



## REPORT/RECOMMENDATION

<b>To:</b> MAYOR AND COUNCIL	<b>Agenda Item</b> <u>IX. A.</u>
<b>From:</b> DEBRA MANGEN CITY CLERK	<input type="checkbox"/> Action
<b>Date:</b> FEBRUARY 6, 2012	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information
<b>Subject:</b> CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING	

**INFORMATION/BACKGROUND:** Attached are copies of e-mails and letters received since the last Council meeting.

1-30-12

Edina City Council

There have been rumors going around that you may be going to close Edinborough Park pool. I certainly hope not. I've been going to classes for 16 yrs. and enjoyed it so much to have a nice clean pool for our exercise. The instructors have been great. Its been a great place to regain your strength and health after surgery.

Please don't take it away from us.

Sincerely  
Shirley Nelson

Edina City Council,

There has been a rumor that you are considering closing the pool at Edinborough Park.

I have been going there for 14 years and it has been very beneficial for me, also our instructor (Kay Zaccaro) has been very knowledgeable and helpful.

Please Reconsider.

Sincerely,

Mary Olson

17039 Clinton Ave.

Richfield, Mn.

55423

Miroslava (Mickie) Turk  
6141 Brookview Avenue  
Edina, MN 55424  
[mturk@isd.net](mailto:mturk@isd.net)  
952-925-2352

February 2, 2012

Dear City Council Members,

I am strongly objecting to a proposed subdivision of the property of 6109 Oaklawn Avenue by Refined LLC (Limited Liability Corporation). It is currently a 100-foot wide lot with four beautiful mature oak trees in front of the existing house.

A couple of years ago, JMS LLC bought nearby 6120 Brookview Avenue, and tried to subdivide the 100-foot lot. He was unsuccessful. But before that, in anticipating a ruling in his favor, JMS built a gigantic and ugly house on the south side, effectively destroying the view of the park for the Whitbecks, who own the historic and oldest home in Edina, next door.

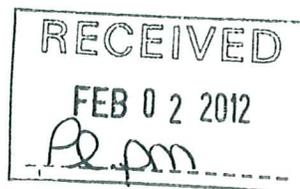
Since then, the people who own modest, older houses on the two sides of the street of Brookview Avenue, have had to live with an eye sore that has neither sold, nor contributed to the worth of the neighborhood in any way.

Edina's minimum lot width as stated in the city code, is 75 feet. Please do not grant Refined LLC a variation on this sound and principled code, as it will forever change the appearance and unity of the neighborhood, while destroying mature oaks, and causing hardship for nearby homeowners who will have to start living smashed in, between out-of-place houses.

A builder stands to gain only monetarily and only in the short term. He or she will not actually live in the neighborhood. But the entire neighborhood will suffer damage for a long time to come. People will lose their unobstructed view of the street and trees, and the ability to live harmoniously and in privacy next door to others in houses of similar structure and size. On the economic side, the smaller houses will continue to lose value forcing middle class folks to move away from Edina where they have nearby employment and their children are enrolled in school.

Respectfully,

Mickie Turk



February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

City of Edina Planning Department

Case File- 2011.0015.11a

Subdivision and Variance of 6109 Oaklawn Ave

**I am writing to express my approval for the subdivision and variance of the lot(s) located at 6109 Oaklawn Ave. I am a homeowner residing at 6117 Oaklawn Ave.**

As I understand, the builder's plan for the two 50 ft. lots will be two custom built homes. These homes could be in the \$700,000 range. The cost for the lots in our neighborhood is approximately \$150,000. Some of my neighbors feel the homes should be in keeping with the \$200-300,000 value of the neighborhood homes. Looking at this simple math, it is not possible to build a home on one of the lots for a value of \$200-300,000.

The homes along Oaklawn are approaching 60 years in age. We and many others on Oaklawn Avenue, as evidenced by the number of workmen and dumpsters, have recently invested in the improvement, update and revitalization of our properties. Investment in some of the older properties is not feasible or practical. I hope and am pleased that part of the interest and revitalization in our neighborhood could include new homes. I do not see any severe or practical negative impact on our home as a neighbor on Oaklawn Avenue, only positive progress. Progress may need to include new tree plantings to replace the mature trees nearing the end of their healthiest life cycle.

The negative impact of failure to approve the subdivision- Directly behind our home, is the empty lot located adjacent to the JMS home built at 61<sup>st</sup> and Brookview. This empty lot is a result of a subdivision that was denied for the building of two homes. We are left with the negative impact of an unkempt empty lot, weed filled with lot stakes and black plastic bordering our backyard. We hope this situation is rectified soon with the placement of a new home also.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Williams Nelson

6117 Oaklawn Ave

Edina, Mn 55424

Rec'd 2/3/2012 PE

To: Mayor Hovland and members of the Edina City Council

2/1/12

From: Jackie Whitbeck  
6128 Brookview Ave  
Edina, MN 55424

Re: Proposed subdivision of 6109 Oaklawn Ave.

I am in total opposition to the proposed subdivision of 6109 Oaklawn Ave. Dividing this property would not create affordable housing, would have a negative impact on the neighborhood, is not in harmony with the current 75 foot minimum lot size and does not comply with Minnesota statutes and Edina city ordinances. (Please note attached statutes and ordinances.)

Quoting Cary Teague to his opposition to recent subdivision on Brookview Ave, "The action or request by the applicant to subdivide the property causes the practical difficulty. The request to subdivide the lot causes the need for variances therefore, the practical difficulties are self created."

Minnesota statute 210, section 462.375, subdivision 6 (2) states "Variances may be granted when the applicant for the variance establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the zoning ordinance. 'Practical difficulties' as used in connection with the granting of a variance means that the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the zoning ordinance; the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the land owner; and the variance will not alter the essential character of the locality." This proposal to subdivide is totally self created by the applicant and should not be allowed.

If the property were subdivided for the purpose of building 2 homes, the essential character of the neighborhood would be drastically changed. The property currently has 4 mature oak trees plus several smaller trees. Subdivision for the purpose of building two homes with a 50 foot lot each would necessitate destroying all vegetation. This alone constitutes the alteration of essential character. The applicant also stated to a neighbor that the proposed homes would be in the 700 - 800 thousand dollar price range. This is not in keeping with the character of the neighborhood as this neighborhood consists of modest one to one and a half story homes more in the 200 - 300 thousand dollar range. The numbers alone speak to the current continuity of character.

The applicant asserts that the variance should be allowed because 2 other properties have been allowed variances. The very nature of a variance is that it is unique in and of itself and must be reviewed de novo and therefore precedent has no bearing and should not be considered.

Edina city ordinance 850 .07 subdivision 20 B. 4 a: "If a non-conforming lot or parcel is, or at any time since October 22, 1951, has been, held in common ownership with all or part of an adjoining or abutting parcel or lot which together comply with, or come close to complying with the minimum width, depth, area, and lot width to perimeter ratio, requirements of this Section, then such non-conforming lot or parcel and such adjoining or abutting parcel or lot shall be considered as one lot and shall not be decreased in size below such minimum requirements."

The severe negative impact a subdivision would have on the nearby neighbors who have owned their property for decades is beyond comprehension. They purchased their property in good faith based on city codes at the time. They deserve the utmost consideration.

The planning commission stated that this subdivision would restore the neighborhood to its original intent of 50 foot plots. This is absurd. My home existed before the plots were created and it occupies 3 platted properties. In addition all of Pamela Park is platted to 50 foot lots. In the 350 foot radius surrounding the proposed subdivision, 25% of the lots are greater than 50 feet.

As a former employee of JMS, the applicant is aware of the extreme opposition to a proposed subdivision on Brookview Avenue two years ago. Our neighborhood objected as vocally, visually and with print media as could possibly be expected. Yet, the applicant clearly assumes he will receive preferential treatment.

Edina city ordinance 850.04 subd. 2 paragraph F basically says that the applicant must have a favorable finding on all criteria for approval. This simply cannot be done in this case.

As neighbors to the property in question, we do not want this subdivision. This subdivision and variance will not be for the greater good, only more money in one developer's pocket.

No special benefits should be given to this applicant. In compliance with Minnesota statutes and Edina ordinances this should be denied.



Jackie Whitbeck

**Minnesota Session Laws**

Search

Key: (1) ~~language to be deleted~~ (2) new language**2011, Regular Session**

This document represents the act as presented to the governor. The version passed by the legislature is the final engrossment. It does not represent the official 2011 session law, which will be available here summer 2011.

## CHAPTER 19--H.F.No. 52

## An act

relating to local government; providing for variances from city, county, and town zoning controls and ordinances; amending Minnesota Statutes 2010, sections 394.27, subdivision 7; 462.357, subdivision 6.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 394.27, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

Subd. 7. **Variances; ~~hardship~~ practical difficulties.** The board of adjustment shall have the exclusive power to order the issuance of variances from the ~~terms~~ requirements of any official control including restrictions placed on nonconformities. Variances shall only be permitted when they are in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the official control ~~in cases when there are practical difficulties or particular hardship in the way of carrying out the strict letter of any official control~~; and when the ~~terms of the variance~~ variances are consistent with the comprehensive plan. ~~"Hardship" as used in connection with the granting of a variance means the property in question cannot be put to a reasonable use if used under the conditions allowed by the official controls; the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner; and the variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the locality.~~ Variances may be granted when the applicant for the variance establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the official control. "Practical difficulties," as used in connection with the granting of a variance, means that the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by an official control; the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner; and the variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the locality. Economic considerations alone ~~shall do not constitute a hardship if a reasonable use for the property exists under the terms of the ordinance~~ practical difficulties. Practical difficulties include, but are not limited to, inadequate access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems. Variances shall be granted for earth sheltered construction as defined in section 216C.06, subdivision 14, when in harmony with the official controls. No variance may be granted that would allow any use that is ~~prohibited~~ not allowed in the zoning district in which the subject property is located. The board of adjustment may impose conditions in the granting of variances ~~to. A condition must be directly related to and must bear a rough proportionality to the impact created by the variance insure compliance and to protect adjacent properties and the public interest.~~ The board of adjustment may consider the inability to use solar energy systems a "hardship" in the granting of variances. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 462.357, subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Subd. 6. **Appeals and adjustments.** Appeals to the board of appeals and

adjustments may be taken by any affected person upon compliance with any reasonable conditions imposed by the zoning ordinance. The board of appeals and adjustments has the following powers with respect to the zoning ordinance:

(1) To hear and decide appeals where it is alleged that there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by an administrative officer in the enforcement of the zoning ordinance.

(2) To hear requests for variances from the ~~literal provisions of the ordinance in instances where their strict enforcement would cause undue hardship because of circumstances unique to the individual property under consideration, and to grant such variances only when it is demonstrated that such actions will be in keeping with the spirit and intent of the ordinance. "Undue hardship" as used in connection with the granting of a variance means the property in question cannot be put to a reasonable use if used under conditions allowed by the official controls, requirements of the zoning ordinance including restrictions placed on nonconformities. Variances shall only be permitted when they are in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the ordinance and when the variances are consistent with the comprehensive plan. Variances may be granted when the applicant for the variance establishes that there are practical difficulties in complying with the zoning ordinance. "Practical difficulties," as used in connection with the granting of a variance, means that the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the zoning ordinance; the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner; and the variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the locality. Economic considerations alone shall do not constitute an undue hardship if reasonable use for the property exists under the terms of the ordinance. Undue hardship also includes practical difficulties. Practical difficulties include, but is are not limited to, inadequate access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems. Variances shall be granted for earth sheltered construction as defined in section 216C.06, subdivision 14, when in harmony with the ordinance. The board of appeals and adjustments or the governing body as the case may be, may not permit as a variance any use that is not permitted allowed under the zoning ordinance for property in the zone where the affected person's land is located. The board or governing body as the case may be, may permit as a variance the temporary use of a one family dwelling as a two family dwelling. The board or governing body as the case may be may impose conditions in the granting of variances to insure compliance and to protect adjacent properties. A condition must be directly related to and must bear a rough proportionality to the impact created by the variance.~~

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 2, 2011

Signed by the governor May 5, 2011, 3:08 p.m.

810.05  
810.11

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-13

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE EDINA CITY CODE  
CONCERNING VARIANCES

The City Of Edina Ordains:

Section 1. Subsection 850.04. Subd. 2 paragraphs F and I are amended to read:

F. Findings for Variances.

1. ~~The Board shall not grant a petition for a variance unless it finds: that the strict enforcement of this Section would cause undue hardship because of circumstances unique to the petitioner's property and that the grant of said variance is in keeping with the spirit and intent of this Section. "Undue hardship" means that (i) the property in question cannot be put to a reasonable use as allowed by this Section; (ii) the plight of the petitioner is due to circumstances unique to the petitioner's property which were not created by the petitioner; and (iii) the variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the property or its surroundings. Economic considerations alone shall not constitute an undue hardship if reasonable use for the petitioner's property exists under the terms of this Section. A favorable vote by the Board shall be deemed to include a favorable finding on each of the foregoing matters even if not specifically set out in the approval resolution or the minutes of the Board meeting.~~

- a. that the variance would be in harmony with the general purposes and intent of this section;
- b. that the variance would be consistent with the comprehensive plan; and
- c. that there are practical difficulties in complying with this section.

