

# REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



**To:** MAYOR & COUNCIL

**Agenda Item #:** IX. A.

**From:** Debra Mangen  
City Clerk

**Date:** December 16, 2014

**Subject:** Correspondence

**Action**   
**Discussion**   
**Information**

**Action Requested:**

No action is necessary.

**Attachment:**

Attached is correspondence received since the last Council meeting.



*Protecting, maintaining and improving the health of all Minnesotans*

November 25, 2015

Jeffrey Brown  
CHS Administrator  
City of Edina Community Health Board  
4801 W 50th Street  
Edina, MN 55424

Re: TANF Family Home Visiting Grant Project Agreements

Dear Jeffrey Brown:

As you know the Minnesota Department of Health is moving from an Assurance and Agreement covering three grant programs: Local Public Health Act, Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, and TANF Family Home Visiting Program to three separate "Grant Project Agreements". You have already received the grant project agreement from the Office of Performance Improvement for the Local Public Health Act grant funding.

The Community and Family Health Division is in the process of completing the Title V Maternal and Child Health grant project agreement and anticipates it being sent to you soon. TANF Family Home Visiting funding is provided on a state biennium and funding does not carry across bienniums. This makes awarding and tracking this funding on a calendar year much more challenging. For this reason, the TANF grant project agreement will cover the time period from 07/01/2015 through 06/30/2017 (to match the state biennium). This grant project agreement will be sent to you in early 2015.

As a transition measure, because of the delay in the start date of the TANF Grant Project Agreement and the possibility that all Community Health Boards may not be able to obtain necessary signatures on their Title V Maternal and Child Health Block grant project agreement prior to January 1, 2015, **I am, by this letter, automatically extending your Community Health Board 2014 Assurance and Agreement until 06/30/2015.** All provisions in that Assurance and Agreement form that pertains to the federal funds you received will continue and we will process the invoices submitted for that time period.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 651-201-3584 or [janet.olstad@state.mn.us](mailto:janet.olstad@state.mn.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Olstad". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janet Olstad  
Assistant Division Director  
Division of Community and Family Health

cc: James Hovland, CHB Chair

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Suzie Nakasian <suzienakasian@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 02, 2014 1:53 PM  
**To:** Scott H. Neal  
**Cc:** Mary Brindle; swensonann1@gmail.com; Edina Mail; Jonibennett12@comcast.net; Sprague, Josh  
**Subject:** Tomorrow's Regional Leaders Meeting for Inter-City Passenger Rail Project

Dear Scott:

I am writing to followup on David Bly's invitation to tomorrow's regional leaders meeting for the South Central Minnesota Inter-City Passenger Rail Project. We were grateful to have your participation in our first meeting in October, and are eager to continue the conversation with you/Edina and other municipalities about this important regional project.

I am pleased to tell you that since our last meeting, Saint Paul's Regional Rail Authority has approached us and asked to be included in our consortium, so our prospects to the east now seem as viable as those that would route us to the west. As discussed, we would like MnDot to study the viability of both options by elevating our project to Tier One status in the State's Revised Rail Plan. I hope we can count on your continued participation and support of this initiative.

Please let me or Rep. David Bly know of the names of individuals who can join us tomorrow. We are eager to continue our conversation with Edina about rail development for our region.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Suzie Nakasian  
Northfield City Council  
507-649-0382

>>> David Bly 11/18/2014 4:06 PM >>>

We have scheduled our next meeting of regional leaders in which we will continue our discussion of working together to pursue with MnDot the restoration of regional inter-city passenger rail service from Southern Minnesota to the Twin Cities through Northfield.

We had 20 cities and 5 counties participate in our first regional leaders meeting on October 16, and we have since welcomed the Saint Paul Regional Rail Authority to our consortium. I hope that you will be available to join us - or that you will send a representative of your city/community to join us as our planning conversation continues.

Wednesday, December 3 3:00 - 5:00 pm.m.

St. Olaf College, Viking Theater, Buntrock Commons

Northfield Minnesota

Please RSVP to me or [SuzieNakasian@gmail.com](mailto:SuzieNakasian@gmail.com) to let us know that you or another community representative will be able to join us.

Attached find a draft of a letter that we want participating communities to consider signing to MnDot to express support for moving our Regional Inter-City Passenger Rail Project to Tier One Status in the State's Freight and Passenger Rail Plan which is now being revised. Moving our project to Tier One Status will make it possible for MnDot to study the viability of restored passenger rail service between south central Minnesota communities including Owatonna, Albert Lea, Fairbault and Medford to the Metro, through Northfield on one of two extant rail lines to the North (the western alignment - historic Dan Patch alignment, and an eastern route to Minneapolis via Saint Paul. Both routes are extant, viable and underutilized for freight! The warrant further study!

I hope you or another community representative be able to participate in our continued discussion tomorrow, and that you will join with the leaders of other communities and counties along our rail lines in advocating for Tier One Status for our South Central Inter-city Regional Passenger Rail Project, and the possibility it affords for restored passenger rail service between our communities and the Twin Cities Metro!

Please respond to his e-mail with your availability or the name and contact info of your designee. If you have questions about the project, feel free to email me or [Suzienakasian@gmail.com](mailto:Suzienakasian@gmail.com) of the Northfield City Council.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Your sincerely,  
Rep. David Bly  
[612-327-0119](tel:612-327-0119)

Directions to Buntrock Commons: entrance to the Stolaf Campus from the south via MN Highway 19 off of I-35 (Northfield exit); or from the east on St Olaf Avenue off of MN Highway 3 just north of downtown Northfield.

Campus map: <http://www.stolaf.edu/map/>

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** LOIS RING <llrdesigns@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 02, 2014 3:30 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** 7200 France Avenue Development

City Council Members:

I encourage you to vote against the 7200 France Avenue proposed development. It is too much density and is too far reaching from the original Comprehensive Plan.

*Lois Ring  
7440 Edinborough Way  
Edina MN 55435*

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Carl Sledgister <sledgewig@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 02, 2014 7:47 PM  
**To:** swensonann1@gmail.com; Edina Mail; Scott H. Neal; Ann Kattreh; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle; joshsprague@edinarealty.com; Ann Kattreh  
**Subject:** Weber Woods

Mayor Hovland, City Council Members, and Parks & Rec:

As an Edina resident - I strongly feel that the area west of France Ave S, between 40th and 42nd ("Weber Woods") should not be left to chance.

This is an excellent opportunity for the city of Edina to expand their park system, act upon the common interest expressed by Edina residents on multiple occasions, and show that the City Council believes in its own Comprehensive Plan.

Weber Woods should be acquired and preserved as natural parkland - NOT left to developers.

With a seemingly endless potential for natural development and sustainable trail systems - the loss of this green space would be detrimental to Edina, SLP and MPLS.

Sincerely -  
Carl Sledgister

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Phil Bohrer <philipjbohrer@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 03, 2014 10:47 AM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Proposed BA-413

Attn: City Council and Engineering

We are opposed to proposal to tear-up and replace Amy Drive. This street does not need such drastic procedure. If you wish to cost-effectively maintain Edina roads, please limit the number of different garbage trucks that pass by every week.

We trust that there is no inkling of an idea to install sidewalks on this short road. If so, we will move.

Phil Bohrer  
952-925-5752

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Paul Milne <paulmilne1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 03, 2014 2:08 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** 7200 France

I must say I was disappointed in the Council's action on this proposal last night. It wasn't just the outcome which sadly I was expecting, but the process and what was considered and what wasn't.

First the Planning Commission recommended rejection on a unanimous 8 to 0 vote, yet none of their points were considered or discussed.

Second sometime after the Planning Commission recommended rejection, an alternate proposal for a Medical Arts building somehow appeared in the local press. The Developer maintained they didn't leak it. Pretty disingenuous as where else would it have come from. Obviously they did it to pressure the Council and nobody on the Council challenged it. This left a pretty bad taste with the Cornelia area residents and leaves us to wonder what other tomfoolery they are up to.

Third knowing that increased traffic would be a major issue a very quick "traffic study" suggested that the apartments would generate roughly about the same amount of traffic as the proposed Medical Arts building. If I heard this correctly the Mayor requested this the afternoon of the meeting. As such its quality of this information would seem to be questionable.

Fourth considering the retail proposal I felt there was lots of happy talk regarding what kind of retail would be there. High end restaurants and boutique shops were mentioned. I'm skeptical that these kinds of retail would really work (less concern about the restaurant). In the end we all know it will really be driven by whoever is willing to rent the space. It might not be what we envision.

Fifth with the very significant issues of density and traffic on the table there was a strange obsession with whether there would be a Bicycle repair area. This seems to be a very minor topic that could be addressed after the major concept is approved or rejected.

Sixth it seems like there hasn't been enough thought into the effect on the school system. This is especially significant as the effect from the Byerly's project hasn't been settled as to where those kids will schooled. I thought the numbers given by the Developer were very low and we need an independent appraisal of this.

I will say that the changes requested by the Council certainly improved the project with moving the traffic entrances/exits to France Ave (if Hennepin County agrees). However they aren't enough. The project remains too dense for the space available and for transitioning into single family neighborhoods. Remember you are setting precedent for more projects in the area.

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Paul Milne <paulmilne1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 03, 2014 2:09 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** sorry

that last email was from Paul Milne, 4420 Gilford Drive.

**Phone Message to Edina Mail 12/5/14:**

Adele Hersey  
4412 Grimes Avenue S.  
Edina, MN  
612-926-2486

Adele called to give her opinion on the land that is being sold from Minneapolis to Edina and/or St. Louis Park. She read about this in the paper and she would like to go on the record that she would like to keep it as park land. Her kids used to play in the park and she took walks with her husband there. Please keep it as a park.

Thank-you.

**Sanford Berman**

*"Small acts, when multiplied by millions  
of people, can transform the world."*

- Howard Zinn, Grassroots International supporter

12-2-14

Dear  
Council  
Members,

Fyi...

With  
every  
wish  
for  
just  
and  
peaceful  
holidays,



## Privilege isn't what you think



Alfred Walking Bull  
The Circle Managing Editor

**T**he concept of privilege is one that's both acknowledged and dismissed, depending on which side of cultural identity one hangs one's hat.

For many in the Native American community, both on the reservation and in the urban setting, privilege is something that we see as the cause of our oppression. It's a catch-all for the discrimination we face individually and collectively. Growing up in rural South Dakota, my parents and I were followed around in retail stores in Rapid City, Pierre and Sioux Falls. As tribal nations, we are

dren has always been a matter of law, the privilege has generally been exercised by the state.

Those are the direct effects of the privilege of class and economics. The indirect effects of privilege can be seen in incidents like the Hennepin Theatre Trust's production of "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," wherein Cherokee, Creek and Choctaw historical figures were portrayed by non-Native actors and written as two-dimensional caricatures of the complex reality upon which, they were based. While early press information described the production as a "South Park"-like ironic musical that pokes fun at the tragedy, not one Native person in the audience laughed, few and far between as they were.

New Native Theatre's Rhiana Yazzie attempted to articulate – in English, the lingua franca we Natives adopted so as to explain to non-Natives why we have a right to exist – that the privilege the authors, directors and audience members enjoy is not one that we Native folk don't ever get to experience. That privilege is not that we take the musical at face value, we are not idiots, we too know that our Cherokee brothers and sisters did not speak in pidgin English. The privilege enjoyed by everyone else in the theater was that they didn't have the collective, generational trauma weighing upon them when we saw those caricatures. When we see a fashion model wearing a headdress, a non-Native person playing Native, or even a sports team with a mascot, we ask ourselves, "What do they know about us?"

When the U.S. Patent Office canceled the Washington football team's trademark, cheers arose from all corners of Indian country. Consequently, non-Natives around the country continued to bemoan the march of progress for our cause by saying political correctness had – yet again – gone too far. Comments under the stories predictably began with, "I'm not racist, but ..." or "All the Native Americans I know ..." and ultimately, "I'm Native American and I don't mind at all."

The gap in between reason and opinion is one where most non-Native people fall deep. When a group of people say something is offensive, repeatedly and with conviction – so much so that national advertising time is purchased to emphasize that position – it follows general reason that what is called offensive is actually offensive. When one has to seek out history or one individual who agrees with a prejudiced position, one is no longer reasonable, one is opinionated.

When one is opinionated and foregoes reason for prejudice, it's a short trip to "othering" a group of people. When a group of people is othered, they have effectively lost their humanity in the eyes of the prejudiced. We who are othered become less than, we become inhuman, and when we become inhuman, it becomes easy to discriminate.

Discrimination then leads to all roads of oppression where might is right and majority rules. And when one is part of the majority, one enjoys a privilege that they never have to think about.

ers that have made treaties, compacts with us and exercise authority over us.

For non-Natives, the concept of privilege is one that is easily dusted off shoulders with the argument that they – personally – have done nothing to Natives that damage us individually and collectively. And for the most part, they are entirely correct. Most of the time, the privilege that most of us fight are the privileges of class and economics. However, those privileges do tend to follow color lines, arbitrary as they may seem in this modern age.

