mark K. Nolan; Chris Bremer; Janis Callison
Subject: Xerxes Ave "Remodeling"

Mayor Hoveland:

I know you and Chris Bremmer have been talking about the recent repaving of Xerxes Ave. South from Crosstown north to the Creek. I have been trying to communicate the neighborhood frustration to Commissioner Callison over the same issues. Here is what I see as the conditions on Xerxes. I used the blocks from 60th to Crosstown as an example, but the rest of the street should prove out about the same:

1. From 60th to Crosstown is about 1,400 feet.
2. There are 16 driveways exiting onto Xerxes on the west side, leaving approximately 1,000 feet of curb line or room for about 50 parked cars.
3. Since there are only 16 houses on that side of the street, each with garages and each with stacking space on their driveways so parking for 20 cars would be more than adequate leaving 600 feet of curb for a planter.
4. The County installed three concrete bumpouts along the street, each 23 feet long leaving parking space for 47 cars.
5. One restriction for the design was the depth of the existing storm sewer and the need to NOT relocate the existing catch basins which requires a straight drainage gutter in the same location as the existing.

Given all of the above requirements, it appears to me some opportunities still existed to make the street safer for both traffic and pedestrians, and certainly more pleasing.

1. Curb and gutter surrounding planters in the parking lane could be installed, maintaining the required drainage. The planters would be seven feet wide out to out of curb, leaving five

feet of planter width and a foot of drainage between the existing sidewalk and the new planter curb.

2. The planters could be all together 600 feet long allowing space to plant as many as 25 trees.
3. Xerxes is a high traffic street; backing out of driveways surely can be difficult. Some allowance needs to be made to accommodate that movement and a clearly defined space at the curb could provide that relief.

The existing PVC bollards in the concrete islands have created what seems to be a difficult area to maintain. Debris, salt and sand can only be cleared by hand by county staff. The planters on the other hand would be maintained by the adjacent residents, as are all boulevard grass and trees in the city.

Thanks for listening.

John Hamilton
6125 Beard Ave. S.
Edina, MN 55410

612-889-7193

Heather Branigin

From: ellingsonjack@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 9:29 AM
To: Edina Mail

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council,

I am writing to urge the city to purchase the 15 acres at 40th + France to be preserved as park land. It is a perfect location for a mountain bike park which is a growing sport. Off-round cycling is a low-environmental-impact healthy recreation that is growing quickly- up to 35 million annual participants. It is a sport that is accessible to kids through older adults and promotes healthy outdoor recreation. The City of Edina has a unique opportunity to create a valuable asset for our community and surrounding communities. There are existing organizations like IMBA and MORC that build trails through a network of volunteers making the primary cost of this park the land acquisition with very little development cost. I have been racing Mountain Bikes for 5 years now (through the Minnesota Mountain Bike Series) and I can say hands down that it is the most fun I have ever had. So I have taken it upon myself to spread this amazing sport through out Edina High school.

Please make the right decision and purchase this land to be preserved as park.

Thank you, Jack Ellingson

Heather Branigin

From: Jonathan <finnoff@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 9:54 AM
To: Edina Mail
Cc: Leslie Finnoff
Subject: MTN Bike Park in Edina

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council,

My name is Jonathan Finnoff. I am a sports medicine physician and the medical director for Mayo Clinic's new Sports Medicine Center in downtown Minneapolis. We recently relocated to Edina from South Lake Tahoe, CA, where I was the sports medicine director for Barton Healthcare. We were really excited about moving to Edina for many reasons including the great school system and community programs. As a former professional mountain bike racer, I was also excited to be in a city with the distinction of being the number 1 bicycle city in the United States. And while I've really enjoyed the mountain biking in the region, the closest place for mountain biking is 30 minutes from Edina. I recently heard the city is considering purchasing 15 acres at 40th + France, which would be preserved as park land and could also serve as a new mountain bike park for the Edina community. I think this would be a fantastic investment for the city of Edina. Mountain biking is a growing sport with > 35 million participants in the United States. It is a sport accessible to people of all ages and promotes a healthy lifestyle. It has a very low impact on the environment. The mountain bike park may also lead to a positive impact on the Edina economy. People from surrounding communities would visit Edina to go to the mountain bike, and would potentially buy gas in Edina, eat, visit retail stores, etc. Since the twin cities have a great volunteer organization for building mountain bike trails (ie: IMBA and MORC), there wouldn't be much cost to building the trails once the park was purchased.