2. "Practical difficulties" means the following:

- a. that the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by this section;

Existing text – XXXX  
Stricken text – XXXX  
Added text – XXXX

- b. that the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property not created by the landowner, and
  - c. that the variance, if granted, will not alter the essential character of the locality.
3. Economic considerations alone do not constitute practical difficulties.
  4. Practical difficulties include, but are not limited to, inadequate access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems, and
  5. Variances shall be granted for earth sheltered construction as defined in Minnesota Statutes 216C.06, Subd. 14 when in harmony with this section.
  6. Variances may not be approved for any use that is not allowed under this section for property in the zone where the affected person's land is located.
  7. Variances may be approved for the temporary use of a one family dwelling as a two family dwelling.
  8. A favorable vote by the Board shall be deemed to include a favorable finding on each of the foregoing matters even if not specifically set out in the approval resolution or the minutes of the Board meeting.
- I. **Conditions on Variance Approvals.** In granting a variance, the Board, or the Council on appeal, may impose conditions ~~to ensure compliance with the purpose and intent of this Code and to protect adjacent properties.~~ In the granting of variances, ~~to insure compliance and to protect adjacent properties.~~ A condition must be directly related to and must bear a rough proportionality to the impact created by the variance.

**Section 2.** This ordinance is effective immediately upon its passage and publication.

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Published:

Existing text – XXXX  
Stricken text – XXXX  
Added text – XXXX

To: Mayor Hovland and members of the Edina City Council

2/1/12

From: Dick Whitbeck  
6128 Brookview Ave  
Edina, MN 55424

Re: Proposed subdivision of 6109 Oaklawn Ave.

I am totally opposed to the proposed subdivision of 6109 Oaklawn.

It is time for our city government to protect its residents from unwanted development. Having spoken with the neighbors most immediately affected, this project would be absolutely terrible for them.

Please support Edina's residents.



Dick Whitbeck

**From:** Pat and Dan Winter <panddwinter@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** the closing of the indoor pool at Edinborough Parkmy  
**Date:** January 31, 2012 2:43:13 PM CST  
**To:** edinamail@ci.edina.mn.us.



My wife was facing very serious back surgery several years ago but considering her age at the time [late seventies] the doctor suggested a physical therapy routine that included water aerobics be tried first. After six months there was marked improvement. My wife Pat was able to walk over an hour at a time [her great passion is and has been walking] and can do the walking without a great amount of pain. To quote my wife " I love the pool and for years I've gone twice a week to senior aerobics and that is the highlight of my week! It is the only time when my knees and back feel normal. I never miss a session and if there is no class I go and just walk in the water for an hour". We really would be upset if Edina took that step backwards and closed the pool, especially since they had the foresight to remodel the outdoor swimming pool and turn it into an aquatic center, for three months of the year.

Respectfully yours, Pat & Dan Winter 5012 Hankerson Ave.  
Edina Mn.

*Pat & Dan Winter*

January 29, 2012

Honorable Jim Hovland, Mayor  
Edina City Hall  
4801 W. 50th St.  
Edina, MN 55424

Dear Mayor Hovland:

This letter is in reference to the January 3rd City Council minutes. I am a resident of Village Homes at Centennial Lakes. With the many programs being implemented to promote health and wellness, it was disturbing to read the consultants' recommendation to consider closing the Edinborough Park Pool. With so much emphasis on preventive health, especially exercise, would it make sense to close the pool, etc.? Over one third of our residents are senior citizens - what better place than the Edina Park pool and track to do rehab after knee replacement and other surgeries. This is in our back yard - we don't have to travel a great distance to get there.

Bloomington, Edina, and Richfield have joined forces to create Minnesota's first healthy 'do.town' program. Couldn't a program similar to that be created for the Edinborough Park area to increase revenues? How much advertising has been done about the pool, which is an exceptional facility. The pool is used for the Edina Community Education Exercise Classes, Edina Swim Club for young swimmers, Edina Adaptive Recreation for Special Needs Kids, to name a few.

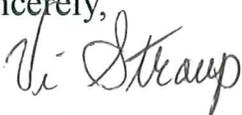
I have some questions for the consultants:

Have they researched as to how much revenue is brought into the Park (pool and track, etc.) from our homeowners? What would the cost be to close the pool, etc., and repurpose the areas? Could that amount not be applied to the Edinborough Park budget, rather than renovating what we have.

I urge you and the Council members (I'm emailing a copy of this to the members) to study this project and do more research about it before deciding to go with the consultants' recommendations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Vi M. Stroup  
7520 Edinborough Way - #2115  
Edina, MN 55435

January 25, 2012

Mr. James B. Hovland  
Edina City Hall  
4801 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street  
Edina, MN 55424

Dear Mayor Hovland,

I was recently notified by a neighbor that the City of Edina may be putting city sidewalks in our neighborhood. I am hoping that you can provide me with the specific details of this plan.

My home was built in 1924 and there hasn't been a city sidewalk on this property for 88 years. Why the need now? I noticed that France Avenue only has sidewalks on the west side of the street. Xerxes Avenue does have sidewalks on the east side of the street; do we really need sidewalks on the west side, too?

Snow removal is my main concern regarding the sidewalks. I realize that Xerxes is a County road and while I appreciate the fact that the street is a snow emergency route, the plow goes by quite frequently and the snow piles get as hard as cement. It is all I can do to clear a path from my private sidewalk to the street. I do not want to be responsible for snow removal on a City sidewalk.

Will the City of Edina be clearing the snow on any new sidewalks? I believe the City of Edina currently plows the sidewalks from 60<sup>th</sup> and Xerxes to 66<sup>th</sup> and Xerxes. It also appears that the City of Edina plows the France Avenue sidewalks. I think my neighbors and I would be more receptive if we find out we are not responsible for snow removal.

Currently, I do not have a retaining wall in my front yard but I have a feeling a retaining wall will be necessary if a sidewalk is installed. Will the City of Edina or Hennepin County provide necessary retaining walls? I am also concerned that my steps to the street will be affected by the sidewalk. Will they build up my private sidewalk to the city sidewalk height so I do not have a tripping hazard? I am also concerned that the roots from one of my trees may be damaged during the process. Will the City remove the tree if it dies from the damage?

Recently, France Avenue has been updated with new pavement and street striping that prevents cars from forming two lanes in each direction, provides turn lanes, and street parking. I think this was a wonderful idea and I am truly hoping the same striping will happen on Xerxes. Are there any plans to do this on Xerxes?

Thank you for your time, I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



Patti Hines  
5924 Xerxes Ave. S.  
Edina, MN 55410  
952-922-5924

Mayor James Hovland  
Councilman Josh Sprague  
Councilwoman Ann Swenson  
Councilwoman Joni Bennett  
Councilwoman Mary Brindle

As a nineteen year resident on Xerxes Avenue in Edina I have come to find, through my neighbors, that a sidewalk is planned for us between 56<sup>th</sup> Street and 60<sup>th</sup> Street. Being Minneapolis is across the street it puts us on the neglected side of Edina and that's the way I would like to keep it. The Minneapolis side has the sidewalks, parking and, at 56<sup>th</sup> Street, the business. In my nineteen years I have never seen a need for a sidewalk. In these troubled times when all government services are overburdened why should there be construction projects proposed that residents do not need or want? None of my neighbors want a sidewalk and all of us would have to deal with the fact that the hill which slopes to the street would have to be cut into. Does that mean retaining walls? Will there be drainage issues?

We have heard nothing from the City of Edina. We know, what we know, from concerned neighbors who saw city workers doing measurements and were questioned. Is it possible that we could have an input into the decisions being made by the bureaucrats?

Thank you for your time and give me your thoughts.



Edward Rozmiarek  
5724 Xerxes Avenue South  
Edina 55410  
612-961-8257  
[rozmiarek@gmail.com](mailto:rozmiarek@gmail.com)

1/13/12

Mayor Horland,

I have worked and managed various businesses at 50th&France, steadily since 1979.

The parking situation in the area for customers and employees was a problem even back then, not undifferent from now.

What HAS changed at 50th&France, is the continuous addition of dozens of stores, restaurants, hair salons, and other services over these years.

While this is well and good,,,, little to nothing has been accomplished to ADD additional parking for patrons or employees in the last 32 years.

Now comes the recent "crackdown" on employee parking.

The employees, particularly on the Minneapolis side of France Ave., have been given NO options for reasonable places to park.

Church parking lots have been suggested.

The closest church parking lot to my employment is 5 blocks away. Do you consider it reasonable to walk 5 blocks to get to work in 10 degree weather? Does this even sound safe for women leaving work at 8 PM? Not to mention ICE.

Is Summer safer in the dark? I think not.

Carpooling is not an option as all of our employees start and leave at different times.

20 spots have been offered for HUNDREDS of employees in the Ewing lot?

Look, we shop owners and employees realize that the customers come first. All we are asking for is a reasonable place for us to park 5 days a week.

The bottom line is that there is NOT adequate parking at 50th&France. THIS is what needs to be addressed, not making hard working employees and shop owners suffer because of poor city planning.

M. Gray

January 10, 2012

Dear City of Edina Council Members:

James B. Hovland, Mayor; Council Members Joni Bennett, Mary Brendle, Josh Sprague and Ann Swenson.

I am writing this letter registering some of the concerns and issues of residents living on the West side of Xerxes Ave. S. associated with the proposed installation of new sidewalks between blocks 56<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup>.

In late summer of 2011, I observed a survey crew from the Edina Department of Works taking measurements of the street in front of my house at 5700 Xerxes Ave. S. I asked why they were surveying the street and was told for new sidewalks to be installed. I immediately contacted Council Member, Josh Sprague who promised to get back to me with an answer. He later informed me that the installation of new sidewalks would not be assessed to the resident's property taxes. Rather, the City, County and State would foot the cost.

It would seem to me that residents of the blocks should have been informed and allowed to give input into your feasibility study about installing new sidewalks and the impact or hardship a decision of this nature might have on residents. After several email communications with Josh Sprague, he said, "it would be hard pressed for me to get any council members to listen to me." I was taken aback by this comment especially since he encouraged and advocated for community involvement when running for office. This type of attitude strikes me as neglectful and dismissive. Such an attitude does not bode well with responsible tax-paying citizen. I realize we are East of City Hall, but like West Edina we too are responsible tax-paying citizen who expect to be respected and included in decisions affecting our community.

Many of the residents and I do not see this as a good decision due to various reasons, including but not limited to the facts of losing old growth trees, excavating into the hilly slope of our front lawns will cause soil erosion, loss of existing retaining walls and landscape. Many residents are seniors with serious life threatening to end stage health conditions which already present them with hardships.

While Mr. Sprague said the City, County and State would foot the cost of installing the sidewalks there are additional questions that need to be answered and considered.

1. Who will be responsible for installing new retaining walls to prevent soil erosion and damage to the lawns, sods, trees and landscape?
2. Who will remove the piles of snow heaped upon our lawns, driveways, fire hydrants and sidewalks by the county snow plow trucks?

Finally, I have a life threatening health condition that prohibits me from shoveling snow from the water hydrants in front of my house, entry to my driveway and sidewalk. I ask you to take into consideration our issues and concerns in your decision-making about installing sidewalks on the west side of Xerxes Ave. S. for blocks, 56<sup>th</sup> to 60<sup>th</sup> street.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Price". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Bill Price

5700 Xerxes Ave. S.

Edina, MN 55410

Phone: 612-521-8774

Email Address: [bill.price57@cincast.net](mailto:bill.price57@cincast.net)

**XFINITY Connect**

twincitysupplylynn@comcast.net

± Font Size -

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**Sidewalk**

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**From :** Lynn Reynolds <lmr1966@hotmail.com>

Wed, Jan 25, 2012 03:31 AM

**Subject :** Sidewalk**To :** Twin City Supply (Lynn) <twincitysupplylynn@comcast.net>, Clint Reynolds <lmrcfr66@aol.com>

January 24 2012

Dear City of Edina Council Members:

James B. Hovland, Mayor; Council Members Joni Bennett, Mary Brendle, Josh Sprague, and Ann Swenson.