Pipelines that cross Anishinaabe, Dakota, Lakota, Apsáalooke and Assiniboine territory – if approved, constructed and expanded – will ultimately make a profit for the multinational corporations that build them and for the fossil fuel industry that will transport through them. Unfortunately, for those tribal citizens who live with the reality of those pipelines in their sacred ground, little to no profit will be seen and even if it is, it will be little comfort when water becomes undrinkable and land becomes sterile from the inevitable spills that do and will happen.

Five of South Dakota's tribes have submitted applications to the federal government to establish, fund and exercise their sovereignty where the Indian Child Welfare Act is concerned, hoping to create tribal agencies that handle adoptions before the state of South Dakota becomes involved. While the governor's office has publicly supported this move, the progress of these efforts will see if the state is sincere in its desire to see Native children raised by Native families on the reservation. While the right of tribes to foster and adopt its own chil-

## Game day rally at U to draw crowds protesting NFL, DC team's mascot

By Matt Sepic, MPR News

Native American leaders and University of Minnesota students say they're expecting thousands of people to turn out for a protest against the Washington Redskins when the team plays the Vikings a week from Sunday at TCF Bank Stadium.

Clyde Bellecourt, co-founder of the American Indian Movement, said the DC team's name is racist and offensive. Bellecourt expects a young group of protesters to gather outside the stadium to

speak out against the name.

"We know that because we're on a university campus. We're organizing all the students," he said. "We've been doing a lot of radio, television, public relations, so we're expecting over 5,000 people."

The National Coalition Against Racism in Sports and Media is organizing the protest along with campus leaders.

Aubrey Strenger with the Black Law Students Association said the university, through its contract with the Vikings, should prohibit the use of the Washington team's name on campus.

"The University of Minnesota is such an influential educational body and they are in a particular place to affect

change," Strenger said.

University of Minnesota officials have asked the Vikings to limit the use of the Washington team's name and logo during the game.

A statement posted on the U's website, said while the university "denounces the team name of the Washington team - and other sports team names that promote negative and harmful stereotypes - the University does not believe that it has the legal authority or contractual authority under the facility-use agreement to prevent the game."

Amid the controversy, team owner Dan Snyder said in a recent letter to Washington's season ticket holders that the name is a "badge of honor."

### NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

#### MASCOT NAME BECOMES FOCUS FOR CONGRESS MEMBERS

NEW YORK, NY - Two members of Congress threatened the National Football League with its tax exempt status if the Washington football team doesn't change its name.

In a letter published Feb. 9, Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.), Senate Indian Affairs Committee Chair, and Rep. Tom Cole (R-OKla.), member of the Native American caucus, tell NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell there's a consensus in the country that the team's name is racist and offensive.

"The National Football League can no longer ignore this and perpetuate the use of this name as anything but what it is: a racial slur. It is clear that you haven't heard the leading voices of this country - and not just Indian Country," the letter reads, "Virtually every major civil rights organization in America has spoken out in opposition to this name including the NAACP, the Anti-Defamation League, the Rainbow Coalition and the League of United Latin American Citizens. The National Football League is on the wrong side of history. It is not appropriate for this multibillion dollar 501(c)(6) tax-exempt organization to perpetuate and profit from the continued degradation of tribes and Indian people. It is time for the National Football League to formally support and push for a name change for the Washington football team."

The letter slams Goodell's recent comments around the Super Bowl where he said the name "Redskins" honors Native Americans.

### **HISPANIC CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP JOINS IN MASCOT FIGHT**

WASHINGTON, DC – The National Council of La Raza – the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States – called on the NFL and Washington football team owner Dan Snyder to change the team’s name.

The council’s board of directors unanimously voted in support of the move Oct. 26. “Our brothers and sisters in the Native American community have been clear and consistent in their call to change both terms and images that they consider demeaning. As an organization committed to fairness and equality for all, NCLR fully supports these efforts,” La Raza President and chief executive Janet Murguía said in a statement. “The Latino community well understands that words matter and that they can denigrate, disparage and dehumanize. We should treat all people with the respect and dignity they deserve.”

Snyder has promised to keep the name, which he says honors Native people. The team cited polls showing that a majority of Americans – and even a majority of Native Americans in one 10 year-old survey – do not find the team name offensive.

La Raza had previously joined with the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights – a coalition of organizations including the NAACP and the

American Civil Liberties Union – in its effort to change the moniker.

Last year, the conference approved a resolution that called on the team to change its name and “refrain from the use of any other images, mascots, or behaviors that are or could be deemed harmful or demeaning to Native American cultures or peoples.”

“When groups like La Raza, NAACP, ADL and NCAI are saying in a singular voice that it is time to change this offensive name, it should serve as a wake-up call to the NFL and Dan Snyder that they are on the wrong side of history,” spokesman for the Oneida Indian Nation, Joel Barkin said.

## Anti-Washington team ad launched before Vikings game



The National Coalition Against Racism in Sports and Media launched a new anti-Washington team ad campaign through the Minneapolis-based advertising agency Red Circle.

The agency is owned by Chad Germann — a member of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. The agency works primarily with the hospitality industry, including many Native American casinos.

“I was tired of people avoiding what I think is the real issue. There is no word in the American lexicon that is more hurtful to the Native American,” Germann said in a statement. “We’re left with this ugly word. People don’t talk about how ugly it is. We need to talk about it.”

The ad opens with a black woman looking into the camera and saying, “I am a n—.” The ad continues with people of Vietnamese, Jewish, Middle Eastern, Chinese and Cuban descent speaking their own, censored racial slurs into the camera. “Why would the FCC ban all those other words and allow this

one?” asked Melanie Benjamin, chief executive of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

The ad is punctuated by a Native American man saying, “I am a Redskin.” “This is equally profane,” the ad says. “There’s no honor in racism.”

The ad comes days before the Washington team is scheduled to play the Minnesota Vikings in Minneapolis. The Hennepin County board passed a resolution for the team to find a name that it says isn’t racist and derogatory. Commissioner Peter McLaughlin said the nickname “has no place in the 21st century.”

Team owner Daniel Snyder insists he will not change the name.

The word came from a time when there was a bounty on Native Americans and people would kill them and present their bloody scalps as proof to get paid. “I think if people understood that and thought about it and knew what that word really means, then maybe they’ll think differently about that and maybe we can get some more effective pressure on Redskins ownership,” Germann said.

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**PATENT OFFICE CANCELS WASHINGTON TEAM'S TRADEMARK**

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office canceled six trademarks belonging to the Washington football team on June 18, saying they are offensive to Native Americans.

The team, which has said it has spent millions defending trademark over the years, will appeal the decision, a process that could take years. The Patent Office will continue to treat the trademark registrations as though they are valid during the appeals process, according to a spokesperson.

In the meantime, the team can continue to use the logos portraying a Native American profile with feathers. If the decision is upheld, it will be hard for the team to claim ownership of its brand, a crucial step in going after the makers of unlicensed merchandise. Instead, the team will have to illustrate that it has always used the logos, rather than relying official trademark registrations. The decision came in response to a suit brought by five Native plaintiffs.

In May, 49 senators, including Majority Leader Harry Reid, signed a letter to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell saying that the “team is on the wrong side of history,” and that he should endorse a name change. A week later, a coalition of 77 tribal, civil rights and religious groups, including the National Congress of American Indians

and the NAACP, signed a letter urging players to campaign to change the team’s mascot.

The team adopted its name and logo in 1933, when it was based in Boston. It had been known as the Braves but changed the name to honor William Henry “Lone Star” Dietz, their coach at the time, who was a Native American, according to a legal brief filed by the team in a previous matter.

The trademark, which was granted in 1967, has been renewed several times, but the Patent Office previously canceled the registration in 1999. A federal judge overturned that decision in 2003, saying there was no proof that the name was disparaging at the time of registration. The team’s trademark attorney Bob Raskopf said he believed this decision, like the previous one, would be overturned.

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Barbara La Valleur <barbara.lavaleur@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 04, 2014 5:59 PM  
**To:** Walt Gregg; Mark Lidke; Bill McCabe; Sarah Rose; Faye Ellison-Mitchell; Barb Janisch  
**Cc:** Anna Pugh; Lynn Rudick; Bernice Amacher; Amy E Kerber; Lois Ring; Chip Jones; Susie Housh; Susie Miller; Paul Peterson; Ray Meifert; Dana Lappin; Kitty O'Dea; Hafed Bouassida; Thomas Raeuchle; Anne W. Miller; Sophia Munic; Jack Ready; Colin Nelson; John Swon  
**Subject:** Fwd: Reminder about Friday's photo show opening and parking suggestions  
**Attachments:** PastedGraphic-1.pdf; ATT00001.htm; Barbara's 2014 Photo Show Flier wMari.pages; ATT00002.htm

**Importance:** High

To my colleagues and former members of Public Art Edina and the Arts and Culture Commission, Edina City Council, City employees and friends:

I'm beyond excited about my life's work exhibit opening tomorrow: Love of a Lifetime: Photos from the US & Europe 1964 - 2014 at the Edina Senior Center. I would be honored if you would be able to attend the opening reception from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments.

My dear friend and professional musician, Mari Harris, will be playing piano and will sing at least one song during the reception. I'll be making a few opening remarks about 5:45 p.m.

Given it's an open house and people will be coming and going during the 90-minutes, I wanted to suggest the following parking options. There is limited parking right in front of the Edina Senior Center as well as in the area around Grandview Square (which, ironically, is a circle!) There's also parking above the Senior Center in the Hennepin County Edina Library with an elevator to the lower level. There is also a ramp on the left as you enter Grandview Square.

All detailed information is also listed in the box below the photo.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

I've already had some great press in the Edina Sun Current, my hometown paper, The Ashby Post, The Daily News of Wahpeton-Breckenridge where I was Chief Photographer 40 years ago. And next Wednesday, there will also be a feature in the Star Tribune written by freelancer Anna Pratt.

I hope you can make it tomorrow evening, do let me know if you're coming! Thanks.

Warm regards,  
Barbara

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Stephanie Vitt <stephanie.vitt@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 05, 2014 11:01 AM  
**To:** Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast);  
joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Nikki Dobbs; Linda Smaby; MARIE PECHMAN; catherinemarvin@yahoo.com; Jim Vitt;  
Chad Millner; stephanienelson@formafeed.com  
**Subject:** Sidewalk Petition for West Side of Halifax

Mayor Hovland and the members of the Edina City Council:

I am looking forward to seeing you at the meeting on Tuesday. At this meeting, the Arden Park Reconstruction Project will be discussed along with my petition for a sidewalk for the West side of Halifax Avenue between 5200 and 5336.

Chad Milner, Director of Engineering, shared with me that he will not be recommending the sidewalk because of its cost relative to the total funds available in the PACS fund. Further, a couple of my neighbors have called him to say they do not support the sidewalk.

Despite these views, I am hopeful you will consider approving the sidewalk for the following reasons:

1. Given that the street will be completely torn up for the street/sewer project, now is the perfect time to lay this sidewalk. There may be other areas of the city that need sidewalks as well, but this is the time to install this sidewalk while the street is torn up for a different reason.
2. Given our close proximity to the downtown Edina business district, sidewalks should be a priority. This is to provide pedestrians with a safe and continuous path to the businesses and shops at 50th and France.
3. There will be sidewalks put in on 54th Street and 52nd street between Halifax and Minnehaha Blvd. It would only make sense to connect these two sidewalks with a sidewalk on the west side of Halifax to provide a continuous path of travel with safe crosswalks at controlled intersections. Plus, it will look more "finished" to have sidewalks on both sides of the street.
4. The long-term vision for Edina is to be more pedestrian friendly - for walkers and bikers. While it might be preferable to wait to do this sidewalk, given other priorities, the time to do it is now - while we are under construction anyway.
5. Several neighbors who didn't sign the petition were concerned about damage to the trees on the street. I love the trees on Halifax and don't want to impair them in any way with the sidewalk. Based on my current understanding of the project (through the feasibility study) the curbs on the west side of Halifax are being extended an additional 5 feet to the east. This additional space will provide more than enough room to work around any mature trees that are in the right of way. Further, the city can make the boulevards smaller to go around the trees - this has been done successfully in many sidewalk projects in Edina (including the east side of Halifax).

I have copied several of my neighbors on this email - those who are pro-sidewalk and have supported the petition.

I will see you Tuesday night and look forward to answering your questions/addressing your concerns.

Kindest Regards,

Stephanie Vitt  
5216 Halifax Avenue

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** tpaulson@1992ventures.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 05, 2014 11:08 AM  
**To:** Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle (Comcast);  
joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Arden Park D Neighborhood Roadway Reconstruction

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I am writing today regarding the proposed Arden Park D Neighborhood Roadway Reconstruction project and the proposed implementation of draft Living Streets Plan elements for this project.

According to City staff, the process for the Living Streets Implementation Plan is to complete drafting the plan in early 2015, obtain public input, hold a public hearing, and present the plan to City Council for a vote.

I would like to hear from each of you if you agree with the process for the plan as outlined by staff? If yes, do you think it's appropriate to approve implementation of elements of the plan before plan completion, public input, public hearing, and vote? Why or why not? If no, which pieces of the process do you disagree with?