I hope you strongly consider moving forward with this project. I believe it would have a positive impact on Edina.

Kind regards,

Jonathan Finnoff, DO
Director, Mayo Clinic Sports Medicine Center
Mayo Clinic Square
600 Hennepin Ave, #310
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Heather Branigin

From: Greg Loxtercamp <greglox@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 9:58 AM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Help Create a Mountain Bike Park in Edina!!!!

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council,

I am writing to urge the city to purchase the 15 acres at 40th + France to be preserved as park land. It is a perfect location for a mountain bike park which is a growing sport. Off-round cycling is a low-environmental-impact healthy recreation that is growing quickly- up to 35 million annual participants. It is a sport that is accessible to kids through older adults and promotes healthy outdoor recreation. The City of Edina has a unique opportunity to create a valuable asset for our community and surrounding communities. There are existing organizations like IMBA and MORC that build trails through a network of volunteers making the primary cost of this park the land acquisition with very little development cost.

Please make the right decision and purchase this land to be preserved as park.

Thank you,

Greg Loxtercamp

- Edina resident and father of two (13 & 11).
- Bike commuter (from Edina to Fridley) and mountain bike enthusiast.

Heather Branigin

From: J M Schedin <schedvi@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 3:35 PM
To: James Hovland; Scott H. Neal
Subject: No-Fault Coverage

Gentlemen,

Last Friday while reading Rick Getschow's Friday Report (City Manager, Eden Prairie), I noted the following:

No-Fault Sanitary Sewer and Water Main Break Coverage – *The City of Eden Prairie, through the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT), now provides coverage to water and sewer utility customers who experience property damage or clean-up costs from a sewer back-up caused by a blockage in the city's sanitary sewer main. Coverage is also extended to property owners who experience damage or clean-up costs from a break in the city's water main. Coverage is limited to \$40,000 per occurrence and will reimburse citizens for qualifying costs not covered by a property owner's personal home insurance plan. Certain catastrophic events are excluded by the LMCIT plan, such as damage caused by a weather related event for which FEMA assistance is available, an interruption in electric power supply to any sewer lift station for a period longer than 72 hours, or damage caused by an event the National Weather Service determines to be a 100-year storm.*

Do either of you know if this coverage from the League of Minnesota Cities something new that they are offering? If so, is it something that the City of Edina could potentially look into for its residents? As always, everything usually boils down to finances, but it sure would be nice if Edina could swing it. Despite the educational efforts made by the city, not everyone is aware of or can afford the additional coverage. This would be a great way to make sure that residents could at least have enough coverage to make their homes livable in the unfortunate event of a major backup.

Something to consider...

Jim Schedin
6041 Wooddale Ave

Heather Branigin

From: 321squrt@gmail.com on behalf of Mike Toth <mike@toths.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 11:07 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Mountain bike park

Dear Mayor Hovland and Edina City Council,

I am writing to urge the city to purchase the 15 acres at 40th + France to be preserved as park land. It is a perfect location for a mountain bike park which is a growing sport. Off-round cycling is a low-environmental-impact healthy recreation that is growing quickly- up to 35 million annual participants. It is a sport that is accessible to kids through older adults and promotes healthy outdoor recreation. The City of Edina has a unique opportunity to create a valuable asset for our community and surrounding communities. There are existing organizations like IMBA and MORC that build trails through a network of volunteers making the primary cost of this park the land acquisition with very little development cost.

I have been getting into this sport much more recently as more bicycle lanes pop up here and there around Edina. I would really love the opportunity to expand my skill at this amazing sport, and having a course that was closer to home would be amazing.

Please make the right decision and purchase this land to be preserved as park.

Thank you so much for your time!

-Michael Toth

Heather Branigin

From: Heather Branigin
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2014 1:42 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Bees & Chickens

Carol Bermaster of 6012 Birchcrest called 10/21/14 and asked this message to be relayed to City Council:

“I think that allowing bees and chickens in the City of Edina would be The Best Thing. Please vote to allow them. It will make our community a more diverse and wonderful place to live.”