We are writing this letter registering concerns and issues of residents living on the West side of Xerxes Ave. So. associated with the proposed installation of new sidewalks between 56th and 60th.

As owners for over 20 years we feel this decision made by the city to install these sidewalk is unnecessary.

Our concerns are as follows:

1. Cost
2. Loss of landscape including trees and shrubs
3. Retaining walls - do deal with erosion
4. Snow removal

It would have nice to have been informed of this matter by the City of Edina. Instead we found out when a survey crew from the Edina Department of Works was taking measurements of the street in front of our house.

What is the purpose for the sidewalks?? As taxpayers we would like the money to go to something useful.

Clinton and Lynn Reynolds  
5928 Xerxes Ave So  
Edina MN 55410  
Phone: 952-920-5791  
email: [lmr1966@hotmail.com](mailto:lmr1966@hotmail.com)

Dear City of Edina Council Members

James Hovland, Joni Bennett, Mary Brendle, Josh Sprague and Ann Swenson

In the summer of 2011, I observed a survey crew from Edina taking measurement of the street in front of my house. When I asked them what they were doing, they said they were surveying for a new sidewalk to be installed..He said we would get a letter from the city about the sidewalk, as yet I have not received said letter. I do not want a sidewalk or need one. I have lived here for 43 years and do not see where it is necessary. Use that money for pot holes and the streets.

I have a heart condition and cannot remove the snow from my walks , therefore have to pay to have it done. I do not need a sidewalk added to the cost of removal. When the plow comes along and pushes the snow onto the lawn, it turns to cement. Try moving that around. I cannot do it and do not want to pay extra for it to be removed and pushed farther onto my lawn.

As a resident of Edina ,I think my input about not needing a sidewalk should amount to something, for a sidewalk that is not necessary or needed.. That is a waste of money, that can be used for something more useful than a stretch of cement that would not get used.

Please inform me as to what is happening to this issue. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Thelma Friton  
5920 Xerxes AveSo  
Edina. Mn 55410

Phone 952 926 0553

January 23 2012

On Jan 28, 2012, at 1:07 PM, "[iluvpointers@juno.com](mailto:iluvpointers@juno.com)" <[iluvpointers@juno.com](mailto:iluvpointers@juno.com)> wrote:

Dean Ann - I am writing you to strongly urge you not to close the pool at Edinborough Park. I have regularly attended water aerobics at this facility for over the past 8 years. This program has markedly helped to keep me mobile.

Kay is an excellent instructor and makes everyone comfortable. I am 80 years old and have diabetes, heart problems and have had both knees replaced. This program has helped me keep healthy.

I would please ask to you reconsider this decision. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Terry Miller  
8010 Queen Avenue South, #208  
Bloomington, MN 55431  
952-884-3651

---

Groupon#8482 Official Si  
I ridiculously huge coupon a day. Get 50-90% off your city's best!  
<http://thirdpartyoffers.juno.com/TGL3141/4f24470c1999d813f3bst04duc>

**From:** Barbara Lee [<mailto:barbaralee77@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2012 4:17 PM  
**To:** John Keprios  
**Subject:** Edinborough Park Pool and Track concerns

John-

I spend most of my mornings at Edinborough Park before work, and am very unhappy hearing that they are considering closing the pool and track.

Edinborough is one of the only places in the area where I can exercise and not feel like I am in a factory - I'm referring to other clubs with rows of machines and wall to wall people in the pool. In addition, it provides a convenient and affordable place to go. The area health clubs are not affordable to many of us who use the Edinborough Park facilities.

In addition, this place is a lifeline for many of the seniors who live in the housing in the same building. I hear many of them say that this is what keeps them going. They are well into their 80's, and would not be able to drive anywhere to use other facilities. In addition to this, they are unable to get out in the Winter - this provides them a place to go and still move around. As I said, I believe it is a lifeline for many of them.

In addition, please remember the adaptive recreation, and other classes regularly using the pool - the decision to remove the facility would be leaving many people without a place to go.

I am sorry to hear the consultants have proposed removing much of the greenery as well. I thought Edinborough was meant to be a community facility. Removing all of these things (pool, track, greenery) and catering even more to the children would make the usage very "one sided". It is fine to consider families with children, and the large play structure, and the birthday party program do a great job of that. However, please consider the rest of the community, the elderly, as well as us working people, and allow us to keep the place that we have grown to love and consider our "exercise home".

I hope you will route my comments to the people on the City Council who are working on this issue. If you or any of them has questions for me, I'd be happy to respond.

Thank you for considering my input in this matter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Lee

**From:** Arnold Bigbee [<mailto:arnieb1@me.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 15, 2012 8:43 PM  
**To:** James Hovland  
**Cc:** Joni Bennett; Sprague Josh; Mary Brindle; Neal Scott; Schaefer Lisa  
**Subject:** Edinborough Park fitness center

Jim,  
thanks for all you do for our community.  
As a resident of the Village Homes of Edinborough, I was very interested in the report about Edinborough Park. Barbara and I are frequent users of the fitness center and enjoy seeing members of our diverse community (residents of the high rise senior center, residents of the 392 condominium homes at Edinborough, people who live in the neighborhood and come to use the facility as well as those who are staying at the Marriott Residence Inn who come to use the fitness center) engaged in using the various facilities.

As the City of Edina considers alternatives for facility use and appropriate revenue/expense structures I would suggest another consideration be added to the conversation.

The City has recently undertaken an initiative which is unique and important. Being a "Do Town" is a significant step for the City, it's employees and our tax structure.

I had the privilege of working in Administration at Mayo Clinic for 32 years. During that time two things happened:  
I received world class medical care and self care coaching and-  
was provided with resources to pursue recommendations for maintaining good health.

I don't know if you and other Edina leaders have considered the possibility of encouraging City employees to stay fit through complimented or subsidized membership in a fitness center. If that has not been considered or implemented,  
I would suggest that the Edinborough fitness center would be a good opportunity for a pilot test for City employees.  
The benefits of this use would not be immediate and the results would not affect long term decisions about the fitness center.  
And, it might just save a life!

A bold assertion I know, but we saw that happen at Mayo Clinic when we began supporting employee fitness centers with  
a shower, locker and changing room for the runners, joggers and bikers. Later there was a workout center with all of the  
stationary equipment and weights. And today, Mayo has a fully equipped fitness center with a pool, indoor track and  
healthy foods cafeteria. Who would have thought that 20 years ago?

I'm guessing that employee salaries and benefits take up a significant portion of the City of Edina budget, not to mention

medical insurance/disability income insurance, etc. Investing in the preservation and good health of these human assets is a worthwhile (and noble) task.

I'm just planting a seed here.

Lets consider use an existing facility to support our City workforce family.

PS: The \$6.00 guest fee I'll pay at the fitness center to take my 7 year old grandson swimming tomorrow (MLK Day) is very reasonable and he and I will have another memory to last a lifetime.

Have a great MLK Day.

Arnie

Arnie Bigbee

[arnieb1@me.com](mailto:arnieb1@me.com)

C 507 250 5678

H 952 831 3508

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 8:33 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Tracy Ave Questionnaire  
**Attachments:** Scan001.pdf



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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

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We're a do.town ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**From:** Jean McDowall [<mailto:JMcdowall@Daymon.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2012 7:08 AM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno; [APlowman@wsbeng.com](mailto:APlowman@wsbeng.com); Emilie Kastner  
**Subject:** RE: Tracy Ave Questionnaire

Hello Lynette and Andrew,

Please see the attached completed questionnaire regarding Tracy Avenue.

Lynette, please forward to all members of the Edina City Council.

Andrew, please forward to any other pertinent parties.

Note that overall, I believe each of the proposed changes - to widen Tracy, to add bike lanes, and to install a round-about - are not needed, a waste of taxpayer money, and very misguided!

Thank you,

Jean McDowall

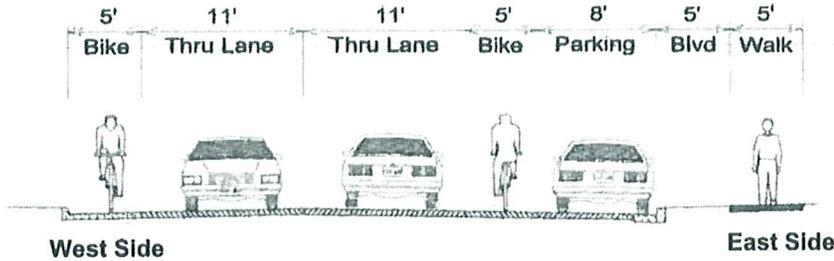


# PROPERTY OWNERS QUESTIONNAIRE #2

January 24, 2012

Tracy Avenue (Benton Avenue to Vernon Avenue) • City of Edina

Please do not answer these questions until you have read the entire newsletter. Please complete and return this survey by **January 30, 2012**, using the self-addressed, stamped envelope.



## I. Roadway

Do you agree the 40' roadway section: Bike Lane/Drive Lanes/Sidewalk/Parking (as shown above), is the most appropriate design for this corridor (knowing the road will be widened by 4' on the west side)?

- Yes
- No

## II. Roadway Components

### Parking

How important are parking lanes on the east side of the street to you, knowing that the 4' of roadway width will be added to the west side of the current roadway to accommodate the parking?

- Not Important  Important

### Cross Section

If you could eliminate one component of the design (to limit the proposed width) what would it be?

- Bike Lanes
- Parking Lane (East Side)
- No Elimination - Leave section as shown above



# PROPERTY OWNERS QUESTIONNAIRE #2

January 24, 2012

Tracy Avenue (Benton Avenue to Vernon Avenue) • City of Edina

## Sidewalk

How important is the addition of a sidewalk on the west side of the street knowing it will add 10' of width to the project?

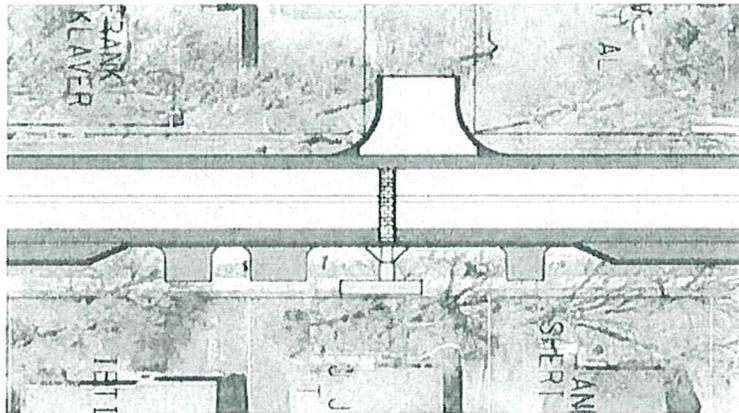
Not Important

Important

If a sidewalk is not proposed on the west side of the street do you feel placing "bumpouts" and enhanced crosswalks (as shown) is an appropriate alternative in creating a safer pedestrian environment?

Yes

No



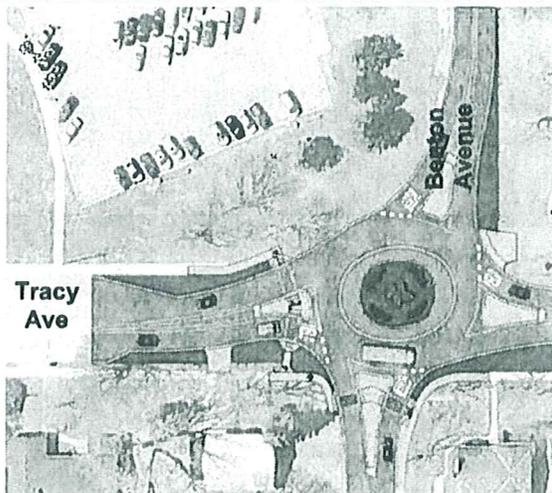
Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### III. Benton/Tracy Intersection

A. Do you agree the proposed Roundabout is the correct solution to the Benton/Tracy offset intersection?

Yes

No





## PROPERTY OWNERS QUESTIONNAIRE #2

January 24, 2012

Tracy Avenue (Benton Avenue to Vernon Avenue) • City of Edina

B. If you answered no, please select which option you believe is most appropriate.

- Leave the intersection as it is
- Realign West Leg

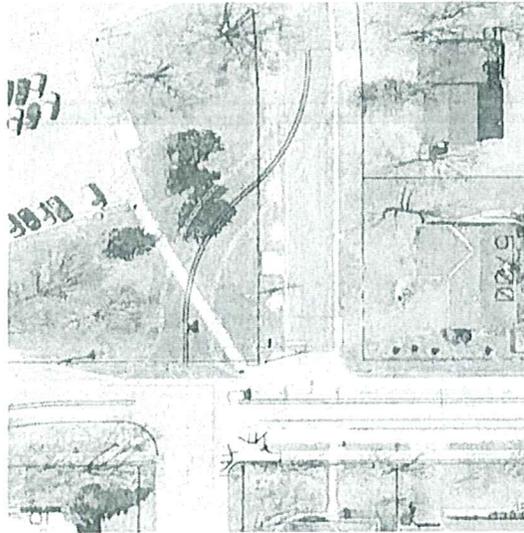
Other:

Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Realigned West Leg of Benton Avenue**

Name: Jean McDowall  
Address: 5900 Amy Dr.  
EDINA, MN

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012 8:09 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Tracy Avenue Comments and Cost Questions  
**Attachments:** Tracy Ave Cost Questions.docx

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist  
952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com) ...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business -----Original Message-----

**From:** Judith Rodgers [<mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2012 4:24 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** Tracy Avenue Comments and Cost Questions

Please pass this e-mail on to the City Council.