I look forward to your responses.

Respectfully,  
Troy Paulson  
5116 Juanita Ave

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Ruth and Lewis Marshall <mars7101@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 05, 2014 2:23 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** building on 72nd and France Av.

Hello Mayor Hovland, I have been at the last two council meetings with a concern about the redevelopment of the building site on 72nd and France Av. My wife and I have lived at 7101 Cornelia Drive for over 20 years. We moved here from southwest Minneapolis, where I grew up, for the good schools in Edina, good city services, and a quiet neighborhood. It has been good here. My two sons received a very good education in the Edina schools. My neighbors and I are very concerned about the increased traffic the proposed building on France Av. would bring to Cornelia Drive. Increased traffic on Cornelia drive would increase the chances of young children being hit by cars. Traffic is like water, it will seek the path of least resistance. In the uptown area of Minneapolis, where I sometimes work, I have seen motorists driving a short distance the wrong way down one streets to save time. It would happen on 72nd Street to avoid having to get onto France Av.

There were some other developments with high density housing done East of France Av. There were not many people from Edina as concerned about them as they are by this proposed development. This is a residential neighborhood and it seems that if this is approved it would just be the start of continued development like it on this side of France. Please don't give the variances that would be required to allow the proposed building to be constructed. A medical office building, without stores and restaurants would be preferable.

Just as an aside, I have worked as a Funeral Director at Washburn McReavy Funeral Chapels for over 31 years.

Sincerely, Lewis Marshall

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

# IN THE KNOW



Dec. 5, 2014 VOLUME 3, ISSUE 16

**CLASSROOM SNAPSHOT | EPS HEADLINES | FACILITIES UPDATE  
TEACHER TUESDAY | COMMUNITY NEWS | EPS IN THE NEWS  
PRINCIPAL'S REFLECTIONS | EVENTS | DID YOU KNOW?**



## **SCHOOL WAS OUT BUT LEARNING WAS ON**

*Thanksgiving Break was time for creativity and learning*

Learning is always in action in Edina Public Schools, even when regular classes are not in

session. This was evident last week as students opted for creative learning opportunities during the Thanksgiving break. With classes ranging from Red Cross babysitter training, where students learned how to perform basic first aid and CPR, to Spy Science, in which students learned the science behind their favorite spy stories, new learning experiences could be found throughout the Edina Community Center. [Click here](#) to see photos of the different classes held last week. To learn more about learning opportunities outside the school day, from birth through age 85 and beyond, check out [Edina Community Education](#).

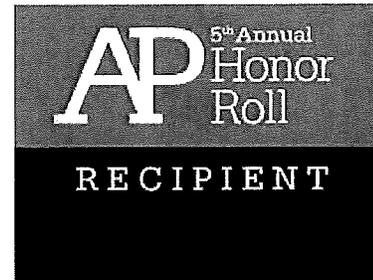
## EPS HEADLINES

The latest stories about what's happening in our schools

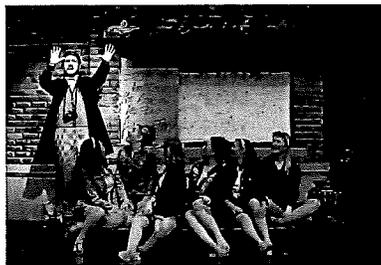
### Edina Public Schools Named to 5th Annual AP Honor Roll

*District recognized for increased participation and excellent performance of AP exams*

Edina Public Schools has again been named to the 5th Annual Advanced Placement (AP) District Honor Roll. A total of 547 school districts in the U.S. and Canada earned a place on this prestigious list. Edina is one of 10 Minnesota school districts on the Honor Roll. This is the third time in five years EPS has been on the list.



The AP District Honor Roll recognizes efforts to open AP classroom doors to a significantly broader pool of students, while maintaining or improving the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher on the final exam. [READ MORE](#)



### INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY INDUCTS EHS STUDENTS, CLUB

Thirty-five Edina High School (EHS) students and the EHS Thespian Club were inducted into the International Thespian Society (ITS) for their 2013-14 season. According to ITS, the average student inductee has completed more than 100 hours of excellent work in theater arts and related disciplines. [READ MORE](#)

### EHS SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

The Edina High School (EHS) speech and debate team has earned national recognition for ranking in the top 10 percent in the country and has earned membership in the National Speech and Debate Association's 100 Club. There are currently more than 100 students in speech and debate at EHS. [READ MORE](#)

## ONLINE NEWS ARCHIVES

# FACILITIES UPDATE

## Next Generation Community Forum

*Dec. 8, 7-8:30 p.m., Edina Community Center, Room 349*

You are invited to a community conversation to learn how Edina Public Schools is planning for a redesign of its district facilities to meet the needs of current and future learners. By focusing on learning as the constant, as articulated in its [Next Generation of Edina Public School's Strategic Plan](#), the district is looking at ways to align and create flexible learning spaces that will serve it well into the future.

\*This forum will be recorded for playback on the district's website at [www.edinaschools.org](http://www.edinaschools.org)

# TEACHER TUESDAY SPOTLIGHT

Get to know our amazing teaching staff!

## ELISE SCHMIDT

*Art Specialist at Concord Elementary*

Elise Schmidt can't remember a time when she didn't love art. As a child her mother encouraged her to create with anything and everything, and from that place she grew to love the craft.

After graduating from Gustavus Adolphus College in 2011, Schmidt landed a job as a kindergarten paraprofessional at her alma mater - Normandale French Immersion School. The following year, she received the opportunity to pursue her true passion as an art teacher at Concord Elementary. [Read more.](#)

*Do you know a teacher or group of teachers who deserve recognition? Send your nominations to [communications@edinaschools.org](mailto:communications@edinaschools.org) to be considered for the weekly blog spotlight.*



# COMMUNITY NEWS

Important News for the EPS Community

## Edina Give and Go launches new website to close opportunity gap

Edina is a community that offers many enriching life and learning opportunities in academics, athletics, and the arts. But nearly 10 percent of Edina's 8,400 students struggle with poverty and it is difficult (if not impossible) for them to take part in these opportunities. This has created an opportunity gap in Edina. The mission at Edina Give and Go is to close this gap and offer ALL Edina students the opportunity to GO far in life.



Edina Give and Go works with teachers, social workers, and families to recognize the needs of individual students in Edina Public Schools. While keeping the identities of the students confidential, they use their website to tell students' stories and communicate their needs to the community. Visit their new and improved website at [edinagiveandgo.org](http://edinagiveandgo.org), read the stories of need, and be moved to GIVE so that ALL Edina students can GO.

## The Spirit Store open until Dec. 27

The Edina Athletic Booster Board has opened The Spirit Store to help with your holiday shopping. It is located inside the Neighborhood Ice Cream Shoppe off of Valley View and Kellogg Road. The store will be open from noon to 5 p.m. every day until Dec. 27 and features sweatshirts, sweatpants, blankets, hats, mittens and scarves, pullovers, flannel pants, T-shirts, stocking stuffers, etc. All proceeds go to the Edina Athletic Booster Club, which supports all Edina High School athletic teams.



## VEAP Holiday Toy Program

This holiday season, Edina Public Schools is once again partnering with VEAP (Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People) to provide toys for parents in low-income families to give to their children. VEAP is preparing to serve up to 5,000 children this year. The goal is to provide every child a \$15 gift, a book and two winter wear items, plus a game for every family.



You can help by donating new and unwrapped gifts/toys to VEAP's donation box located at the Edina Resource Center, (inside North door #3 of the Edina Community Center, 5701 Normandale Rd.) from Nov. 17-Dec. 11. All donations must be new items. Due to health regulations, VEAP cannot receive or distribute used items. Cash donations are also welcome and can be mailed directly to VEAP at 9600 Aldrich Ave. S., Bloomington 55420.

The greatest needs are for toys for ages 0-18, winter wear items (hats/mittens/gloves/scarves), books, \$15 gift cards from local retailers (Target, Walmart, Kohl's etc.) and games. Please see [VEAP Holiday Toy Store Wish List](#) to learn more. You can contact Lana Davis by [email](#) or at 952-848-3921 with any questions about donating or how families can utilize VEAP's services.

## Take the Vision Edina survey by Dec. 12

The City of Edina has opened up the Vision Edina community engagement session to an online survey! The survey will remain open until Dec. 12. Take the survey and provide your views about

the future and your thoughts on a number of key themes that are important to shape the character and future development of the city. Find the report or watch the video and take the survey at [www.EdinaMN.gov/Vision](http://www.EdinaMN.gov/Vision)



VISION  
EDINA

## EPS IN THE NEWS

### District Response to Star Tribune Article About TIES

As a member district of TIES, Edina Public Schools contracts for a variety of technology products and services, as well as trainings for our staff. We do not anticipate any negative financial impact on Edina Public Schools as a result of the recent news about their financial situation. Nonetheless, from what we have heard and read about the situation, the practices highlighted in the audit do not align with our own approach and philosophy of fiscal stewardship. We look forward to TIES improving their financial operations so that they are able to continue to serve its members effectively. Read Star Tribune story.

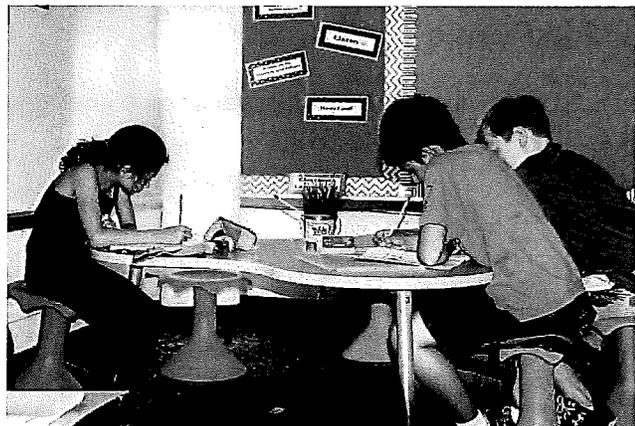
## RIC'S REFLECTIONS

Thoughts from Superintendent Ric Dressen

### The Impact of Facilities and Physical Environments on Learning

*Designing Spaces for Their Future, Not Our Past*

Edina Public Schools has always done a masterful job of using our available school facilities to compliment student learning. We've successfully repurposed, remodeled, renovated and added to our school facilities since our most recent new school was built in the early 1970s. This has been a team effort involving creative staff, expert construction professionals and a supportive community.



As our school district moves forward with implementing our Next Generation of Edina Public Schools Strategic Plan, we know that our facilities and structures are integrated with the programming transformations. As a district we have been studying our facilities for several years, including the recent Facilities Advisory Task Force (FATF), comprised of students, staff, parents, alumni and community members. The work and recommendations of the FATF continues to guide School Board and administrative discussions as we work toward a concept proposal to

bring to the community for a vote in May.

Throughout our study of how to improve and update our facilities to ensure they support the learning needs of current and future students, we have heard from a variety of voices on what is needed and desired. As with any remodeling or construction project, there is never enough money to do everything we hope. Yet, we are working to make sure that all of our schools and programs have the opportunity to see improvements to help advance our Next Generation work. We also know that we need to address some basic infrastructure improvements, including safety and security upgrades at our schools and fields.

The time is now to align our strategic programming efforts with our spaces, and we will do this through a collaborative approach. In the next few weeks, the Board will identify a basic framework for a facilities improvement proposal, which will then be followed by several months of information sharing, dialogue and engagement. Much of the detail work with the Next Generation spaces will play out following a community vote on the concepts. I look forward to the many staff and community conversations that will occur over the next few months. But even more, I look forward, presuming a successful referendum in May 2015, to the innovative and creative ideas that will be generated by students, staff, families and community members when we enter the design phase next summer and fall. This will be an opportunity to create classrooms and learning spaces that complement the educational needs and demands of our future students, which will require us to build a variety of learning spaces that provide flexibility to adapt to the ever changing needs of learners. Just as we know that a one size fits all approach to learning does not meet the needs of all students, so too do uniform, factory style classrooms not meet the needs of all learning styles and instructional strategies.

By including a variety of spaces in our future plans, we will be able to address the needs of direct instruction as well as individual, small and large group learning. These spaces will align with our strategic programming work that include future learning experiences for early childhood, elementary (grades K-5), middle school (grades 6-8) and high school (grades 9-12), in addition to continued learning opportunities for all ages.

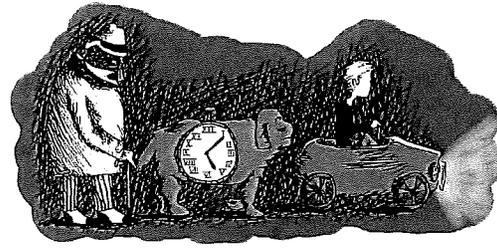
These next few weeks and months will go by quickly, with increasing detail and information being shared and input opportunities along the way. I appreciate how busy everyone is, especially this time of year, but I encourage all of us to be involved in this important process and stay informed on the proposals coming forward. Our current and future students are counting on us to provide diverse learning environments, both programmatically and structurally, that help all of our learners thrive and achieve.