I sent this e-mail to Andy Plowman and Jack Sullivan this morning.

The roundabout and the straightening of Benton will be a real hardship on the houses on the corners of Benton and Tracy.

The Engineering Department keeps telling us how well the roundabout has worked out on 70th Street. If you look at that roundabout on 70th St. it does not affect any houses. It does improve the flow of traffic, which is what they are designed to do. They are not designed for safe pedestrian crossings. In discussing the roundabout with the principal of Countryside School she would need to add additional crossing guards before and after school, which will be an on-going cost to taxpayers. Straightening Benton would create more of an issue for one of the houses due to driveway issues. Since there has not been an accident at that intersection in over 30 years (Talk to the residents on the corner lots) It would be safer and more cost effective not to change anything.

Thank you for listening,

Bill Rodgers  
6100 Arbour Lane  
Edina, MN 55436  
[jbr62@earthlink.net](mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net)  
952-927-9421

Some of the questions and comments we are hearing from residents are as follows:

1. Why are we looking at road improvements now? We just don't have the extra money to support the changes. We have approved two educational referendums that will increase our taxes. The assessments are another tax that residents weren't prepared for.
2. Is there any way to reduce the costs or delay the costs until the job market and the economy improves? Many of the roads aren't that bad and even if they are they have been that way for years. Why burden the homeowners with additional, taxes, fees, and assessments at a time when the economy is so uncertain?
3. Is it possible to keep the width of Tracy at 36 feet? If the 8-foot wide parking lane is not important can it be eliminated? This would eliminate the need to add 4 feet to the west side of Tracy.
4. Why do we need bike lanes? The majority of the residents along Tracy and in the neighborhood don't feel they are necessary. How much cost do they add to the project? There also seems to be a bigger risk putting people in harms way with a wider road and more traffic. People on Tracy and in the neighborhood, that bike, go down a side street. Instead of putting so much activity on Tracy, how about considering having bike lanes on Hansen or other side streets that are safer?
5. Why do a roundabout? Has this concept been tested out in other school zones in the city or country? We understand the cost is a bit lower doing a roundabout than straightening out Benton, however, safety is a question. Why change the intersection at all. I understand there has not been an accident there in over 30 years. In addition it creates a hardship on all the houses on the 3 corners.
6. We feel the City of Edina needs to look at the costs of projects and treat them the way a family would. What do we **want** versus what do we **need**? If all we **need** is to improve the roads and infrastructure fine. If we **want** bike lanes, parking lanes, roundabouts and sidewalks, but can do without them then just spend enough to take care of the **needs**. There may be more innovation through time of more cost effective ways to improve roads. When people in the area do not want or need upgrades, they are the people paying the bills and their input should be strongly valued.
7. Having passed this philosophy on to you can you provide some costs so residents can make better decisions when filling in your questionnaire?
  - What is the cost of the roundabout?
  - What is the cost of straightening out Benton and making the intersection match up?
  - What is the cost of the 8-foot wide parking lane?
  - What is the cost of two 5-foot wide bike lanes?
  - What is the cost of a 5-foot wide sidewalk and 5 foot wide buffer lane?
  - What is the cost of the proposed bump-outs and enhanced crosswalks?
  - What is the cost of adding 4 feet to the width of Tracy?
8. I have one final question. If this were your money what would you do?

Bill Rodgers - [jbr62@earthlink.net](mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net) -952-927-9421  
6100 Arbour Lane – Edina, MN 55436

Subject: Response to: Edina Resident/Biker's Opinion Whether Tracy Ave Needs Bike Trails

Lynette pass this on to Mary Brindle and Joni Bennett and who ever else necessary. Thank you. David Seidel -----Original Message-----

To: edinacountryside@googlegroups.com

Subject: Re: Edina Resident/Biker's Opinion Whether Tracy Ave Needs Bike Trails

Sent: Jan 25, 2012 10:01 PM

The gentleman makes it sounds if aggressive impatient car, truck, school bus drivers are the problem. The cars are thousands and thousands and thousands to 1 in the majority that use Tracy Ave and the other streets in Edina. The Edina streets were built for motor vehicles not peddle bikes. This fellow makes a personal choice to put himself in known danger riding on public streets and highways designed for motor vehicles. That's his personal choice. The motor vehicle operator is not a villain. They legally use the roads as they were designed for motor vehicles not peddle bikes. Its time the peddle biker understands, accept he or she is the one causing a nuisance on the roadways not the motor vehicle drivers for which the roads are created and maintained. If the Edina city council and staff is hell bent on making the Tracy ave roadway less safe to many many many thousands of motor vehicles users to accommodate at the tax payers expense for at best 1 or 2 peddle bikers a day that is a total miss guided use to tax payers funds. Not to mention the additional motor vehicle users added risk of accident by adding more confusion of lanes to an already very very very busy Tracy Ave. David Seidel

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

From: Barbara Hoganson

Sender: edinacountryside@googlegroups.com

To: edinacountryside@googlegroups.com

ReplyTo: edinacountryside@googlegroups.com

Subject: Edina Resident/Biker's Opinion Whether Tracy Ave Needs Bike Trails

Sent: Jan 25, 2012 9:19 PM

Please find an Edina resident and avid biker's email to City Hall regarding his opinion on whether Tracy Avenue needs bike lanes, and some alternatives.

January 24, 2012

Jack Sullivan

Andrew Plowman

Wayne Houle

City Hall

4801 WEST 50TH STREET

EDINA, MINNESOTA 55424-1394

I am a resident of Edina and commute daily (year-round) to downtown Minneapolis on my bicycle.

I believe existing road right-of-ways in Edina offer a great opportunity to encourage safe, convenient commutes for bicyclists with minimal additional investment by the City and no additional taking of land for right of way. Existing streets already connect our communities homes, schools, stores, places of employment, parks and other amenities. Existing streets are already illuminated after dark and have traffic control pavement markings, signs and signals. Existing streets are already patrolled, maintained and plowed. Existing streets are where Edina's homeowners expect to find vehicles, bikes and on the side of the right of way, pedestrians. New off road trails do not offer any of this and are extremely expensive to build and in our community don't make the connections the majority are

seeking. (However if the rail line abandons or sells the north/south Dan Patch corridor, a new bike trail would be much easier on the environment and community, in addition to allowing some really useful and convenient connections.)

I have attached an aerial outlining a particular road segment that is currently very unsafe for travel (cars or bikes) with an idea on how this area could be made much more safe for all. This segment is a small portion of my daily commute.

On the aerial the "Bike Kill Zone" is indicated on Tracy Avenue between Olinger Blvd to just north of Highland Road. This Kill Zone is hazardous for a number of reasons you are already aware of:

1. Extreme curvature of the Tracy Avenue right-of-way limiting lines of sight and requiring aggressive steering maneuvers.
2. Three "T" intersections in the arc of the curve in the right of way.
3. High Speed for a residential area between two parks and next to a school (30 MPH) 4. High Traffic volume (numerous studies show increases of traffic through Edina's neighborhoods when traffic slows on Hwys 169, 62 and 100)
5. Future additional unmitigated traffic volume (The City's collaboration with the Shelter's Assisted Living Development adding 425 vehicles per day to the immediate neighborhood without any traffic mitigation or improvements being installed at the Developer's expense).
6. Routine speeding on City Streets. (You don't need to be a cop to know that most vehicles on Tracy Avenue exceed the posted 30 MPH limit, especially south of Hwy 62)

With a parking lane allocated to the roadway on the east side of the street (northbound travel for vehicles and bikes) there is plenty of room for vehicles to pass bikes. The bikes are moving slowly do to the slight uphill grade in this area. During the past four years I have only observed one car parked, one day in this entire area on the east (northbound) side of Tracy Avenue during the am and pm commute.

However the issue is very different on the west side (southbound) lane of traffic on Tracy Avenue. On this side of the street there is No Parking and with the curb, no shoulder. The painted double yellow centerline of the street is very close to the curb, resulting in a very narrow traffic lane. In the "Bike Kill Zone", given the distance from the raised 6" curb to the double yellow centerline, there is not enough room for a bike to be legally overtaken by a car (with the bike a safe distance from the curb – out of the snow and/or gravel next to the curb AND the car passing the bike with the State required 36" minimum clearance (MN Statue 169.18 Subd. 3. (3)). As a result, southbound cars routinely pass bikes by drifting across the double yellow centerline, into the northbound lane of traffic. Given the curves in the road, limited sight lines, intersecting streets this illegal driving is extremely dangerous for oncoming traffic, bike riders and scofflaws themselves. I spend only about a total of 4.5 minutes a week in the Kill Zone heading southbound, but at least twice a week I am passed by a vehicle being operated in this very dangerous and illegal manner.

A couple of years ago I mentioned this issue to Wayne and as a result the City tried to paint the double yellow centerline in a manner that increased the width of the southbound lane. It helps, but with the southbound direction of travel dropping downhill, bikes are able to get very close to the speed limit (30 MPH) in this area resulting in the impatient, reckless drivers now adding an aggressive speeding violation to their illegal pass, exacerbating the danger to all.

#### Low Cost Solutions:

1. Make no lane changes. Simply add four evenly spaced "DO NOT PASS BICYCLES ZONE" signs along the west (southbound) lane in the "Bike Kill Zone". Speed Limit 25 MPH in the "Bike Kill Zone".
2. Eliminate the never used parking lane on the east (northbound) side of the street and paint the double yellow centerline exactly halfway between the 6" raised curbs. Speed Limit 25 MPH in the "Bike Kill Zone".

The remaining segments of Tracy Avenue offer much better sight lines and wider traffic lanes. With the exception of the deteriorated road surface, biking is relatively easy. Speeding & inattentive drivers are the greatest threat to bikes, as they are anywhere else. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Sincerely,

Dave Henry

Hello,

I just received this questionnaire the other day from a neighbor. I wish I had known about this proposal sooner.

I am against changing the intersection, as you can see in my attached survey. In case you are unable to read my poor handwriting, I will let you know my thoughts here, too.

My family lives on Garden Ave, right off Grove Street East of Tracy. My children walk to Countryside often and a roundabout in that intersection would be DANGEROUS for pedestrians (especially children), no stop signs and people driving through quickly. I have seen several pedestrians almost hit by motorists who do not know how to maneuver in a roundabout (by the Galleria) and aren't looking for people.

I do not believe a roundabout is a good option for a residential area for that reason.

Please, leave the intersection the way it is. To my knowledge (I have asked neighbors), there hasn't been an accident in that intersection and the taxpayers really don't need another big bill to fix something that really isn't broken.

I hope you take my thoughts into consideration,

Thank you,

Rani Murdoch Zappa  
5804 Garden Avenue

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2012 8:24 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Edinborough Park Pool Closing Notion



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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

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We're a do.town ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**From:** Ginny Bueide [<mailto:ginnyrbee@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2012 5:47 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Cc:** [swensonann1@gmail.com](mailto:swensonann1@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Edinborough Park Pool Closing Notion

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Ginny Bueide <[ginnyrbee@gmail.com](mailto:ginnyrbee@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** February 1, 2012 8:38:15 PM CST  
**To:** [edinamail!@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:edinamail!@ci.edina.mn.us)  
**Cc:** ginnyr bueide <[ginnyrbee@gmail.com](mailto:ginnyrbee@gmail.com)>, David Bueide <[davidredboots@gmail.com](mailto:davidredboots@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** **Edinborough Park Pool Closing Notion**

People from Edina Community Ed., Edina Adaptive Recreation, Edina Swim Club, not to mention the Arthritis Swim Program for seniors

not only from Edina, but Richfield, Bloomington too, use this pool. These groups would certainly miss out if the pool were closed.

Keeping the pool & track open would be a nice compliment to DO.TOWN.

My Orthopedic surgeon recommended a swim exercise regime before & after hip replacement I don't know where else I could have gone.

Many seniors & others from the surrounding area benefit from this facility for rehab, & to keep fit & healthy. Many don't know it exists for their use.