To read more about the district's facilities planning, visit [www.edinaschools.org/FacilitiesPlanning](http://www.edinaschools.org/FacilitiesPlanning).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Valley View Theater Presents: The Phantom Tollbooth**  
*Dec. 4-6, 7 p.m., EPAC*

Valley View Middle School students in grades 8-9 will perform "The Phantom Tollbooth" at the Edina Performing Arts Center on Dec. 4-6 at 7 pm. The play follows the life of Milo, who is always bored with everything - until one day a mysterious package arrives. Within the package is a tollbooth that takes Milo to the Land of Wisdom, where he meets the Watchdog, Tock, who protects time from being wasted. Together, the two must rescue Dictionopolis and Digitopolis from the chaos that has descended since the Princesses Sweet Rhyme & Pure Reason were banished to the Land of Ignorance. In the end, Milo learns the true value of time and learning.



Tickets are general admission only and are \$6 for students and seniors and \$8 for adults. Tickets will be sold in the VVMS cafeteria during lunch on December 4 and 5 and through the EPAC box office one hour prior to show time. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

### **South View Theater Presents: 30 Reasons Not to be in a Play** *Dec. 11-12 at 7 p.m.; Dec. 13 at 2 p.m., Dragseth Auditorium*

South View Middle School students in grades 6 and 7 will stage a play ironically called "30 Reasons Not to be in a Play." The play features a series of hilarious monologues, duets and ensemble pieces expressing how many non-thespian students feel about performing on stage -- horror. It promises a lot of laughs and perhaps will bring back memories of your own youthful stage experiences.



Tickets are general admission and are \$10; \$5 for students and seniors. Purchase tickets at [edinaschools.org/southview](http://edinaschools.org/southview) or at the box office one hour before each performance.

### **2nd Annual Winter Jubilee Features Music, Drama** *Showcase for EHS Performing Arts is Dec. 12-13*

Experience the instrumental, choral and dramatic talents of the Edina High School (EHS) performing arts students at the 2nd Annual Winter Jubilee Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12-13. The event features performances by the EHS concert band, concert choir, symphony orchestra and thespians, and celebrates the season with music and fun. Proceeds from this year's event will go toward upgrades and improvement of the lighting system in the Fick Auditorium.



Performance times are Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 13 at 3 p.m. at the EHS Fick Auditorium. Reserve tickets by contacting [ehsjubileetickets@gmail.com](mailto:ehsjubileetickets@gmail.com) Last year's event sold out quickly, so don't delay!

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

## Next Gen Educational Competencies Video Now Online

Six educational competencies have been identified by Edina Public Schools as key to the success of Next Generation learners. The teaching of these skills and literacies is embedded in curriculum district-wide. Learn more about what the competencies are and how you can recognize them in action.



[Click here to view video](#)

Help us keep the 2014-15 school year Hope & Happiness theme alive. Contact the communications team at 952.848.3919 or email us at [communications@edinaschools.org](mailto:communications@edinaschools.org) with news, story ideas or photos! Missed an issue of *Edina In the Know*? [Click here for archives](#).

5701 Normandale Road  
Edina, MN 55424  
952.848.3000



DEFINING EXCELLENCE

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Edina Public Schools | 5701 Normandale Rd. | Edina | MN | 55424

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Carl Sledgister <sledgewig@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 05, 2014 3:35 PM  
**To:** James Hovland; swensonann1@gmail.com; Edina Mail; Scott H. Neal; jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle; joshsprague@edinarealty.com  
**Subject:** Re: Weber Woods

Mayor Hovland -  
Appreciate the response.

Council Members -

At the November meeting in the Weber Warming House - it was mentioned that assessments would take place and task forces would convene and report back to the community early to mid-December.

Will the Town Hall Meeting Sat 12/6 from 10-noon provide any new information, allow any opportunities for discussion regarding the woods, or other potential developments?

If not tomorrow - possibly the City Council meeting 12/16?

Other neighborhood associations (West Calhoun Neighborhood Council and Fulton Neighborhood Association) are holding forums next week, but would be nice to know what progress Edina has made.

Thank you  
Carl

On Dec 3, 2014, at 3:11 PM, James Hovland wrote:

Carl, thanks for the email. We are carefully assessing the opportunity and our city team has a meeting within the next few days with SLP officials on the matter. I appreciate you taking the time to write to us.

James B. Hovland, Esquire  
HOVLAND & RASMUS, PLLC  
Southdale Office Centre  
6800 France Avenue S., Suite 190  
Edina, MN 55435  
[jhovland@hovlandrasmus.com](mailto:jhovland@hovlandrasmus.com)  
Phone: (612) 874-8550  
Direct: (612) 874-8551  
Fax: (612) 874-9362  
Cell: (612) 961-6192

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

From: Lynette Biunno [<mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov>] On Behalf Of Edina Mail  
Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2014 8:46 AM  
Subject: FW: Weber Woods

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

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

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

From: Carl Sledgister [<mailto:sledgewig@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, December 02, 2014 7:47 PM

To: [swensonann1@gmail.com](mailto:swensonann1@gmail.com); Edina Mail; Scott H. Neal; Ann Kattreh; [jonibennett12@comcast.net](mailto:jonibennett12@comcast.net); Mary Brindle; [joshsprague@edinarealty.com](mailto:joshsprague@edinarealty.com); Ann Kattreh

Subject: Weber Woods

Mayor Hovland, City Council Members, and Parks & Rec:

As an Edina resident - I strongly feel that the area west of France Ave S, between 40th and 42nd ("Weber Woods") should not be left to chance.

This is an excellent opportunity for the city of Edina to expand their park system, act upon the common interest expressed by Edina residents on multiple occasions, and show that the City Council believes in its own Comprehensive Plan.

Weber Woods should be acquired and preserved as natural parkland - NOT left to developers.

With a seemingly endless potential for natural development and sustainable trail systems - the loss of this green space would be detrimental to Edina, SLP and MPLS.

Sincerely -

Carl Sledgister

November 21, 2014



MOUNT  
OLIVET  
ROLLING  
ACRES

Mr. Scott Neal  
City of Edina  
4801 West 50<sup>th</sup> Street  
Edina, MN 55424

18986 Lake Drive East  
Chanhassen, MN 55317-9348

Main 952.474.5974  
Fax 952.474.3652

[www.mtolivetrollingacres.org](http://www.mtolivetrollingacres.org)

RE: 6432 Sherwood Avenue, Edina, 55435

Dear Mr. Neal,

Enclosed is voluntary payment in lieu of taxes for city services. We appreciate being a member of the community and want to quantify our participation.

Sincerely,

Bruce Torgerson  
Chief Operations Officer

Enclosure

\$300  
DONATION FOR  
COUNCIL

Mayor James Hovland  
City of Edina  
4801 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street  
Edina, MN 55424

December 6, 2014

Dear Mr. Mayor,

Subject: Kangaroo Court

I am writing to you to see if you actually know what goes on in the Hennepin County Traffic Court in Edina.

As a bit of background, in October I received a speeding ticket. I was going 40 mph, and I accept the consequences. I did it, and was willing to pay the fine and learn from it. I went into the courthouse to pay the fine. The clerk said "are you sure you don't want to meet with someone? Your record is completely clean, and perhaps they could reduce the fine and/or get it off your record." I said, "I didn't know you could do that?" I'm not familiar with the procedures.

So I met with a woman who said she could reduce the fine to \$100 (from \$145), but that ONLY A JUDGE could get it off my record, and suggested I try to do that by appearing before said JUDGE.

My husband and I went into traffic court on December 4. A prosecutor addressed the group, saying "listen up, there is a Judge's conference in town, and the Judge will not be able to attend, so we'll make this easy on you. Fill out the 2 forms, and we'll call you up one at a time. The cost to everyone is \$225 plus a surcharge. We aren't employed by the court, so we need to be paid too." He was really arrogant and rude. He even yelled at an African American woman who got too close to his chair saying, "don't walk behind me, it gives me the creeps!" Everyone heard that.

When I sat down with one of the prosecutors, he said "Sign here." No questions, no discussion, nothing. I asked why the fee was now more than double the original fine. This was the first time he said "pay the \$100 then, but it will stay on your record. If you want to take a chance on your insurance being raised or cancelled, you will pay the fee." I said "can I discuss it with my husband?" He smirked and said "well, if you feel you need to." I then agreed to pay the cost of getting it off my record, and when I went to pay, only then did I find out that the surcharge was \$75. So the cost of getting this ticket off my record was now at \$300 (triple the original fine). I thought only a JUDGE could make this determination.

If this is how the court system works, so be it. But the people in that room were not hardened criminals, but there to pay traffic fines, and didn't appreciate being talked down to.

Just thought you'd want to know. And if you're planning on having someone send me a form letter, saying "thanks for your input", save the stamp. What I'm really interested in is your opinion.

Mrs. Wendy Hutchins  
5700 Hyland Greens Drive  
Bloomington, MN 55437  
952-457-6897



## Heather Branigin

---

**From:** mr\_beckman@hotmail.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 07, 2014 12:27 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Contact Us form submission

Name: Dave Buchanan

Organization:

Website:

Address\_1: 4616 Casco Ave.

Address\_2:

City: Edina

State: MN

Zip\_Code: 55424

Email: [mr\\_beckman@hotmail.com](mailto:mr_beckman@hotmail.com)

Phone: 952-929-6343

Referrer: about\_town\_or\_other\_city\_publication

Message: On Monday, Nov. 17 Scott Neal met with residents at the Weber Park warming house to talk about how the Mpls. waterworks property could be used. I was unable to attend that meeting but want to give my suggestion now. I'd love to see this property, or at least a portion of it, as a dog park. The whole site as is but with a fence all the way around it and designated as an official dog park would be ideal. I think if the city bought the land and had a fund drive to pay for the fencing, plenty of people would see the value in it and contribute money. Even as a dog park, children could still get out in nature and play in the area. If it's not possible for the entire area to be a dog park, having at least a portion of it as dog park would still be great. The key is to leave the property as natural as possible. The city would have minimal upkeep in the park. It could be left to nature as it is now. This property has a high monetary value but an even higher recreational value. Dave Buchanan

## Heather Branigin

---

**From:** Bradley Smith <smith.bradc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 07, 2014 3:52 PM  
**To:** Amanda Holle; Edina Mail; jonibennett12@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Tire Crumb on new Braemar Field

Ms. Amanda Holle,

I visited the new Braemar indoor turf field on Saturday with my two children. Wonderful facility. However, I was wondering about the fill-in matter on the field. Is this tire crumbs? If not, fantastic...there are many new, non-tire crumb replacement materials available. If it is, are you aware of the growing amount of data supporting the fact that tire crumbs carry carcinogens? While proving the causal effects regarding respiratory issues and cancers is a long testing process, the existing data is compelling. Many universities and some towns are already incurring the costs to remove tire crumbs from parks and turf facilities. Being an ex-college athlete and having contacts with coaches at several universities, I do know that many coaches are avoiding existing turf fields, opting for inferior grass surfaces due to the apparent risks. I have attached some sites reporting on the risks as well as an excerpt below. I would be interested in your comments.

Thanks,

Brad Smith

6017 St Johns Ave

[http://www.ehhi.org/reports/turf/health\\_effects.shtml](http://www.ehhi.org/reports/turf/health_effects.shtml)

<http://www.thepostgame.com/blog/daily-take/201410/synthetic-turf-giving-athletes-cancer-soccer-crumb-rubber-goalie-fields>

<http://www.ceh.org/get-involved/take-action/a-cocktail-of-harmful-chemicals-in-artificial-turf-infill/>

<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/investigations/high-school-cancels-crumb-rubber-turf-field-after-nbc-report-n226606>

[http://www.epa.gov/nerl/features/tire\\_crumbs.html](http://www.epa.gov/nerl/features/tire_crumbs.html)

"Artificial turf that uses infill made from recycled tires ("crumb rubber") contains a cocktail of toxic chemicals, including benzothiazole, carbon black, and heavy metals. As the Mt. Sinai Children's Environmental Health Center has written: "Exposures to chemicals present in crumb rubber at very high levels, typical of animal or occupational studies, are known to cause birth defects, neurologic and developmental deficits, and some can even cause cancer.

Children are particularly vulnerable to toxic threats. Children have increased exposure to toxic chemicals due to the unique way they interact with their environment. Because they are growing and developing, their bodies are also more susceptible than adults to chemical exposures.

Crumb rubber contains benzothiazole, which "exerts acute toxicity and is a respiratory irritant and a dermal sensitizer." **[ii]** Carbon black, which makes up 20-40% of crumb rubber, has been identified as a cancer-causing chemical by California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. Another concern is allergic reactions to the latex in crumb rubber."

## Heather Branigin

---

**From:** Olson, Kit <Kit.Olson@edinaschools.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 07, 2014 5:16 PM  
**To:** Lisa Kaczke (Sun); Edina Mail; Lauryn Grimes  
**Cc:** Kevin; BobStewart4Edina@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Fw: FIRST Day in Edina - Saturday, Dec 13 - VVMS

Hello-

Just wanted to pass this info along; more than you want to know, but just in case it may save you some time searching on your own.