It seems more could be done to keep it...maybe more advertising in The About Town, Edina Sun or Edina Magazine.

It's a treasure for our extended community...It would be a shame to close it before all options are addressed. Thank you for your consideration, Virginia Bueide

Importance: High

Dear Edina City Council Members:

PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THE EDINBOROUGH POOL!

I have been attending senior water aerobics classes twice a week for several years. I also swim laps once or twice a week.

The people who use this pool are not just from Edina; in fact, most of them come from Richfield, Bloomington and South Minneapolis.

How did we hear about the facility? WORD OF MOUTH!

Edinborough Pool is one of the best kept secrets in the area. None of the women in the water aerobics classes has ever received a mailer/flier describing the facilities, nor have we ever seen an ad in the local paper.

If you are closing the pool because it doesn't pay for itself, then I would submit that **you've gotten out of touch with your target audience.**

Do some marketing, do some advertising -- get the word out -- and they will come!

I spent most of my career in marketing and public relations -- for both profit and non-profit organizations. So I would suggest, before even thinking about closing this great facility, that you do some market research:

- Who knows about the pool? Who doesn't?
- Who uses it and how often?
- Where do they come from?
- Who doesn't use the pool and why?
- etc.

Then target these people with some attractive marketing materials and advertising to raise their awareness and invite them to join.

If you are serious about partnering with Blue Cross and Blue Shield in the do.town program, then one of the best ways to get people to "groove your body every day" is to reach out to a population that wants to "live, work and play -- healthier". A very important segment of that population lives within easy driving distance to Edinborough but, perhaps, doesn't even know it exists.

I see a lot of money spent at Edinborough: in the playground area, on plants from Bachman's, on holiday decorations, on a new reception area (closed most of the time) and refreshment stand. It seems to me that you could re-examine your priorities and look for ways to save money that could be put toward a facility that is healthy for **both** kids and adults -- for a **lifetime** of healthy activities. The parents and grandparents of all those kids are a captive market segment for the pool and track facilities -- as are the kids when they grow up.

Finally, I would like to suggest that one of the reasons people do not use the pool is the unattractive, crowded and sometimes dirty locker room facilities. (Have you ever seen them?) If they were kept cleaner and made more attractive, perhaps more people would come. For example:

- Clean the inside of the lockers from time to time
- Clean the toilets and floors more often
- Clean and/or replace the drains and shower heads
- Replace the shower curtains so they fit the enclosure and replace the rings
- Replace the stained ceiling tiles

- Provide more bench space
- Consider erecting some simple, free-standing dressing rooms in the pool area to relieve congestion in the locker rooms during water aerobics or swim meets -- and especially for parents with young children who don't want to send their kids into the locker rooms on their own.

None of these would cost much, but they could make a big difference in whether or not more people would use the facilities.

I have visited the newly expanded YMCA on York Avenue and was very impressed. No doubt they are already giving Edinborough a lot of competition. However, many of us would much prefer using the Edinborough facilities and would miss them if they were closed.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts and suggestions with you. I hope you will seriously consider what I have had to say when you are deliberating your decision about keeping the pool open. It deserves to be a priority on your agenda for Edina and for those of us in the surrounding communities who really enjoy this wonderful facility and want to continue using it to **stay healthy as we age**.

Thank you.

Evelyn Cottle Raedler  
Writer, Editor, Project Manager  
952-835-9513 or  
612-240-0683  
[ecr\\_038@hotmail.com](mailto:ecr_038@hotmail.com)

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Friday, February 03, 2012 8:29 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: proposed closing of edinborough pool



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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We're a do.town ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**From:** Ann Burckhardt [<mailto:ann.burckhardt@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2012 9:31 PM

**To:** Lynette Biunno

**Subject:** proposed closing of edinborough pool

Dear Mayor Hovland and City Council Members:

I moved to Edina last June and immediately enrolled in the water aerobics class at Edinborough Park just across from my home at 7500 York. The classes are excellent, just the thing an active 78-year-old needs to keep fit. And Edina Community Ed. makes it so easy to sign up and pay the fee.

Little wonder that I was appalled when I discovered that you are considering cementing over this beautiful pool and putting it to another use. Those of us in the regular Tuesday 9 a.m. class would be out of luck as would those in the other water exercise classes. Those who swim laps and exercise their toddlers in the other half of the pool while we exercise would be disappointed, too.

These classes are a lifeline for me and my classmates, especially during the winter when it's difficult to exercise outdoors.

Please take the time to ascertain the will of all the people of Edina before doing this.

A new Edina voter,

Ann L. Burckhardt, 7500 York, Apt. 423, Edina, MN 55435. 952-890-8950.

Susan Howl

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**From:** Emilie Kastner  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 18, 2012 8:31 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Countryside Roadway Improvement Project

The following email has been forwarded to all City Council Members.



**Emilie Kastner, Communications Assistant**

952-826-0342 | Fax 952-826-0389

[ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** Paul & Jane Schluter [<mailto:schluter@q.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 15, 2012 9:44 PM  
**To:** Emilie Kastner  
**Subject:** Countryside Roadway Improvement Project

Dear Council Members,

This note is regarding the Countryside roadway improvement project and the recent rumbling of the addition of sidewalks to this project. There has been no notification to residents of this addition. I have been to both the open house and neighborhood meeting and completed the resident survey. Survey results revealed an overwhelming 94% No for the addition of sidewalks. The cost of this project continues to go up from the \$6,000-9,000 originally presented to a current \$12,360 (Why?) and possibly an additional cost for sidewalks. People move into this area for its large lots and wide, organically placed "countryside" like roads. We chose to be off the curb/sidewalk grid. Personally, our front lot exposure is around 160' that would be mandated we shovel with the addition of sidewalks. This is not to say that we do not deserve good roads but residents are very concerned about the expensive price tag of this project. We would hope that the council is mindful of the fact that we are still in difficult economic times. Please do not add sidewalks. You asked us and we answered with an overwhelming no. I look forward to some clarification of this if not before the meeting on Tuesday.

Sincerely,  
Jane Schluter

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Emilie Kastner  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 18, 2012 10:26 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Sally Lane

This email has been forwarded to the City Forester and all City Council Members.



**Emilie Kastner, Communications Assistant**

952-826-0342 | Fax 952-826-0389

[ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** Kathy Dahlheimer [<mailto:kdahlheimer@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 17, 2012 2:22 PM  
**To:** Emilie Kastner  
**Cc:** Sprague, Joshua S  
**Subject:** Sally Lane

Hello...I have occasion to drive down Sally Lane each week and noticed today that absolutely nothing has been done about the trees blocking visibility. Last time I saw this discussed they were going to be directed to do something. What is the situation? At this point the City should engage a company to make the situation safe and bill the resident. Thank you. Kathleen Dahlheimer 4801 West 60th Street Edina Mn.

From: Anne healy [<mailto:watersong@mac.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 2:37 PM

To: Emilie Kastner

Cc: Alan Oltman; Kelly Pratt; Gary Surber; Abby Ruben; Pete Clemence; Edward Cohen; Cate Hahneman

Subject: The Motion Picture Association of Minnesota

Dear Mayor Hovland,

I met you during the filming of the Coen Brothers' movie "A Serious Man". The movie company thoroughly enjoyed filming in Edina.

The people who work in the film industry in Minnesota have formed a trade organization called 'The Motion Picture Association of Minnesota'. Our group will invite businesses, hotels, actors, crew, and homeowners to join together to show the State Legislature in Minnesota how much money we are losing every year by failing to compete with the other states for big movie productions. Our message

is to explain that the movie industry is an excellent business model.

Movie producers spend millions of dollars on local businesses- hotels, lumber yards, dry cleaners, restaurants, rental cars, locations, police and fire, gas, groceries, catering, coffee, extras, wardrobe and props, office space, phones, the list goes on and on. "A Serious Man", although a small movie, spent 7 million dollars in Minnesota in 2 months. The reason we do not see many movie productions here in our state is because almost 44 other states offer some kind of tax rebate or credit back to the producers once they spend their money in those states. We are working with an expert on incentives from California based Entertainment Partners. If we just match the other states we will see jobs on the movies right away, but the real business model starts when the local businesses start to see the large amounts of money spent by movie productions.

Just in Edina, we paid \$35,000 to the homeowners and neighbors, hired Edina Police officers, rented air conditioning units and tents locally, bought groceries at Jerry's, bought gas at the local gas stations, went to coffee shops to buy coffee for the crew, hired rug cleaners, bought new carpeting, bought wardrobe for the actors at Southdale, (10 of each outfit)dined in the restaurants at 50th and France, bought thousands of dollars worth of gear at the hardware store next to Jerry's. Rented rooms for the crew and the homeowners at the Sofitel.

Our group would like to present to the Meeting of the Mayors at the next available meeting. How do we go about asking to present?

Sincerely,

Anne Healy

Healy Locations

[anne@healylocations.com](mailto:anne@healylocations.com)

(612) 366-1439

'The Motion Picture Association of Minnesota'

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Emilie Kastner  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2012 11:34 AM  
**Subject:** FW: curb & gutter

This email has been forwarded to all members of the City Council.



**Emilie Kastner, Communications Assistant**

952-826-0342 | Fax 952-826-0389

[ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** [alscott68@aol.com](mailto:alscott68@aol.com) [<mailto:alscott68@aol.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2012 9:44 AM

**To:** Emilie Kastner

**Subject:** curb & gutter

Hello Mr. Hovland,

I am just voicing my opinion on the curb & gutter roadwork I will be dealing with this spring. I live in the Countryside area, and have known this to be coming eventually. At first I heard a rumor of around \$4-5,000. Then we got a letter telling us to expect around \$7-9,000. Most recently now it is up to around \$13,000.

I understand hitting homeowners for a few thousand maybe once in the owners lifetime for things like this. My last house had this same thing done and we basically were expected to pay for new driveway aprons, which was around \$2000 as I recall. Not too many complaints from the neighborhood, as we saw some benefit that wasn't outrageous. The street was also in very bad shape.

This assessment coming up is outrageous. We are not living in a condo development that needs a new exterior. We pay taxes for streets, right? Why should we pay beyond that for this? Do we all have to chip in when Tracy finally gets redone, or do only the homeowners that have houses on Tracy get nailed? We are not a gated community.

I have 4 kids to take care of and a modest house. I do not have an extra \$13,000 sitting in some account earmarked for roadwork. I live within my means. That kind of money is braces for 2 kids, food for almost a year, and I could go on & on. What do I do? Move, because of this project?

Government needs to stop reckless spending, especially during tough times. This project throws the cost away from government and onto us. The difference is we do not have an unlimited source of funds that can just be switched from one pile of IOU's to another.

Thank You for listening and mark me down as another angry Edina resident.

Alex Scott

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Emilie Kastner  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 8:50 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Triple Trailer Truck Vote -- Thursday, February 2

This email has been forwarded to all members of the City Council.



**Emilie Kastner, Communications Assistant**

952-826-0342 | Fax 952-826-0389

[ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** Brad Roseberry, CABT [<mailto:broseberry@cabt.org>]

**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2012 10:50 AM

**To:** Emilie Kastner

**Subject:** Triple Trailer Truck Vote -- Thursday, February 2

Dear Ann,

**Next Thursday, February 2, the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee will vote on whether to allow bigger trucks nationwide – including expanded operation of triple-trailer trucks. We need your help to stop this.**

We learned last evening that the draft House transportation reauthorization bill would allow longer combination vehicles nationwide, expanded operation of triple-trailer trucks, and heavier 97,000-pound singles on our roads and bridges. This is an all-out assault on the weight and length limits that protect highway safety and preserve roads and bridges. It is a massive giveaway to a select group of big companies and the trucking industry and at the cost of the motoring public.

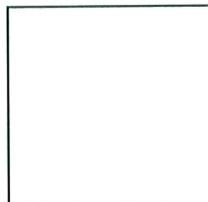
Please call your Member of Congress, Rep. Erik Paulsen, at (202) 225-2871 and ask to speak to the transportation staff member. Tell the staff member that you oppose these ultra-dangerous, ultra-damaging trucks and ask that the Member of Congress vote against these trucks.

Also, please ask your association members, co-workers, family, and friends to weigh in with their representatives, as well. If they do not know how to contact their Member of Congress, they can call a toll-free hotline at 855-284-4874 to be patched through to the correct office.

We need everyone's help to stop this power grab by the American Trucking Associations and big corporate shippers. Our safety depends on it.

Please call Rep. Erik Paulsen's office at (202) 225-2871 today.

Thank you,  
Brad



[Click here to unsubscribe.](#)

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Emilie Kastner  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 8:56 AM  
**Subject:** FW: The Closing of the Pool and Exercise Facilities at Edinborough Park

This email has been forwarded to all members of the City Council, as well as the Park & Recreation Assistant Director.