Mayor Hovland, it will be great to have you join us on Saturday!

Sincerely,

Kit Olson

*Kit Olson*

Advanced Academic and Gifted Resource Teacher  
FIRST Tech Challenge Coordinator  
Kit.Olson@edinaschools.org

*"Tell me and I forget, Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."  
~Ben Franklin*

---

**From:** Olson, Kit  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 7, 2014 2:26 PM  
**To:** IVV All Staff  
**Cc:** Dressen, Ric; Burke, Valerie; Smasal, Randy; Mark Lawrence; Cheryl; Vicki; John and Kris Pastor; Mark T Schleusner; Lindley, Nathaniel M; Buettner, Steve; Schwartz, Robert; Berndt, Timothy; Purdy, Alyson; Laurie Shimizu; bboy zigi (Google Drive); Evan Pastor (EApps); Josh Felton; Howard Fulk; Tanya Snyder; Michelle Langefels; yu lu; Taylor Polomis; Haggerty, Fred; Mccinley, Karen; Perardi, Kate; Wattson, Erica; Hanson, Felicity; Richards, Debra; Plasch, Erin; Felton, Gina; Gamble, Jolynn; Nielsen, Susan; Olson, Kit; Tessmertuck, Paul; Michaelson, Bethany  
**Subject:** FIRST Day in Edina - Saturday, Dec 13 - VVMS

**Hello fellow VV staff,**

***I just wanted you to be aware that the robots are taking over!***

Next Saturday, all 4 levels of FIRST programs will be showcased here at VV and in the EPAC atrium. And in honor of this amazing gathering of excited students and mentors, The Edina City Council and Edina's Mayor, Jim Hovland, have officially declared this Saturday as FIRST Day in Edina.

**I am sharing this information with all of you for two reasons.**

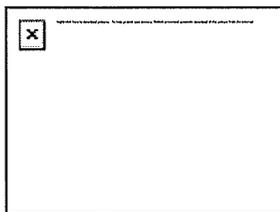
1. If you think this would be something you or your own kids would be interested in participating in down the line, this will be a great venue to see it all in one spot. Free entertainment!
2. I just wanted you to be aware of the buildings use next weekend just in case you were hoping to stop over for some quite work time... You will be disappointed if that is the case. Also, in order to prevent problems for the robots communicating with the field, the WiFi will be turned off in the building. We appreciate the support of DMTS in making this happen.

### **Read on if you want to know more; If not-**

Valley View is the host site for 2 parallel tournaments: A 24 team FTC Qualifier tournament and a 32 team FLL qualifying tournament. The FRC 1816 - the Green Machine is hosting a metro area Jr.FIRST Lego League event in the EPAC atrium that morning as well and offering an opportunity for our guests to get up close and personal with some of their past creations that have participated in the international FIRST Robotics Challenge.

**Jr. FLL** , a STEM enrichment program for students **ages 6-9**, is rather new to this community and we are please to be able to host this as well. Edina Mayor Jim Hovland and Superintendent Ric Dressen will be on hand to greet these students from around the metro area and have a chance For specific information regarding Edina's Jr. FLL event: <http://www.usfirst.org/whats-going-on/event/15265?ProgramCode=JFLL>

**FLL** is open to students in **grades 4-8** and we will have students from all over the state gathering here to show their stuff! This includes 5 teams from the community; many being mentored by our current or former students on FTC or FRC teams. **FTC** is open to students in **grades 7-12**. It is complex enough that high school students are challenged in a different way than our middle school students. For many districts, this program is the option of choice for their middle and high school students due to both it level of challenge and affordability. To see this years challenge: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABmBxCwHV94>



### **2014 - 2015 FTC Cascade Effect - YouTube**

Welcome to the 2014 - 2015 FTC Cascade Effect! After watching the Game Animation, please be sure to read the FTC Game Manual Part II for a detailed descripti...

Watch now...

This will give you a better idea about the field and all those wiffle balls in the lounge! Competition rounds will start at appx 10:30 and continue until appx 5 pm. Although they will take a break for lunch, there will be plenty to see at any time.

**The FTC and FLL events will last the full day on Sat. We start setting up at appx 4 pm on Friday and will be using appx 2/3 of the second floor.** We will not be using any spaces on the 1st floor. I am the director of the FTC event and parent, Kris Pastor is the director of the FLL event. We are working closely with our wonderful custodial staff and FIRST's state affiliate partner, High Tech Kids, a fantastic non-profit committed to STEM education opportunities for Minnesota's students.

Also: Thanks to our own **Jodi Ramirez** has volunteered to serve as hardware inspector on Sat am and to **Ward Jensen**, who is kindly mentoring 2 teams of 100% rookies, along with a great team of parents. Those two teams will be competing in their first FTC tournament here. It has been fantastic to see these two teams come

together and apply what they are learning in our science, math and PLTW classrooms to the annual challenge. **Alan Lu (11)** will serve as one of the emcees, (yes- there may be break dancing!) **Josh Felton (9)** will be DJ for the event and **Evan Pastor (12)** will serve as our lead technical engineer, working closely with the technical staff from High Tech Kids.

#### Information about the 4 levels of FIRST: Sport for the Mind!

Jr.Lego League <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/jr.fl>

FIRST Lego League: <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/fl>

## Welcome to FIRST LEGO League | USFIRST.org

FIRST Lego League engages younger students with real-world engineering by challenging them to build LEGO-based robots to complete tasks.

Read more...

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FIRST Tech Challenge: <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/ftc>

## Welcome to the FIRST Tech Challenge | USFIRST.org

The FIRST Tech Challenge is a robotics competition that allows students to compete head to head using a sports model.

Read more...

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FIRST Robotics Challenge: <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc>

## Welcome to the FIRST Robotics Competition | USFIRST.org

The FIRST Robotics Competition is an international high school robotics competition that gives students real-world engineering experience.

Read more...

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Thanks for your understanding and support. I do encourage you to stop by if your are so inclined as it is always fun to watch. Or if you know of a student or neighbor who may be interested in learning more about any of these programs, please feel free to pass this information along. There will be many FRC, FTC and FLL students and families available to answer questions they may have.

Sincerely,

Kit

*Kit Olson*

Advanced Academic and Gifted Resource Teacher

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** oconnellgang@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 07, 2014 11:36 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Cc:** Cary Teague  
**Subject:** 7200 France Project

Mayor and City Council members,

I am a resident in the Cornelia neighborhood and have concerns a questions about the proposed redevelopment of 7200 France Ave.

Questions:

- 1) If the county doesn't approve the access to the property off of France, how would each member of the Council vote on this project? In otherwords, would you approve this project with access off of 72nd street only?
- 2) The city staff and the Planning commission have publicly stated that they are not in favor of this project proposal as it currently stands, with the planning commission unanimously against it. Why has the city council voted to move forward with this, when Planning and staff are not in favor?

During the recent city council meeting, the comment was made that there hasn't been this kind of turnout in favor of following the city's comp. plan, and no one came out for the discussion on the Lennar site. As a resident in this area, I was not aware of the Lennar site until after the fact, same for Byerly's, and the Southdale parking lot project. This project came to my attention, because a neighbor was notified, as required by law due to his property being within a certain proximity to the project. I became aware of all the other projects, when I saw a flier in the Sun current.

As a resident of Edina, I came to the meetings when we developed the comp. plan, and I gave my input. My understanding was that the city develops a comp. plan with a broad input, and then follows that. I didn't think the residents needed to attend the city meetings to make sure we were following the comp. plan.

Now, that I am aware, I am writing you with the following concerns.

- 1) School impact. I heard in the recent city council meeting that the 7200 France project will add up to 50 more children to the school. Byerly's is under discussion as to which school it will impact, Southdale parking lot project will impact Cornelia. To make you aware, there are between 500-600 kids at Cornelia. Due to the recent decision to have full time kindergarten, the school had to build more classrooms. No increase in population, just full time Kindergarten. In the coming years, there will be most likely another ~100 kids. That means taking out more land space for more construction of classrooms. But, the general facilities are already taxed beyond their limits. The library, lunch room, gyms, playground, etc.... weren't built for such a population. Lunch is already from 11.00 - 1.30. Adding more kids will drive an all day lunch program. Just an example of what all the new housing units will do to the school. I'm glad to hear the city is meeting with the school this week to discuss these matters, but I don't know the discussions are this clear.

2) My biggest concern is the density of the current proposal, and what will happen with the rest of this section of France Ave (66th to 78th). If you drive up and down this section of France, there are many properties similar to this one with plenty of opportunity to redevelop, with older smaller buildings sitting on larger acreage lots. Going from 0.5 FAR in the current comp. plan to ~1.5 is a significant variance. Have we thought through all the impacts to the city? Water, sewer, police, fire, streets, sanitation, snow removal, etc....? And I'm not just talking about what the one building will do, but a larger redevelopment of this area? Obviously, it's not only coming, it's here and started, upwards of 1,000 new housing units already under construction or in planning phases. Are we ready for that? And maybe a few thousand more?

3) What happens to this property in the long term? My concern is with such high density, can this property be maintained and updated as needed over time. Initially everything is new and shiny. No problem getting tenants at the rates we need. But I've seen other properties start out that way, and over time the rents don't keep up, because the property becomes less desirable. For example, the Park Lawn apartments in the 1980's were a great place to live, as I know people who have lived there at that time. Now, I know people who live there, and it isn't all that great. The buildings look OK from the outside. But I've been in them, and the interiors are not well maintained. I can only guess that is due to the low quality of the build, and the small living space. This comes back to my primary concern about density. How do we assure ourselves that this dense property will be maintained and not become run down?

I'm not saying we should deny redevelopment. It will happen with or without the city's cooperation. Builders can redevelop within the current comp. plan without the city council approval. What I am saying, is that we should take a moment to reflect on what we as a community want to see this part of town look like, and then encourage the developers to meet that vision. I think if the city council granted the planning commissions request to do a mini comp plan for this, it would go a long way in developing a strategic long term plan that will be welcomed by residents and developers.

Currently, developers know they can buy property in the city, come in with an oversized plan, reduce is slightly, and get a significant exception to what they should be building.

If a the developer of this property is a reasonable developer, they will wait a few months for us to figure out what is going to work long term. They won't jump to build a small office space property, if they know that there will be something better in a few months.

As a final thought, here is a proposed process to keep the comp. plan fresh and current, while also keeping the community involved.

1) Build a comp. plan with community involvement. This is what we already do, and I have already been to meetings for the next comp. plan and have given my input.

2) We follow the comp. plan as a city in general. The city will be carrying out the intent of what is designed.

3) If a modification to the comp. plan is needed, the community should be notified to give input, and as a community, we can adjust and decide collectively what we want our city to be.

4) Builders can build within our current vision of what we want the city to be, by following our comp. plan, or asking us a city to adjust. Expectations will be clear for the developers. If they think the comp. plan needs to be adjusted, they will know to expect a reasonable process to do so.

Thanks for listening to me, and please allow this significant decision to be given the proper time it needs to come to a reasonable solution that works for all.

Cary Teague, Please forward this on to the Planning Commission.

Tom O'Connell  
7333 Oaklawn Ave.  
952-649-7125

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** peill@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, December 08, 2014 12:51 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Cc:** Scott H. Neal; swensonann1@gmail.com; dan.boivin@mspmac.org;  
jeffrey.hamiel@mspmac.org  
**Subject:** Edina Temporary Noise Monitoring Tower Report

Mayor, I am writing to ask if you would like MAC staff to make a presentation to the Council on the results of the temporary noise monitoring towers in Edina. I realize that the report has been sent to you, but my thought is that it might make sense to have staff present directly to the Council so that Council Members are fully informed about the results of the project and can get their questions answered.

If this makes sense to you, please let me know and I will get working on a date for a presentation.

Lisa Peilen

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Cora Ellenson-Myers <cora@environmentminnesota.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 08, 2014 2:50 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Environment Minnesota Clean Water Letter  
**Attachments:** MN elected officials letter.docx

Dear Mayor Hovland

My name is Cora Ellenson-Myers; I'm the Campaign Organizer with Environment Minnesota working on clean water. I'm writing with an update on the EPA's proposed clean water rule, and to see if you can sign on to a letter supporting clean water to Senator Franken.

As I'm sure you know, right now the EPA is considering moving forward with a rulemaking to close loopholes in the Clean Water Act. These loopholes have resulted in a costly and inefficient process of case by case evaluation to determine if individual water bodies are protected by the Clean Water Act, and have called into question the protections of 47000 miles of Minnesota's streams, and 2 million miles across the country.

This is a big priority for Environment Minnesota – it could be the biggest victory for clean water in more than a decade.

As you might guess, the polluters who created these loopholes have gotten their allies in Congress to attack the proposal at every turn. This fall, they passed a bill in the House to strip the EPA's authority to make the rule, and similar attacks could come up in the Senate in the coming weeks.