**Emilie Kastner, Communications Assistant**

952-826-0342 | Fax 952-826-0389

[ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** Dianne Numelin [[mailto:dianne\\_numelin@hotmail.com](mailto:dianne_numelin@hotmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2012 5:57 PM  
**To:** Emilie Kastner  
**Subject:** The Closing of the Pool and Exercise Facilities at Edinborough Park

As a senior and resident of the Coventry at Centennial Lake, I would like to voice my opposition of the closing of the Edinborough Park pool. I understand that the workout equipment is not used, but for many seniors the pool is a major asset used for therapeutic workouts which are gentle on older bodies and those with arthritis. In addition, there are many youth that use the pool which offers an alternative for children who are too old for the climbing park. Please, consider leaving the pool open for those who benefit from it. Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Dianne Numelin 209 Coventry Court, 55435

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Emilie Kastner  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 9:11 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Edinborough Park Plans

This message has been forwarded to all members of the City Council, as well as the Park & Recreation Assistant Director.

Emilie Kastner, Communications Assistant  
952-826-0342 | Fax 952-826-0389

[ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com) ...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business -----Original Message-----

**From:** Jitka / Michael Sebek [<mailto:jitka@skypoint.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2012 10:12 PM  
**To:** Emilie Kastner  
**Cc:** Josh Sprague  
**Subject:** Edinborough Park Plans

Hello:

As a response to the Edina Sun Current article about changes being planned for the Edinborough Park play area, I would like to vote for keeping the pool filled with water (not with balls). Should you decide on upgrading the lockers and do a better advertisement for the pool, the play area can be enjoyed by people of all ages (thanks to the kept pool without turning the play area into an area for ages 0 - 9 years only).  
For many reasons, I will also miss the live plants.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jitka Sebek

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Emilie Kastner  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 10:46 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Dome in Edina

This email has been forwarded to all members of the City Council, as well as the Park & Recreation Director.

Emilie Kastner, Communications Assistant  
952-826-0342 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com) ...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

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

**From:** Mark Schoening [<mailto:mark.schoening@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 28, 2012 8:22 AM  
**To:** Emilie Kastner  
**Subject:** Dome in Edina

We are strongly in favor of a Dome in Edina-ever since our children ( 3 of them ) have been of age to play sports we have been traveling to other cities for use of their domes-it is time Edina has their own.  
Thank you. The Schoening Family

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Emilie Kastner  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 10:50 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Edinborough Park

This email has been forwarded to all members of the City Council, as well as the Park & Recreation Assistant Director.



**Emilie Kastner, Communications Assistant**

952-826-0342 | Fax 952-826-0389

[ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:ekastner@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** [JWP3Group@aol.com](mailto:JWP3Group@aol.com) [<mailto:JWP3Group@aol.com>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 28, 2012 12:42 PM  
**To:** Emilie Kastner  
**Subject:** Fwd: Edinborough Park

Concerned Citizen Alert - Thanks for listening.

James (Jim) W Payne III  
[jwp3group@aol.com](mailto:jwp3group@aol.com)

---

**From:** [JWP3Group@aol.com](mailto:JWP3Group@aol.com)  
**To:** [edinamail@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:edinamail@ci.edina.mn.us)  
**CC:** [jwp3group@aol.com](mailto:jwp3group@aol.com)  
**Sent:** 1/28/2012 12:36:58 P.M. Central Standard Time  
**Subj:** Edinborough Park

Edinborough Park is a really nice and well managed Park, one we users are quite proud to recommend to others, both from Edina and neighboring communities. However, I am not entirely sure if what I recently heard is true, but if it is, I would like to let someone know how inappropriate I believe it is. First, my information is that the City Council has recently heard recommendations that might result in closing the pool to expand the children's play area.

Frankly, it is my opinion that this would be bad policy, i.e., to stop the pool services for all generations to provide the Tots a larger play space. Based on the rumor, I hear this action is being discussed because of finances. I believe a bit more marketing for to get more pool users, for classes and/or a bit higher charge for users would solve this problem, without denying all the generations use of the pool. This pool serves the needs of many people who cannot partake in more rigorous physical activity plus the great exercise that swimming provides to many who cannot run, etc.

I therefor, want go on record that many of us who use the pool, some who have paid taxes to build this Park and to sustain it for many years, are VERY Opposed to letting this go beyond the idea exploration stage. We suggest there has been no real viable alternatives evaluated or given much thought.

Seems, the council and employee's should be able to do more to give the Pool Use a better due diligence review before some consultant and some contractor gets greedy with spending money to destroy an asset like the pool at Edenborough.

Sincerely:

James (Jim) W Payne III  
[jwp3group@aol.com](mailto:jwp3group@aol.com)  
952 835-1099

**From:** VI STROUP [mailto:vistroup1@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 29, 2012 7:39 AM  
**To:** Emilie Kastner  
**Subject:** Edinborough Park info

Good morning, members of the Edina City Council. Thank you for your commitment to our city. I sincerely appreciate all you've done for us and continue to do.

I'm including a copy of the letter I sent to Mayor Hovland regarding the consultants' recommendations about Edinborough Park. I thank you, too, for your consideration about this.

Have a nice day!  
Vi Stroup  
7520 Edinborough Way - #2115  
Edina, MN 55435

January 29, 2012

Honorable Jim Hovland, Mayor  
Edina City Hall  
4801 W. 50th St.  
Edina, MN 55424

Dear Mayor Hovland:

This letter is in reference to the January 3rd City Council minutes. I am a resident of Village Homes at Centennial Lakes. With the many programs being implemented to promote health and wellness, it was disturbing to read the consultants' recommendation to consider closing the Edinborough Park Pool. With so much emphasis on preventive health, especially exercise, would it make sense to close the pool, etc.? Over one third of our residents are senior citizens - what better place than the Edina Park pool and track to do rehab after knee replacement and other surgeries. This is in our back yard - we don't have to travel a great distance to get there.

Bloomington, Edina, and Richfield have joined forces to create Minnesota's first healthy 'do.town' program. Couldn't a program similar to that be created for the Edinborough Park area to increase revenues? How much advertising has been done about the pool, which is an exceptional facility. The pool is used for the Edina Community Education Exercise Classes, Edina Swim Club for young swimmers, Edina Adaptive Recreation for Special Needs Kids, to name a few.

I have some questions for the consultants:

Have they researched as to how much revenue is brought into the Park (pool and track, etc.) from our homeowners? What would the cost be to close the pool, etc., and repurpose the areas? Could that amount not be applied to the Edinborough Park budget, rather than renovating what we have.

I urge you and the Council members (I'm emailing a copy of this to the members) to study this project and do more research about it before deciding to go with the consultants' recommendations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Vi M. Stroup  
7520 Edinborough Way - #2115  
Edina, MN 55435

Dear Mr. Keprios:

Edinborough Park is the only city park I use of the 40 city parks and 12 ice skating rinks—some considered premier complexes—in Edina. I am pleased that our city offers these amenities to others in the community and especially to youth. In fact, I voted in favor of the park improvement initiative several years ago. However, removing the Edinborough Pool and Fitness Center and turning an Edina City park into a fee-only Amusement Park/Birthday Party destination is not compatible with the Park Board mission to provide a comprehensive park and recreation department for the whole community.

As a 60-something retiree I use the Edinborough City Park pool mornings twice a week for Water Aerobics classes year-round. Water exercise provides support for muscles and joints, burns more calories than on land, improves cardio health and is safer because of the climate controlled environment. Some students in the class have had joint replacements or have walking limitations (which disappear when in the water). This provides an exercise opportunity for those who have developed limitations due to aging and for some, it is the only exercise they can do. During our class time, nearby there are others who come to swim laps, swim with their children/grandchildren, or walk above on the track and use the exercise equipment.

There is a need for community in all of our lives. Many surrounding communities have built their own comprehensive city Community Centers including Eden Prairie, Chaska, Plymouth, Maple Grove and now there is interest in St. Louis Park. Kay Zuccaro, our water exercise instructor, teaches 8 classes per week year-round at the Edinborough Pool. She has taught aquatics in the Edina Community Education program in Edina since 1986 and is terrific at building community among the class members. Many students have been in her classes for years.

Edinborough Park is the only indoor pool with year-round capabilities in the Edina public sphere. If the Edinborough Pool is removed there will no longer be a comprehensive park and recreation program for the whole community and there will be many whose park and recreation needs will go unmet.

Very truly yours,

Cheryl S. Lany  
6100 Ewing Av. S.  
Edina

Susan Howl

---

**From:** John Keprios  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 02, 2012 9:50 AM  
**To:** (keeya.steel@yahoo.com); (randyameyer@aol.com); Bill Lough (wel2two@gmail.com); Daniel Peterson (dan1nan@aol.com); David Deeds (david.deeds@gmail.com); Ellen Jones (ellen.jones@mac.com); James Neville (jamesneville@comcast.net); Joseph Hulbert (clarencebeeks@hotmail.com); Louise M. Segreto (lmsegreto@msn.com); Patricia Weicht (psweicht@comcast.net); Susan Jacobson (morethanthislife@yahoo.com); Todd Fronek (tfronek@yahoo.com)  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Edinborough Park

FYI



**John Keprios, Park & Recreation Director**

952-826-0430 | Fax 952-826-0385

[JKeprios@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:JKeprios@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.EdinaParks.com](http://www.EdinaParks.com)

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**From:** Cheryl Lany [<mailto:cslany@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 4:20 PM  
**To:** John Keprios  
**Subject:** Edinborough Park

Dear Mr. Keprios:

Edinborough Park is the only city park I use of the 40 city parks and 12 ice skating rinks—some considered premier complexes—in Edina. I am pleased that our city offers these amenities to others in the community and especially to youth. In fact, I voted in favor of the park improvement initiative several years ago. However, removing the Edinborough Pool and Fitness Center and turning an Edina City park into a fee-only Amusement Park/Birthday Party destination is not compatible with the Park Board mission to provide a comprehensive park and recreation department for the whole community.

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There is a need for community in all of our lives. Many surrounding communities have built their own comprehensive city Community Centers including Eden Prairie, Chaska, Plymouth, Maple Grove and now there is interest in St. Louis Park. Kay Zuccaro, our water exercise instructor, teaches 8 classes per week year-round at the Edinborough Pool. She has taught aquatics in the Edina Community Education program in Edina since 1986 and is terrific at building community among the class members. Many students have been in her classes for years.

Edinburgh Park is the only indoor pool with year-round capabilities in the Edina public sphere. If the Edinburgh Pool is removed there will no longer be a comprehensive park and recreation program for the whole community and there will be many whose park and recreation needs will go unmet.

Very truly yours,

Cheryl S. Lany  
6100 Ewing Av. S.  
Edina

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Ann Kattreh  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 28, 2012 2:38 PM  
**To:** iluvpointers@juno.com  
**Cc:** Janet Canton; Susan Howl  
**Subject:** Re: Pool closing - Edinborough Park

Hi Terry,  
Thanks for taking the time to send an email. I will forward your email on to the Edina Park Board and Edina City Council.  
Sincerely,  
Ann

On Jan 28, 2012, at 1:07 PM, "iluvpointers@juno.com" <iluvpointers@juno.com> wrote:

Dean Ann - I am writing you to strongly urge you not to close the pool at Edinborough Park. I have regularly attended water aerobics at this facility for over the past 8 years. This program has markedly helped to keep me mobile.

Kay is an excellent instructor and makes everyone comfortable. I am 80 years old and have diabetes, heart problems and have had both knees replaced. This program has helped me keep healthy.

I would please ask you reconsider this decision. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Terry Miller  
8010 Queen Avenue South, #208  
Bloomington, MN 55431  
952-884-3651

---

Groupon&#8482 Official Si  
I ridiculously huge coupon a day. Get 50-90% off your city&#39;s best!  
<http://thirdpartyoffers.juno.com/TGL3141/4f24470c1999d813f3bst04duc>

**Subject: Tracy/Benton intersection**

Hello,

I just received this questionnaire the other day from a neighbor. I wish I had known about this proposal sooner.

I am against changing the intersection, as you can see in my attached survey. In case you are unable to read my poor handwriting, I will let you know my thoughts here, too.

My family lives on Garden Ave, right off Grove Street East of Tracy. My children walk to Countryside often and a roundabout in that intersection would be DANGEROUS for pedestrians (especially children), no stop signs and people driving through quickly. I have seen several pedestrians almost hit by motorists who do not know how to maneuver in a roundabout (by the Galleria) and aren't looking for people.

I do not believe a roundabout is a good option for a residential area for that reason.