Fortunately, Senator Franken has historically been an ally for clean water, but is getting a lot of pressure from the opposition. If we're going to get these protections over the finish line, we'll need as much support as we can get from Senator Franken. Environment Minnesota is circulating a letter from elected officials urging the senator to be a champion for Minnesota lakes and waterways across the state, and we would love for you to add your name.

Can you review the attached letter and let me know if you can sign on by December 19th? If we show a big wave of support from elected officials across the state, we can make sure Sen. Franken keeps standing up for our waterways.

Thank you,

--

Cora Ellenson-Myers  
Clean Water Campaign Organizer  
Environment Minnesota  
O: (612) 379-1475  
C: (218) 341-8045

The Honorable Senator Franken  
60 East Plato Blvd  
Suite 220  
Saint Paul, MN 55107

Dear Senator Franken,

As elected officials across Minnesota, we write you to urge you to declare your support for the Clean Water Rule proposed by U.S. EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers to restore Clean Water Act protection to thousands of waterways here in Minnesota and across the country.

As elected officials, we know how critically important clean water is to the health and economic livelihood of people across our state. Our constituents need clean water for drinking, fishing, swimming, agriculture, recreation, and the wellbeing of their communities. Waterways like the Mississippi River and Lake Superior are part of what make Minnesota beautiful, thriving, and prosperous. But our waters' health is threatened. Beginning in 1972, the Clean Water Act protected all of the nation's waters, from small, unnamed streams to the cherished Mississippi. But now, because of two bitterly-divided Supreme Court decisions (SWANCC in 2001 and Rapanos in 2006), many of our waterways are not guaranteed protection from pollution, including the streams that feed our lakes and rivers, and wetlands that help keep them clean.

Here in Minnesota, the threat is serious. Until this loophole is closed, 51 percent of our state's streams lack clear protection of our nation's bedrock environmental law. According to EPA data, these waters help provide drinking water to over 970,000 Minnesotans<sup>1</sup>. To protect our treasured 10,000 lakes, we urge you to take a public stand in support of the proposed rule to restore critical protections to these waters under the Clean Water Act. By restoring Clean Water Act protections we can put all of Minnesota's waters back on track to becoming safe for swimming, fishing, and drinking.

We appreciate your commitment to protecting Minnesota's waterways, and we hope you will move quickly to ensure they are protected for years to come.

Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup>[http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/guidance/wetlands/upload/2009\\_12\\_25\\_wetlands\\_science\\_surface\\_drinking\\_water\\_surface\\_drinking\\_water\\_mn.pdf](http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/guidance/wetlands/upload/2009_12_25_wetlands_science_surface_drinking_water_surface_drinking_water_mn.pdf)

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** David Bly <Rep.David.Bly@house.mn>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 08, 2014 3:56 PM  
**To:** David Bly  
**Subject:** Inter-City Passenger Rail  
**Attachments:** MNRailMap 2014\_1\_1.pdf; Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Route Options form So Central MN through Northfield to the Twin Cities Metro\_1\_1.png; SUGGESTED LETTER TO MNDOT\_1\_1.doc

You have received e-mails in the past about our effort to support a MnDOT study in the State Rail Plan for South Central Inter-City Passenger Rail. Some of you indicated you were interested but unable to attend. We had another meeting Dec. 3rd. The meeting went very well and several attendees plan to send a letter to MnDOT supporting the Tier 1 study of this project. We would appreciate anything you could do to help with this as well. I have attached a draft letter and two maps (one the state freight rail map and the other the two options for the passenger rail route; one through St. Paul, the other through Minneapolis). If you would like more information or to ask me about this process I would be more than willing to visit with you and if time allows to be available to help with a local meeting. We are hoping to have a website about our effort to advance passenger rail to our region up and running by next week.

Please contact me with any questions.

Here is information that we handed out at the Dec. 3rd meeting:

Letter of support to MnDOT; by 12/31/14 if possible.

Address letters to: Dave Christianson, Project Manager, [Dave.Christianson@state.mn.us](mailto:Dave.Christianson@state.mn.us)  
cc: Dan Krom, Passenger Rail Project Manager, [Daniel.Krom@state.mn.us](mailto:Daniel.Krom@state.mn.us)

Enlist local stakeholders (businesses, institutions, chamber of commerce, school districts, colleges, etc.) to write letters of support to MnDOT.

Organize public and stakeholders to offer comments/input to MnDOT through the MnDOT Rail Plan Project Website by 1/15/15: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/planning/railplan/comments.html>

Thanks for any help you can offer.

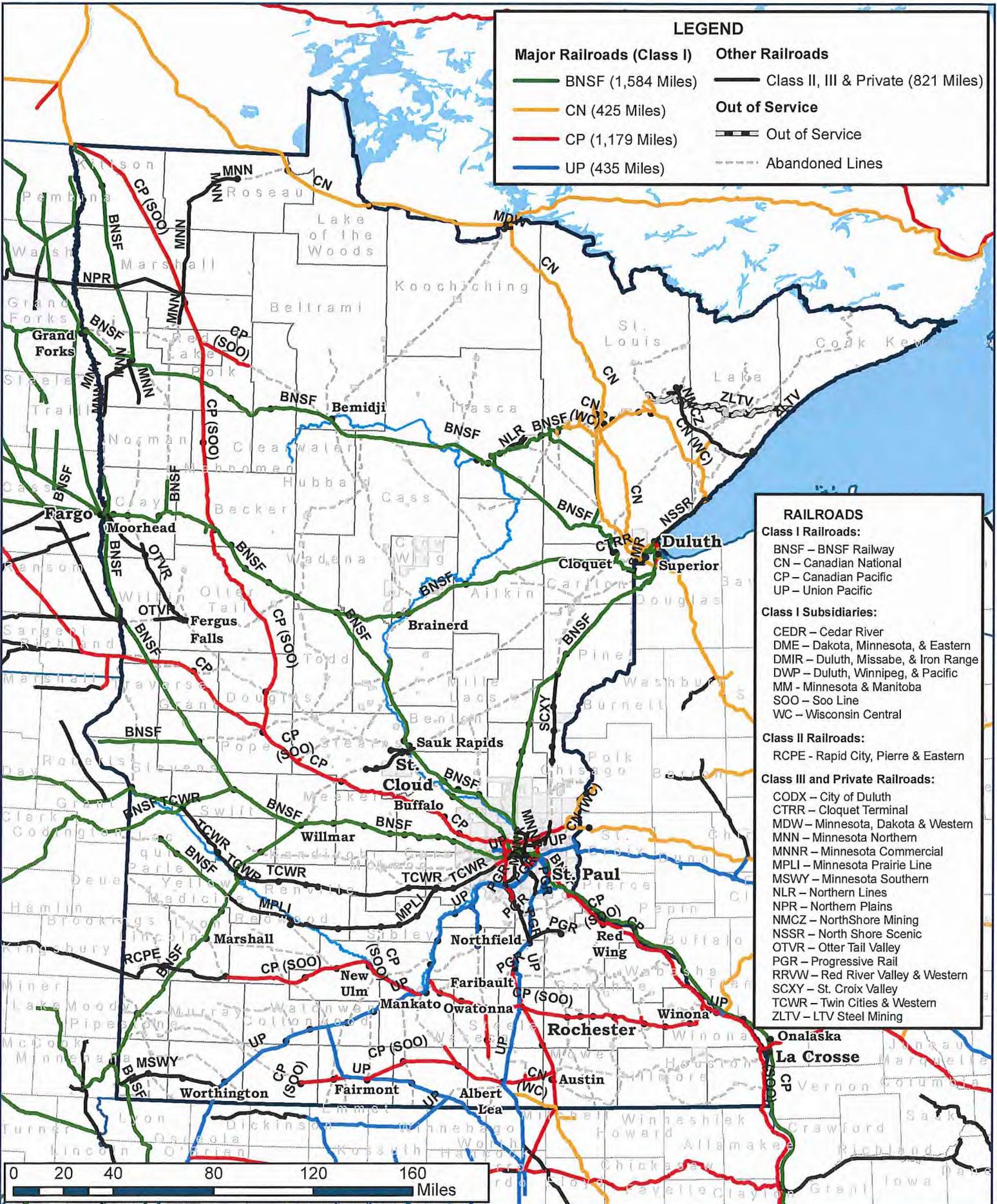
Rep. David Bly  
[rep.david.bly@house.mn](mailto:rep.david.bly@house.mn)  
612-327-0119



# MINNESOTA FREIGHT RAILROAD MAP

Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations

July 2014



## LEGEND

### Major Railroads (Class I)

- BNSF (1,584 Miles)
- CN (425 Miles)
- CP (1,179 Miles)
- UP (435 Miles)

### Other Railroads

- Class II, III & Private (821 Miles)

### Out of Service

- - - Out of Service
- - - - - Abandoned Lines

## RAILROADS

### Class I Railroads:

- BNSF – BNSF Railway
- CN – Canadian National
- CP – Canadian Pacific
- UP – Union Pacific

### Class I Subsidiaries:

- CEDR – Cedar River
- DME – Dakota, Minnesota, & Eastern
- DMIR – Duluth, Missabe, & Iron Range
- DWP – Duluth, Winnipeg, & Pacific
- MM – Minnesota & Manitoba
- SOO – Soo Line
- WC – Wisconsin Central

### Class II Railroads:

- RCPE – Rapid City, Pierre & Eastern

### Class III and Private Railroads:

- CODX – City of Duluth
- CTRR – Cloquet Terminal
- MDW – Minnesota, Dakota & Western
- MNN – Minnesota Northern
- MNNR – Minnesota Commercial
- MPLI – Minnesota Prairie Line
- MSWY – Minnesota Southern
- NLR – Northern Lines
- NPR – Northern Plains
- NMCZ – NorthShore Mining
- NSSR – North Shore Scenic
- OTVR – Otter Tail Valley
- PGR – Progressive Rail
- RRW – Red River Valley & Western
- SCXY – St. Croix Valley
- TCWR – Twin Cities & Western
- ZLTV – LTV Steel Mining





to Des Moines / Kansas City

SUGGESTED DRAFT LETTER TO MnDOT – December – 2014

From Participating Municipalities and Counties in support of the South Central Minnesota Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Project

SUGGESTED DRAFT FOR CONSIDERATION BY CITIES, COUNTIES, EMPLOYERS, INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

We the undersigned governmental entities have met to explore a common interest in pursuing restored inter-city regional passenger rail service from south central Minnesota to the Twin Cities on existing rail lines through Northfield.

We unanimously support restored intercity regional passenger rail service between our south central Minnesota communities and the Metropolitan area, as well as the potential inter-state rail connections that our particular rail line would open for Minnesotans by virtue of the intersection of our line with 3 of Amtrak's most heavily trafficked inter-state lines, immediately to the south of us (Kansas City and Des Moines). We feel strongly that this project presents sufficient merit as to warrant serious study for possible development in the next five years.

The 2009 Minnesota Comprehensive Statewide Freight and Passenger Rail Plan identifies the Northfield – Metropolitan corridor for Tier II development. Elevation of rail service on one of the existing rail lines connecting Northfield to the Twin Cities to Tier One Status for purposes of an evaluative preliminary study is more than justified by the forecasted levels of usage, the apparent technical and financial feasibility of this project in comparison to other proposed passenger rail projects, and the enthusiastic support of the undersigned affected communities.

We strongly encourage MnDOT to elevate restored regional inter-city passenger rail service from south central Minnesota on existing rail lines through Northfield to Tier One status in the State's revised Rail Plan, and urge MnDot to commence an evaluative study of that routing as part of your statewide rail planning.

Respectfully,

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## Heather Branigin

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**From:** ANNE LEE GARY LEE <gandalee6@q.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 09, 2014 9:30 AM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Attention: City Council and Engineering regarding Countryside H Neighborhood Roadway Reconstruction Project

Attention: City Council and Engineering regarding Countryside H Neighborhood Roadway Reconstruction Project

From: Gary Lee, 5621 Wycliffe Road

The city has determined that Countryside H neighborhood streets need full reconstruction. Because of this, now is the time to review, repair and update all our utilities under those roadways. For this reason, I have been working to communicate to the city public works & engineering departments that the storm sewer system which was designed approximately 40 years ago does not appear well-equipped to handle the frequent and heavy rains that have been occurring increasingly and are only projected to continue increasing with climate change.

I'm concerned that mother nature is evolving faster than our system is. As I understand it, the city is utilizing on an older EPA definition of a 100 year rain, based on a 6" rain event, to state that under simulation the storm sewer system is capable. I believe there is a newer EPA definition either recently implemented or in process of being implemented, which uses an 8.5" rain event as an updated standard. I have not yet heard how our storm sewer system would perform under this simulation. However, whatever that theoretical simulation suggests, the methodology still doesn't appear to consider a very wide range of possibilities. With the nearly daily news on global climate change, I believe it's increasingly possible that we will experience two six-inch rains over a period of two or three weeks. It's my strong belief that in this situation the Hawkes Lake lift station would be overwhelmed and water would be going through the back doors of some homes on the lake. I believe if the models were to simulate this scenario, they would agree with me.

If we were to deem the rainfall of spring 2014 as a 100 year rain event as I've been told it was, then we will have had three 100 year rain events in that last thirty years (1987, 2002 and 2014). So my view is that we need to have a solid plan for our storm system to handle the even greater demands imposed by more frequent storms as well as larger rainfalls.

The city has a responsibility to those homes it chose to put on the storm sewer system to ensure that the system evolves to keep up with changing environment. But more than that, Edina is a city that leads. Our storm sewer system is another area where I believe the city can and needs to lead. Using an old and narrow definition of what constitutes a significant rain event downplays the looming potential for flooding. I request that the city council ensure that the city has a leading-edge storm sewer system.

Because this effort needs to start somewhere and because the city has determined that the streets around Hawkes Lake are to be reconstructed in 2015, I request that as part of the Countryside H Reconstruction project, updates to the pumping system on Hawkes Lake be considered to get water out faster, so the system will be better aligned with how quickly the Lake is and will rise during more frequent and heavier rain events.

Thank-you for your consideration. I will be attending my daughter's first band concert at Countryside Elementary School during the Tuesday, December 9 meeting regarding the Countryside H Road Reconstruction

Project. I will try to stop by the city council meeting afterwards to see if discussion is still going on, but if not I look forward to further discussion on this topic.

Gary Lee, 5621 Wycliffe Road.

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## Joyce Repya

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**From:** Joe Lichtenberger <Joe\_Lichtenberger@cargill.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 10, 2014 8:52 AM  
**To:** Joyce Repya  
**Subject:** Heritage Preservation Board - 4505 Arden  
**Attachments:** 4842\_001.pdf; Arden Blueprint from 1925

Hello Joyce,

Please find two attachments that I would like sent to the HPB and members of the City Council. Please put me on copy when it is sent.

The first attachment is a letter I am going to send to my neighbors regarding the Star Tribune article. It is a follow up to comments that were attributed to me in the article, which I believe the author took out of context.

The second attachment is a photo of the original blueprints of 4504 Arden Ave. In my communication with the author I reference that the original blueprints of my home are framed and hang over the fireplace mantel. I really did frame the original blue prints and they look beautiful.

It reflects poor journalism that the Star Tribune chose to not disclose that in a letter dated November 14, 2014, a member of the Heritage Preservation Board threatened litigation against a homeowner in the Country Club neighborhood and called for the resignation of several members of the Edina planning committee.

Thanks for your help and have a wonderful holiday season.

Very truly yours,  
Joe Lichtenberger

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**From:** Joyce Repya [<mailto:JRepya@EdinaMN.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 09, 2014 6:32 PM  
**To:** Joe Lichtenberger  
**Subject:** RE: Heritage Preservation Board

Hi Joe –

By all means, forward your email to me and I will make sure the HPB and City Council receive it.



**Joyce Repya, Senior Planner**

952-826-0462 | Fax 952-826-0389

4801 W. 50th St. | Edina, MN 55424

[JRepya@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:JRepya@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov/Planning](http://www.EdinaMN.gov/Planning)

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

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**From:** Joe Lichtenberger [[mailto:Joe\\_Lichtenberger@cargill.com](mailto:Joe_Lichtenberger@cargill.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 09, 2014 6:00 PM  
**To:** Joyce Repya  
**Subject:** Heritage Preservation Board

Hello Joyce,

I just read the Star Tribune article regarding 4505 Arden Avenue. I was also quoted in the article, but am not thrilled with context used by Mr. Reinan. Therefore, I would like to forward the email I sent to Mr. Reinan to the HPB and City Council. Are the right person to speak with? Can you forward the email to right people on my behalf?

Kind regards,

**Joseph W. Lichtenberger**  
**4504 Arden Ave**  
**Edina, MN 55424**

December 9, 2014

Dear Neighbor,

This note is follow up to the Star Tribune article published this week regarding the demolition at 4505 Arden Avenue. The author, John Reinan, used my name and as well as two comments I sent to him via email.

The quotes used by the author and attributed to me were, in my opinion, taken out of context. Rather than try to explain myself, I am sharing with you my correspondence with Mr. Reinan, which was one email. You can draw your own conclusion.

I wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season.

Very truly yours,

Joseph Lichtenberger

## Joe Lichtenberger

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**From:** Reinan, John [John.Reinan@startribune.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 12, 2014 11:02 AM  
**To:** Joe Lichtenberger  
**Subject:** RE: 4505 Arden Ave

Thanks, Joe, for this very cogent note. As you probably know, it's a general rule of life that people who are unhappy with a situation tend to make the most noise. So I'm very happy to hear from someone who has a different point of view. Thanks again for sharing your thoughts.

**From:** Joe Lichtenberger  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 12, 2014 10:59 AM  
**To:** Reinan, John  
**Subject:** 4505 Arden Ave

Hello John,

My name is Joe Lichtenberger, I am the owner of 4504 Arden Ave, directly across the street from 4505 Arden Ave. It is my understanding you are soliciting neighbors regarding the activities at 4505 Arden Ave.

For the record, I FULLY support the remodel and any activities related to the construction of a new home at 4505 Arden Ave. If the foundation was deemed unsafe, and a teardown was deemed necessary by qualified professionals, then a teardown should take place. It's a matter of safety. The prior owners at 4505 Arden lived in squalor and did not keep the home up to any reasonable standard. It should have been torn down years ago.

You should also thoroughly investigate the behavior of the Heritage Preservation Board throughout this process. The HPB effectively subjected the owners of 4505 Arden to double jeopardy. After 4 years, the HPB finally approved a restoration plan by a 7 to 2 vote. One of the 2 dissenters, Joyce Mellom who is Vice Chairman of the HPB, APPEALED its own decision. How can the HPB approve a plan, then have certain members of the HPB appeal their own decision? This required a second approval by the City Council, which they approved in a 4 to 1 vote. A second approval should have never been required unless the appeal was requested by someone who is not on the HPB. No homeowner or tax payer in the Country Club neighborhood should be subject to this treatment by both the city and their neighbors.

As I am sure your investigation has found, Joyce Mellom also lives across the property in question.

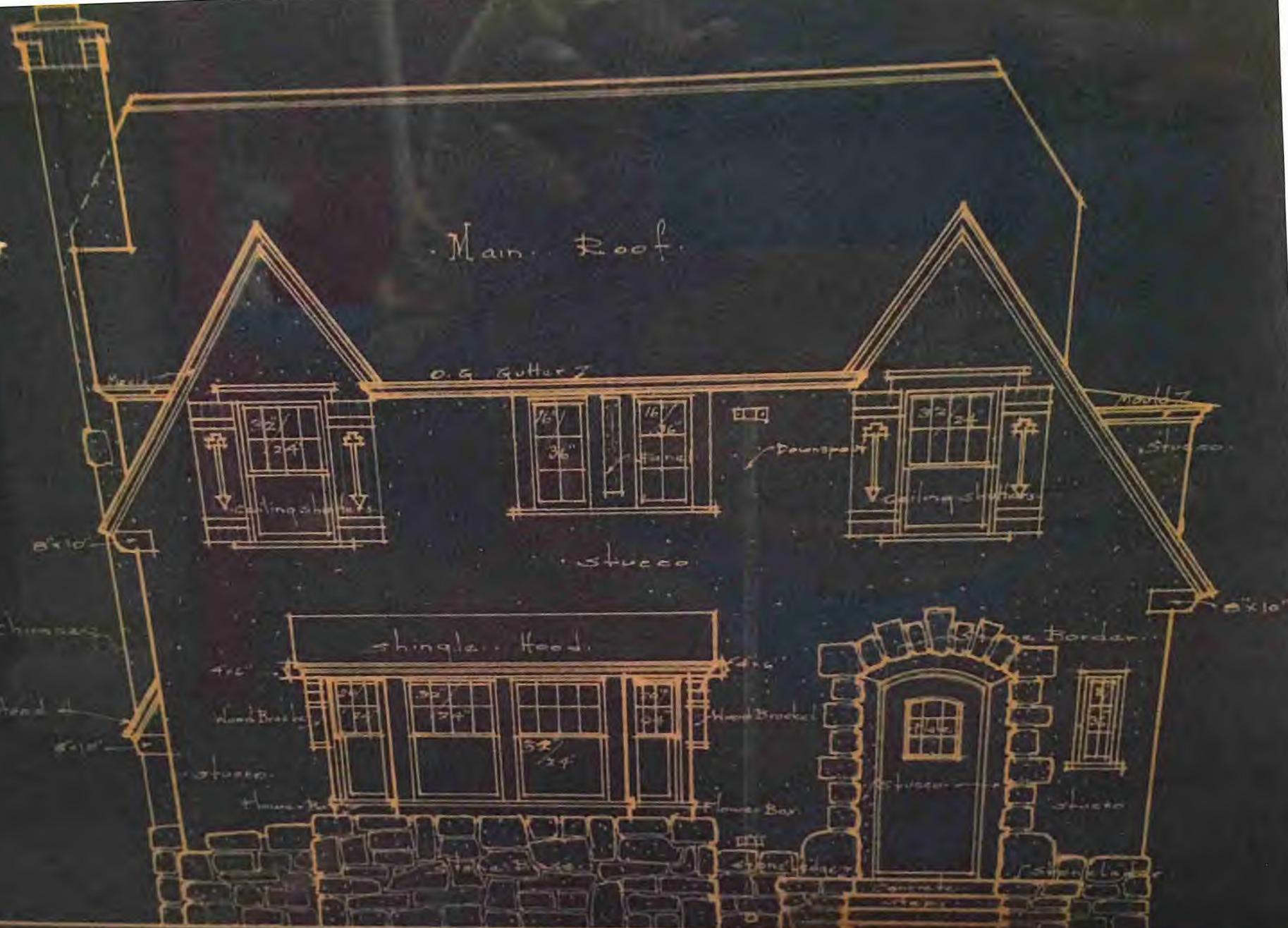
Further, I know you will find several neighbors on Arden that also support the activities at 4505 Arden Ave.

If you choose to write a story, good journalism will both cast light on the HPB's behavior and highlight that many neighbors support the plan at 4505 Arden Ave.

Finally, I fully support the mission of the HPB. I don't want McMansions or contemporary style homes in the Country Club neighborhood. In my home, I framed the original blueprints from 1925 and put them over my fireplace mantel. I love the neighborhood. But homeowners have rights too, and a vocal minority with excessive power needs to be kept in check.

I will not comment further on this matter and ask that you respect my privacy by not contacting me or coming onto my property.

Very truly yours,  
Joe Lichtenberger



FRONT ELEVATION  
Scale 1/4" = 1'

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Jason Urbanski <urbys@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 09, 2014 3:52 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Countryside H Roadway Reconstruction - Attn: City Council and Engineering

December 9, 2014

My name is Molly Urbanski and I reside at 5800 Stuart Avenue. I am writing in regard to the proposed road improvement No. BA-413, Countryside H neighborhood roadway construction. I will be in attendance at this evening's meeting where I will be asking the following questions and wanted to get them to you prior so that you could be aware of them.

- The preliminary assessments for our area (9/24/2014) were between \$8,600.00 - \$10,900.00. Why is there such a huge jump to the \$11,732.00?
- In regard to the payments that are divided over a fifteen year period with interest – are we as home owners allowed to deduct the interest on our taxes?
- On page 9 of the Engineering study under Traffic and Crash Data - it indicates that "City staff measured traffic volumes and speeds at four locations within or near the neighborhood. Average daily traffic volumes ranged from 300 to 364 cars per day with 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds ranging from 22.2 to 25.5 mph."

Location	Description	Year	Average Daily Traffic	85th Speed, mph
1	Arbour Avenue	2014	339	22.2
2	Benton Avenue	2005	300	-
3	Grove Street	2014	821	31.4
4	Grove Street	2014	364	25.5

The information is misrepresented as well as misleading –

- 1.) On your Traffic and Crash Data table located under Appendix G (see above) it indicates that *the speeds and volume actually range from 300 to 821 cars per day and speeds ranging from 22.2 to 31.4 mph.*
- 2.) The #4 study was located 1 house in off of Olinger onto Grove. This location would not give an accurate representation of the speed at which cars travel down Grove as these cars would just be entering Grove and accelerating or would be slowing for the stop sign located at the corner of Olinger and Grove.
- 3.) The #3 area monitored in 2005 was off of Tracy onto Grove where the majority of traffic comes from Tracy Ave. onto Grove Street - 821 cars with an average speed of 31.4 miles per hour. This includes the traffic of the residents but a good part of this traffic is to and from Good Samaritan Church for services, events and pre-school classes that are held there daily; as well as the school buses and parent traffic that uses this route to enter and exit Countryside Elementary School. When using this route to enter and exit Countryside Elementary School both school buses and parent traffic turn off of Grove Street onto Stuart and continue to the parking lot located at the school. In order to make an informed

decision in regard to the roadways located in this particular area I would propose a road study off of Tracy onto Grove, Stuart and on Benton Avenue to get a true representation as to the traffic in our particular area.