Please, leave the intersection the way it is. To my knowledge (I have asked neighbors), there hasn't been an accident in that intersection and the taxpayers really don't need another big bill to fix something that really isn't broken.

I hope you take my thoughts into consideration,

Thank you,

Rani Murdoch Zappa  
5804 Garden Avenue

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Ann Kattreh  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 8:56 PM  
**To:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** Fwd: Edinborough Park

Hi Susan,  
Please forward this to Council.  
Thank you,  
Ann

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Cheryl Lany" <cslany@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** February 1, 2012 5:21:39 PM EST  
**To:** "Ann Kattreh" <AKattreh@ci.edina.mn.us>  
**Subject:** Edinborough Park  
**Reply-To:** "Cheryl Lany" <cslany@yahoo.com>

Dear Ms Kattreh:

Edinborough Park is the only city park I use of the 40 city parks and 12 ice skating rinks—some considered premier complexes—in Edina. I am pleased that our city offers these amenities to others in the community and especially to youth. In fact, I voted in favor of the park improvement initiative several years ago. However, removing the Edinborough Pool and Fitness Center and turning an Edina City park into a fee-only Amusement Park/Birthday Party destination is not compatible with the Park Board mission to provide a comprehensive park and recreation department for the whole community.

As a 60-something retiree I use the Edinborough City Park pool mornings twice a week for Water Aerobics classes year-round. Water exercise provides support for muscles and joints, burns more calories than on land, improves cardio health and is safer because of the climate controlled environment. Some students in the class have had joint replacements or have walking limitations (which disappear when in the water). This provides an exercise opportunity for those who have developed limitations due to aging and for some, it is the only exercise they can do. During our class time, nearby there are others who come to swim laps, swim with their children/grandchildren, or walk above on the track and use the exercise equipment.

There is a need for community in all of our lives. Many surrounding communities have built their own comprehensive city Community Centers including Eden Prairie, Chaska, Plymouth, Maple Grove and now there is interest in St. Louis Park. Kay Zuccaro, our water exercise instructor, teaches 8 classes per week year-round at the Edinborough Pool. She has taught aquatics in the Edina Community Education

program in Edina since 1986 and is terrific at building community among the class members. Many students have been in her classes for years.

Edinborough Park is the only indoor pool with year-round capabilities in the Edina public sphere. If the Edinborough Pool is removed there will no longer be a comprehensive park and recreation program for the whole community and there will be many whose park and recreation needs will go unmet.

Very truly yours,

Cheryl S. Lany  
6100 Ewing Av. S.  
Edina

Susan Howl

Subject: FW: Federal Disability Lawsuit Challenges Traffic Roundabouts

Here are several links and comments related to roundabouts.

I am not against roundabouts. I think they are great in the right place. Is the corner of Benton and Tracy in Edina the right place? Is it the right thing to do?

The existing intersection is unusual/different. Apparently we are used to it. There hasn't been an accident there in over 30 years. Talk to residents in the corner houses some have lived there for over three decades

If it isn't broke don't fix it. We could have more problems with a roundabout than what we haven't had with what we have.

Also, how many roundabouts have you seen in the front yards of private homes? It is pretty awesome and personal. Have you thought how that would affect you? Our city engineers sure haven't. I'm sure they have read all the positive information about roundabouts and see roundabouts as a solution for all intersection issues.

Please take the time to look at these links and consider carefully what you do.

Thanks again for listening

Bill Rodgers  
6100 Arbour Lane  
Edina, MN 55436

<http://gazettextra.com/news/2011/nov/15/roundabout-plan-detoured/>

We have not had an accident at this intersection in over 30 years. If it isn't broke don't fix it. Listen to the residents.

<http://www.dailytribune.com/articles/2008/03/10/localnews/20080310-archive1.txt?viewmode>

Do we want to put this roundabout in and find out that we need to add signals? We will be back to a four way stop with a circle in the middle.

<http://callsam.com/bernstein-media-center/richard-bernstein-news-fighting-for-justice/federal-disability-lawsuit-challenges-traffic-roundabouts>

Click on the news video lower in the article.

05-13-2010, 09:24 AM

MI-Roger  
Senior Member

Join Date: Oct 2007  
563 posts, read 836,377 times  
Reputation: 366

### **So, M-DOT is beginning to have second thoughts regarding Roundabouts?**

I saw an article in the [annarbor.com](http://annarbor.com) electronic newspaper last night that included a link to a special survey being conducted by Wayne State University for M-DOT regarding roundabouts.

After forcing these things upon the citizens of Michigan for the past few years, I am guessing they are receiving enough public pressure to reassess their position.

Personally, I don't like them. I agree they can be a big benefit for low speed low traffic volume routes.

But in this use they are like the "Yield" signs that were removed from rural intersections years ago because they were proven to be ineffective at preventing crashes.

My biggest complaint with Roundabouts is MDOT's crusade to place these traffic circles in moderate speed (45mph to 50mph) heavily travelled roads. I project a huge increase in side-swipe collisions at these installations.

Think about it. The average MI driver had 15 years of traffic rule observation, followed by classroom training, then followed by supervised driving in a dual brake vehicle to learn how to properly execute the traditional stop style intersections and accompanying rules. Now we find ourselves on tight circular roundabouts with no instruction on their proper use. Even if I consider myself competent at using traffic circles, how can I have any comfort at knowing the abilities and knowledge of the other drivers?

Shoot; look at how many drivers use 4-way stops improperly, and how many jump the Green Light when executing a left hand turn in front of oncoming traffic! We are to assume these same fools know how to use roundabouts correctly?

MDOT's decision to remove servicable intersections and replace them with roundabouts, then install so many "Right Turn Only" signs and yellow/black chevron billboards that sight lines of oncoming traffic are completely blocked (Lee Rd at US23) is a foolish waste of our State's scant financial resources.

[+] Rate this post positively

Read more: <http://www.city-data.com/forum/michigan/974667-so-m-dot-beginning-have-second.html#ixzz1I3gpEACI>

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 8:59 AM  
**To:** Cary Teague; Arlene Forrest; Floyd Grabiel; Jeffrey Carpenter; Ken Potts; Kevin Staunton; matt rock; Melissa Stefanik; Michael Fischer; Michael Platteter (platteters@comcast.net); Michael Schroeder; Nancy N. Scherer  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: 6109 Oaklawn lot subdivision and variance

Hello there,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members, Planning Commission and Cary Teague.

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist  
952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com) ...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business -----Original Message-----

**From:** barbara nelson [<mailto:barbellen6@earthlink.net>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 8:38 AM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** 6109 Oaklawn lot subdivision and variance

**TO:** Edina City Council  
Planning Department  
Planning Commission

**RE:** 6109 Oaklawn lot subdivision and variance

**DATE:** February 1, 2012

I am writing to express my deep disappointment that once again the City is considering a subdivision proposal in my neighborhood. A long-time resident of 23 years, I live on Brookview Avenue across from the JMS home, 6120 Brookview, which remains an eyesore and is not currently selling. Please learn from this mistake. Especially in this market, the need for affordable smaller homes in Edina is clear. Allowing developers to subdivide 100 foot lots to build outsized homes totally out of character with the other neighboring homes makes no sense. By doing so, the City completely ignores its responsibility to the loyal residents and taxpayers of this neighborhood who do not want these large homes moving in and negatively affecting the quality of their lives. We have chosen this suburban neighborhood in Edina for many reasons, none of which includes living close to a multistory building, which blocks light, compromises privacy, removes trees and affects soil drainage. As City officials, it is in your hands to respect our rights now by stopping this trend, and specifically the proposed subdivision on Oaklawn.

If more legislation is needed to clarify the mess that has already been created on Brookview and to address future situations like this, then it is time to get that in place.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Barbara Nelson  
6137 Brookview Ave S  
Edina, MN 55424

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2012 1:06 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Pool at Edinborough Park



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** Linda Bennetsen Linda Bennetsen [<mailto:lbennetsen@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2012 12:51 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** Pool at Edinborough Park

I've been informed that the pool at Edinborough Park may be closing. I am asking you to reconsider, as it provides citizens the opportunity to exercise and keep fit without injury. We all know the importance of keeping active and in shape, even more important for senior citizens. I've have had the good fortune of having Kay Zuccaro as the instructor. She's a great asset to your program, in fact, when I first started water aerobics I was just going to see if I enjoyed the workout and then planned on joining a club. But, Kay was such a great instructor I soon realized I was going to continue the Community Ed classes. I can't begin to tell you what a difference the water aerobic exercise has done for me in the last 18 years. Now that I'm retired, I continue to enjoy the benefits it provides.

I would urge you to reconsider the closing of the pool and hopefully you can market the pool to other communities (Bloomington/Richfield/Eden Prairie) using the "do.town" philosophy as cited in the 9/27/11 press release – reading that article alone indicates many reasons why the pool should remain open to provide physical activity to keep all age citizens healthy.

It's always interesting to note that the people using the pool are in good shape!

Linda Bennetsen  
952-944-6590

**From:** Michael & Mirta Calvo [<mailto:mcalvo12@yahoo.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2012 5:06 PM

**To:** Lynette Biunno

**Cc:** [jonibennett12@comcast.net](mailto:jonibennett12@comcast.net); Mary Brindle; [joshsprague@edinarealty.com](mailto:joshsprague@edinarealty.com); [swensonann1@gmail.com](mailto:swensonann1@gmail.com)

**Subject:** market analysis report on Edinborough Park

To: Mayor Hovland, Council Member Bennett, Council Member Brindle, Council Member Sprague, Council Member Swenson

From: Mirta I Calvo, Resident at Village Homes of Centennial Lakes

Re: market analysis, program assessment, and operational feasibility of Edinborough Park

Having read the January 3, 2012, minutes of the joint work session of the Edina City Council and the Edina Park Board I am concerned about several of the statements and proposals found therein. In particular, I find the following particularly disturbing, untrue or lacking information:

1. "a project to infill the pool and create a soft play area and party rooms..." would devalue our residences and cost the Edinborough Park income from the Village Homes at Edinborough, Village Homes of Centennial Lakes, Coventry, hotel and other entities. I completely disagree with the statement that "the pool and fitness areas were poorly designed and underutilized, so it was not a matter of losing space that people were making use of today." I personally use the indoor pool 2-3 times a week for water aerobic classes, as do many of my neighbors and other members of the community. Many of the lanes not used by the group are in used by swimmers each and every time.
2. "It was noted that Edina Park Plaza tenants, hotel and business owners were not surveyed." Neither were any of the residents in the properties that would be among the most affected by these changes. Obviously, my response would have been, IS, completely against these proposals. Edinborough Park is part of our lifestyle at the Village Homes, part of what attracted us there to begin with. Although "600 respondents were surveyed a year ago for a four-month period", none of the most affected individuals were surveyed or consulted.
3. Repeatedly as I reviewed the minutes, I found unanswered questions, unaddressed issues and incomplete information. It is no wonder that a subsequent working session is needed and hopefully, a lot of research and surveying of the most affected members of the community take place during this time.

One of the best things about Edinborough Park, adding to the uniqueness of the place, is that it provides for a multigenerational experience. The over 55 water aerobic crowd is generally enthralled by the children playing in the play area. Just as enchanting is to watch as the little ones stand at the large glass windows fascinated by the activity in the pool. I personally enjoy bringing my grandsons, Edina public school students, to Edinborough Park. Please keep this wonderful exchanges. Keep this year-round form of exercise for so many of us in Edina, even as you launch the "do.town" initiative. Keep this valuable part of our lifestyle at Edinborough Park.

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2012 12:58 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Richard Bernstein Challenges Traffic Roundabouts



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** Judith Rodgers [<mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 31, 2012 11:24 AM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno; [aplowman@wsbeng.com](mailto:aplowman@wsbeng.com); Scott Neal  
**Cc:** Barbara Hoganson; [jhoward612@comcast.net](mailto:jhoward612@comcast.net); julie appel; susan peterson  
**Subject:** Richard Bernstein Challenges Traffic Roundabouts

Please forward to City Council

This is an issue that needs to be considered.

Bill Rodgers

<http://callsam.com/bernstein-media-center/richard-bernstein-videos/roundabouts-lawsuit/richard-bernstein-challenges-traffic-roundabouts>

Mayor James Hovland  
Joni Bennett  
Mary Brindle  
Josh Sprague  
Ann Swenson

Here are some reasons, in this link, of why bikers do not like bike lanes.

[http://www.tpg1.com/protest/city/nobike/van\\_bikelanesbad.htm](http://www.tpg1.com/protest/city/nobike/van_bikelanesbad.htm)

Here are some reasons why some residents don't support bike lanes on Tracy Avenue:

Tracy Avenue is not a safe street for bikes. Hansen Rd and Olinger Rd are safer routes for bikers

Why do we need this bike route when there will be a new safer bike trail within 1/2 mile also Bredesen Park has great safer bike trails for families.