- On page 11 – 12 of the Engineering study under Proposed Improvements: Streets - it indicates that “the reconstructed gravel and pavement sections will meet the requirements of a minimum 20-year design life based on projected traffic loadings. “

- 1.) Was this "20 year design life" based on the average # of cars, 300-364, or on the 300 - 821? If it was based on the, 300-364 vehicles, due to the daily traffic indicated between Tracy and Grove of 821 vehicles the life would decrease dramatically and would actually be more like 10 years!
- 2.) Did this “20 year design life” take in to consideration the additional weight of school buses? Our roads already suffer from the additional weight of the school buses which cause our streets to break down faster – especially by the manhole covers, gutters and curb areas.

- On page 11 – 12 of the Engineering study under Proposed Improvements: Streets – it also indicates that “It is anticipated that as part of the next street reconstruction project for this area, the utility systems will have reached the end of their service lives, thereby requiring extensive rehabilitation.”

- 1.) When is the "next street construction project" for the Living Streets Policy proposed? I do not want to pay \$12,000 to have another assessment in a few years on top of this one!

- On page 14 of the Engineering study under Proposed Improvements: Sidewalks – it indicates that “Staff will continue to study traffic volumes and speeds along Arbour Avenue and Grove Street to determine if traffic calming measures are warranted as part of a future project.”

- 1.) How does the city plan on monitoring the traffic volumes and speeds? How often is the city planning on studying these issues? We have had and continue to have issues with additional traffic on the route between Tracy Avenue to Grove Street and from Grove Street down Stuart Avenue. Not only do these roadways sustain 800+ cars but we have the additional issues of buses and cars running the stop signs located on the corners of Grove and Stuart, accelerated speeds, and parking issues when there are activities at the school. Although the Police Department and the city have been notified of these issues and have sent officers out to monitor the traffic they have done little to improve the situation. (I have video tape of cars and buses running the stop sign while the officer remains in his unmarked police car doing nothing to assist or to curtail the issues.) The study conducted in 2005 was due to the addition proposed at Good Samaritan Church and the neighborhood concerns as to the issues of traffic, parking and such. When I received the study results and saw the numbers I contacted the city with my concern– I was told that those are average numbers and speeds throughout Edina neighborhoods and that there was nothing that concerned them in regard to the study. We are a neighborhood not a freeway or a racetrack yet these issues have not warranted the city’s concern in the past and I am afraid that it most likely will not warrant your concern in the future either.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your answers at the meeting this evening.

Sincerely yours,  
Molly Urbanski

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Carol Thompson <cthompson999@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 10, 2014 9:42 AM  
**To:** James Hovland  
**Subject:** Fwd: Loss of credibility

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Carol Thompson <[carolthompson999@gmail.com](mailto:carolthompson999@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** **Loss of credibility**  
**Date:** December 10, 2014 at 9:28:45 AM CST  
**To:** [jrepya@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:jrepya@EdinaMN.gov)  
**Cc:** [jameshovland@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:jameshovland@ci.edina.mn.us)

Dear Joyce,

I was terribly disappointed this morning to read your quote in the Strib saying that the foundation of the Arden tear-down could not be repaired. Really? Old and historic structures across the world are repaired and preserved daily. Period. The home I purchased in the Country Club in 1982 was a complete mess but my husband and I, over time, rehabbed the house into a very comfortable home. Trust me, it can be done.

To many of us you come across as being squarely on the side of the developers with little interest in preservation. How many neighborhoods in Edina have Heritage Landmark Designation status? Why not work to keep the treasured historic structures in the Country Club neighborhood in tact, rather than let the area morph into just another indistinctive suburb?

Carol Thompson  
4523 Bruce, Edina

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Lorenzo Tunesi <lorenzo.tunesi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 10, 2014 12:35 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Edina sidewalks

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,  
Thank you for having voted unanimously in favor of sidewalks in Edina.  
Lorenzo Tunesi  
4413 Ellsworth Dr  
Edina

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Michael Ebnet <mikeebnet1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 10, 2014 4:26 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** council meeting etiquette

Mayor Hovland,

I was at the recent Council meeting that discussed the 7200 apartment complex. A young woman gave a fairly impassioned speech to which the audience clapped heartily. You chastised the audience. I think you were wrong to do so for these reasons: 1) I didn't see the rules of decorum posted anywhere 2) the clapping provided a measure for what the audience wanted, eliminating the need for people to get up and speak themselves saving you and everyone else time.

You certainly have the right to run your meeting the way you best see fit. But it would help if you posted the major rules for audiences.

As long as I have your attention, and I hope I do have your attention, because I thought it best to email this comment to you and not to the newspapers, I would like to say something about the proposed apartments.

1) the restaurant should be a no-go. My guess is it will fail. When I was in architecture school we joked that to get a good grade you needed to put a honker on every roof, be it home, church, library, etc. (A honker was a skylight that directed light through a vertical window and bounced it off a 45 degree surface to light up the room below.) By adding the restaurant to 7200 France, this architect is adding today's honker. The Mill Valley restaurant may have been a good idea because there are no other restaurants within a half mile. At 7200 France you can walk across France to Byerly's, Pin Stripes, lee Ann Chin, Five Guys, Potbelly, Big Bowl, Pittsburg Blue, etc. I see no reason to burden neighbors with truck deliveries and exhaust odors. I certainly don't see disgruntled neighbors using the restaurant. IF they want to add a destination restaurant, it would cause additional traffic stress.

2) In regard to Gretzky skating to where the puck will be. Apartments are being overbuilt in the metro area. Yes, there is a demand for them now. But the millennials will soon grow up. And want a standalone house with a yard for kids. The housing bubble and current tight mortgage rules have only delayed their exiting apartments for single-family homes. They will soon realize that a home is cheaper than an apartment (Schafer: Cheapest place to live is one that you own Dec 6 Strib). In five years, there will be a wave of millennials headed for single homes. Apartments will be dropping rents. In other words, apartments is where it's at today. Tomorrow it will be single-family housing.

3) Density is not all it's cracked up to be. I've lived where there was a lot of foot traffic. I eventually got to the point where I left my car unlocked and the glove compartment open because every few days the car was broken into. (Eventually I took out the overhead bulbs because the miscreants never bothered to close the doors.) It stands to reason that if there is one petty thief per hundred people, there will be four for four hundred.

Thanks for hearing me out. Your job is not the easiest. But I think the medical building would be a better fit because traffic would come at different time, not just rush hour.

Mike Ebnet

4501 Claremore Court

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Marie Pechman <mariemitz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 10, 2014 5:48 PM  
**To:** jonibennett12@comcast.net; Edina Mail; Mary Brindle (Comcast);  
joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Jim & Stephanie Vitt; Chad Millner  
**Subject:** Halifax Avenue Meeting Tuesday, 12/16, 10:30 a.m., 5316 Halifax -- Street Project Discussion & Walkthrough

Mayor Hovland and the members of the Edina City Council:

Thank you so much for all your time & discussion at the December 9th council meeting on the Arden Park Street Project. Chad Millner has agreed to meet with Halifax Avenue homeowners on Tuesday morning, Dec. 16, from 10:30 to 1p.m., to walk the block with residents and discuss details of the approved 2015 street reconstruction. We will meet at 5316 Halifax Avenue & walk the street. Coffee & refreshments will be served. Please join us if you can!

We Halifax residents initially have six major questions & concerns specific to reconstructing the street on Halifax Avenue:

1. The City paid its portion of the Halifax sidewalk assessment in 2009 (S-100). The pump house property, 5233 Halifax, should also be eligible for the 2015 street assessment.
2. In 2007, the City had Halifax Avenue designated as a "Business District" and as such was assessed 25% less for the 2009 sidewalk. As this precedent was set, we would like to receive the 25% reduction of our \$14,400 street assessment, because of this "business district" designation.
3. Parking will be allowed on which side of the street? School buses drop off/pick up kids on the west side of Halifax (no west sidewalks...yet). Sidewalks are on east Halifax.
4. Can we Halifax residents come up with/petition for a plan for streetlights to coordinate with the selection stated in the Arden Park project? Can we replace the current Excel streetlight?
5. Would construction projects/teardowns occurring after the street reconstruction have to replace the old water/sewer pipes to meet the street, thereby digging the new street to connect?
6. Since our street will be narrowed from 30 feet to 24 feet, can the additional 6' curb space be added only to the west side of the street, to avoid disruption to the east sidewalk and to allow room for a possible future west sidewalk?

We hope you can join us on Tuesday, but understand your busy schedules and short notice. Please consider the above notes and possible edits to the approved street plan.

We are so grateful for all your hard work for our community! Happy Holidays to all of you!

Marie Pechman

5316 Halifax Avenue South

Edina, MN 55424

(952) 926-1446



December 10th, 2014



City of Edina  
4801 W 50th St  
Edina, MN 55424-1330

132 T1 P1

Dear Friend,

The Abbey's Hope Charitable Foundation has accomplished so much over the past year in addition to all of the progress since Abbey's passing in 2008. Our success is due, in large part, to the support from friends and stakeholders like you. This year has been a tremendous year of growth and expansion for Abbey's Hope into the national pool safety awareness community. This growth, while very exciting, has placed additional financial and administrative burdens on our foundation and could use your help. *Please consider a year-end donation to Abbey's Hope so that we can continue and expand our important efforts.*

As you know, Abbey's hope was that no child should ever suffer like she did as the result of an improperly maintained pool. In her memory and in response to our daughter's stated wish, we established the Abbey's Hope Charitable Foundation. The Foundation works every day to make sure that all pools, both public and private, are safe. Since the Foundation's inception, it has helped the Minnesota State Legislature craft and pass the *Abigail Taylor Pool and Spa Safety Act* that requires all public pools in the state to be equipped with safety devices that will help to prevent entrapments and eviscerations. The Foundation also worked with the United States Congress to pass the *Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act* which does for the nation's public pools what the *Abigail Taylor Pool & Spa Safety Act* does for Minnesota.

This past year, the Foundation has been particularly busy. Abbey's Hope has been featured on several national and local news media outlets on the topic of water safety and entrapment prevention. Our acclaimed radio and television public service announcements have aired Minnesota and in both Arizona and Florida and is helping to expand our messaging nationally. Abbey's Hope continued its support of the YMCA/Abbey's Hope pool safety classes with its largest grant ever. Because of our support, over 3,700 children participated in swim lessons and completed the water safety course. This summer, the Consumer Product Safety Commission again relied on Abbey's Hope to help spread the word about water safety through the federal governments' pool safety education campaign. And finally, the Foundation's contribution to safety was recognized with an invitation to join the Governing Board of the National Drowning Prevention Alliance.

Today, several years after Abbey's tragic death, the Foundation is proud to continue to work to prevent the preventable. Abbey's hope is not only still alive but, more importantly, being realized. It is worth the effort. We can't, however, do it alone, we need your support. Please consider making a year-end donation to the Abbey's Hope Charitable Foundation. Your generous donation will help ensure that no child is injured or loses his/her life because of a preventable drowning or entrapment.

Donations can be sent to:

Abbey's Hope Charitable Foundation

5021 Vernon Ave, Suite 164

Edina, MN 55436

OR at [www.abbeyshope.org](http://www.abbeyshope.org)

Thank you for your time and consideration and, of course, have a great holiday season.

Keep the Faith,



Scott Taylor

Chairman & Co-Founder

Abbey's Hope Charitable Foundation

[scott@abbeyshope.org](mailto:scott@abbeyshope.org)



Katey Taylor

President & Co-Founder

Abbey's Hope Charitable Foundation

[katey@abbeyshope.org](mailto:katey@abbeyshope.org)

## Heather Branigin

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**From:** Marisa White <marisanwhite@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 10, 2014 7:51 PM  
**To:** Edina Mail  
**Subject:** Re: Government Project

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi,

I was just wondering if Mayor Hovland has seen my email yet? I know he is probably very busy but I'm on a tight schedule and am just wondering if I should just try to talk to someone else.

Thanks,  
Marisa White

On Tuesday, December 2, 2014, Edina Mail <[mail@edinamn.gov](mailto:mail@edinamn.gov)> wrote:

Dear Marisa,

Thank you for your interest in the City of Edina.

I have forwarded your message to Mayor Hovland.

If I can be of additional assistance to you please contact me.

**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**



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

[lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:lbiunno@EdinaMN.gov) | [www.EdinaMN.gov](http://www.EdinaMN.gov)

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

**From:** Marisa White [<mailto:marisanwhite@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 01, 2014 6:32 PM

**To:** Edina Mail

**Subject:** Government Project

Hi Mr. Hovland,

My name is Marisa White I am a senior at Minnehaha Academy and I live in Edina. I am currently in a class called U.S. Government and Politics. One of the requirements is to talk to a sitting official and ask some questions by December 15th. This can either be over email or in person which ever is most convenient for you.

My questions for you are:

1. What is the biggest challenge of being the mayor of Edina?
2. What would be the top 2 things you would like to accomplish as mayor?
3. What do you think it means to be liberal or conservative in America today?
4. What is your opinion on the use of medical or recreational use of marijuana?/ Do you think it should be the state's or central government's decision?
5. Do you think the two-party system is "good" for America?

If you would prefer to reply to this email with the answers that would be perfect or if you could meet in person that would work too. If you could respond at your earliest convenience that would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Marisa White