It is not fair to the residents to be assessed for bike lanes that they do not feel are necessary.

The bike lanes constitute 25% of the roadway and will probably be utilized by less than 5% of Edina residents.

If the bike lanes are so important find another way to pay for them.

Reduce the cost of the Tracy Project. Project Costs can probably be reduced by 15% of the total cost of the project by eliminating the bike lanes.

Bill Rodgers  
6100 Arbour Lane  
Edina, MN 55436  
952-927-9421  
[jbr62@earthlink.net](mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net)

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 4:13 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Edina City Council



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** Hoffman, Christopher [<mailto:ChrHoffman@edina.k12.mn.us>]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 3:55 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** Edina City Council

Dear Mayor Hovland,

I wanted to take a brief moment to tell you how much my wife Chiou and I enjoyed meeting you last night at Creek Valley Elementary for the Chinese New Year celebration. In all of my years of employment with Edina Public Schools and work within the Edina community, I don't know when I've seen something that has given me so much to think about in terms of Edina's increasingly changing population. It's very exciting to see such a well connected and mutually supportive group living within the Edina community. It was especially rewarding for me to see so many of my former and current students last night participating in the celebration with their families. Again, it was very nice to meet you last night and really an honor to see you representing the community of Edina.

Best wishes,

Chris Hoffman

Christopher Hoffman  
8th Grade Math Teacher  
Education Minnesota/Edina Representative  
Valley View Middle School  
6750 Valley View Road  
Edina, MN 55439  
[chrhoffman@edina.k12.mn.us](mailto:chrhoffman@edina.k12.mn.us)  
952-848-3500

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 1:29 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Countryside Neighborhood Street Reconstruction



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** George & Judy [<mailto:geoandjudy@msn.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 1:20 PM

**To:** Lynette Biunno; [jonibennett12@comcast.net](mailto:jonibennett12@comcast.net); Mary Brindle; [joshsprague@edinarealty.com](mailto:joshsprague@edinarealty.com); [swensonann1@gmail.com](mailto:swensonann1@gmail.com)

**Subject:** Countryside Neighborhood Street Reconstruction

Regarding the Countryside neighborhood street reconstruction project, it is obvious, even to an untrained eye, that the streets are in need of repair. The inclusion of curbing is costly but should pay for itself by reducing maintenance expenses and extending the life of the street.

Paying for 100% of the reconstruction with a special assessment of \$12,300 is an issue. I understand that the funding concept is being reviewed. I encourage the council to consider the current state of the economy and the impact of the significant expense, especially on those living on a fixed income.

As for the addition of sidewalks in the Countryside neighborhood, results of the recent survey showed that over 90% of the residents do not favor sidewalks. I would not presume to speak for my neighbors but I oppose the addition of sidewalks for several reasons.

- **Need:** Sidewalks already exist on some parts of Tracy and Benton Avenues that are the main arteries for traffic. Other streets in the neighborhood are mainly for local traffic. There is not sufficient vehicle or pedestrian traffic to warrant sidewalks.
- **Maintenance:** One of the reasons I selected my home was that there were no sidewalks that required snow clearing in the winter. Being on a corner lot, I could have approximately 250 feet of sidewalk to be cleared. As I get older this could present quite a challenge.
- **Cost:** Sidewalks would lead to another assessment of around \$1800 per residential unit. That is in addition to the \$12,300 assessment for street reconstruction.

George L. Root  
5500 Highland Road

To: edinacountryside@googlegroups.com  
Subject: Re: Edina Resident/Biker's Opinion Whether Tracy Ave Needs Bike Trails  
Sent: Jan 25, 2012 10:01 PM

The gentleman makes it sound as if aggressive impatient car, truck, school bus drivers are the problem. The cars are thousands and thousands and thousands to 1 in the majority that use Tracy Ave and the other streets in Edina. The Edina streets were built for motor vehicles not peddle bikes. This fellow makes a personal choice to put himself in known danger riding on public streets and highways designed for motor vehicles. That's his personal choice. The motor vehicle operator is not a villain. They legally use the roads as they were designed for motor vehicles not peddle bikes. It's time the peddle biker understands, accept he or she is the one causing a nuisance on the roadways not the motor vehicle drivers for which the roads are created and maintained. If the Edina city council and staff is hell bent on making the Tracy ave roadway less safe to many many many thousands of motor vehicles users to accommodate at the tax payers expense for at best 1 or 2 peddle bikers a day that is a total miss guided use to tax payers funds. Not to mention the additional motor vehicle users added risk of accident by adding more confusion of lanes to an already very very very busy Tracy Ave. David Seidel

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

From: Barbara Hoganson  
Sender: edinacountryside@googlegroups.com  
To: edinacountryside@googlegroups.com  
ReplyTo: edinacountryside@googlegroups.com  
Subject: Edina Resident/Biker's Opinion Whether Tracy Ave Needs Bike Trails  
Sent: Jan 25, 2012 9:19 PM

Please find an Edina resident and avid biker's email to City Hall regarding his opinion on whether Tracy Avenue needs bike lanes, and some alternatives.

January 24, 2012

Jack Sullivan  
Andrew Plowman  
Wayne Houle  
City Hall  
480I WEST 50TH STREET  
EDINA, MINNESOTA 55424-1394

I am a resident of Edina and commute daily (year-round) to downtown Minneapolis on my bicycle.

I believe existing road right-of-ways in Edina offer a great opportunity to encourage safe, convenient commutes for bicyclists with minimal additional investment by the City and no additional taking of land for right of way. Existing streets already connect our communities homes, schools, stores, places of employment, parks and other amenities. Existing streets are already illuminated after dark and have traffic control pavement markings, signs and signals. Existing streets are already patrolled, maintained and plowed. Existing streets are where Edina's homeowners expect to find vehicles, bikes and on the side of the right of way, pedestrians. New off road trails do not offer any of this and are extremely expensive to build and in our community don't make the connections the majority are seeking. (However if the rail line abandons or sells the north/south Dan Patch corridor, a new bike trail would be much easier on the environment and community, in addition to allowing some really useful and convenient connections.)

I have attached an aerial outlining a particular road segment that is currently very unsafe for travel (cars or bikes) with an idea on how this area could be made much more safe for all. This segment is a small portion of my daily commute.

On the aerial the "Bike Kill Zone" is indicated on Tracy Avenue between Olinger Blvd to just north of Highland Road. This Kill Zone is hazardous for a number of reasons you are already aware of:

1. Extreme curvature of the Tracy Avenue right-of-way limiting lines of sight and requiring aggressive steering maneuvers.
2. Three "T" intersections in the arc of the curve in the right of way.
3. High Speed for a residential area between two parks and next to a school (30 MPH) 4. High Traffic volume (numerous studies show increases of traffic through Edina's neighborhoods when traffic slows on Hwys 169, 62 and 100)
5. Future additional unmitigated traffic volume (The City's collaboration with the Shelter's Assisted Living Development adding 425 vehicles per day to the immediate neighborhood without any traffic mitigation or improvements being installed at the Developer's expense).
6. Routine speeding on City Streets. (You don't need to be a cop to know that most vehicles on Tracy Avenue exceed the posted 30 MPH limit, especially south of Hwy 62)

With a parking lane allocated to the roadway on the east side of the street (northbound travel for vehicles and bikes) there is plenty of room for vehicles to pass bikes. The bikes are moving slowly do to the slight uphill grade in this area. During the past four years I have only observed one car parked, one day in this entire area on the east (northbound) side of Tracy Avenue during the am and pm commute.

However the issue is very different on the west side (southbound) lane of traffic on Tracy Avenue. On this side of the street there is No Parking and with the curb, no shoulder. The painted double yellow centerline of the street is very close to the curb, resulting in a very narrow traffic lane. In the "Bike Kill Zone", given the distance from the raised 6" curb to the double yellow centerline, there is not enough room for a bike to be legally overtaken by a car (with the bike a safe distance from the curb – out of the snow and/or gravel next to the curb AND the car passing the bike with the State required 36" minimum clearance (MN Statue 169.18 Subd. 3. (3)). As a result, southbound cars routinely pass bikes by drifting across the double yellow centerline, into the northbound lane of traffic. Given the curves in the road, limited sight lines, intersecting streets this illegal driving is extremely dangerous for oncoming traffic, bike riders and scofflaws themselves. I spend only about a total of 4.5 minutes a week in the Kill Zone heading southbound, but at least twice a week I am passed by a vehicle being operated in this very dangerous and illegal manner.

A couple of years ago I mentioned this issue to Wayne and as a result the City tried to paint the double yellow centerline in a manner that increased the width of the southbound lane. It helps, but with the southbound direction of travel dropping downhill, bikes are able to get very close to the speed limit (30 MPH) in this area resulting in the impatient, reckless drivers now adding an aggressive speeding violation to their illegal pass, exacerbating the danger to all.

Low Cost Solutions:

1. Make no lane changes. Simply add four evenly spaced "DO NOT PASS BICYCLES ZONE" signs along the west (southbound) lane in the "Bike Kill Zone". Speed Limit 25 MPH in the "Bike Kill Zone".
2. Eliminate the never used parking lane on the east (northbound) side of the street and paint the double yellow centerline exactly halfway between the 6" raised curbs. Speed Limit 25 MPH in the "Bike Kill Zone".

The remaining segments of Tracy Avenue offer much better sight lines and wider traffic lanes. With the exception of the deteriorated road surface, biking is relatively easy. Speeding & inattentive drivers are the greatest threat to bikes, as they are anywhere else.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dave Henry  
Edina, MN

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:37 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Edinborough Pool



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** Kathleen Corradino [<mailto:kcorradi@ties2.net>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:14 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** Edinborough Pool

Dear Council Members,  
I hope that you do not approve the closing of the Edinborough Pool.

There are several reasons for my request:

I participate in the classes of water aerobics for seniors. These classes are excellent for seniors interested in maintaining exercise level for health.

More than 30 percent of Edinans are seniors.

I would be willing to pay increased fees for these classes. The instructor is a great teacher qualified in exercises for citizens suffering from arthritic conditions.

The pool is an excellent facility because of high level and thorough levels of maintenance.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Monday, January 30, 2012 9:06 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: In support of bike lanes on Tracy

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com) ...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business -----Original Message-----

**From:** Tom Kluis [<mailto:tomkluis@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2012 12:09 PM

**To:** Judith Rodgers; Lynette Biunno

**Cc:** barbarahoganson; Wayne Houle; [APlowman@wsbeng.com](mailto:APlowman@wsbeng.com)

**Subject:** In support of bike lanes on Tracy

Bill, Lynette - I am a resident of Countryside neighborhood and strongly support the proposed bike lanes on Tracy. My family likes to bicycle in the neighborhood but if we want to go North/South, Tracy is the only viable route. We are forced to ride on the sidewalk on Tracy rather than the street due to the speed of cars, and lack of visibility in key stretches. The sidewalk is safer than the street, but still quite dangerous to other pedestrians, dog walkers, and cars coming out of driveways.

Dave Henry in a prior email also has similar conclusions about bike safety on Tracy.

Further, there aren't many good alternate routes for North/South travel if one wants to go from Garden Park to Countryside Park on bike, or to use the playground at Countryside Elementary.

I would much rather have dedicated bike lanes on Tracy Ave than ride on the dangerous sidewalk or even more dangerous uncontrolled street.

I believe more families would bike in our part of the city if the available routes were safer.

Thanks

Tom Kluis  
5824 Lyle Cir  
Edina, MN

**From:** Judith Rodgers [mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2012 10:52 AM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Cc:** Barbara Hoganson  
**Subject:** Tracy Bike Lanes

Hi Lynette,

I feel like I am asking a lot of you. Next time I get to City Hall I will look you up and introduce myself.

Can you forward this message on to the attached list?

Thanks so much for your help.

Bill Rodgers

Edina Mayor  
Edina City Council  
City Manager  
Engineering Department

As I travel around Edina I have been paying attention to bike lanes and bike routes.

Here are two examples:

1. Blake Road - As you enter Edina on Blake Road there is a green sign stating "Edina Shares the Road With Bicycles - Bike Route". The bike lane is about two feet wide right up against a metal guard rail. As you make a right onto Blake Road there is no lane for bikes at all until you get down the road about 1/2 a mile. The bike lanes then vary from 36" to 59".

2. West 44th Street - As you cross France heading west on 44Th Street there is another green sign indicating that there is a bike lane. This Street was also just rehabilitated, It is not as wide as Tracy Ave, there are no (0) bike lanes indicated.

These are just two examples of bike route/lanes that are different from what is being considered for the Countryside Neighborhood. I can give several more examples.

My point is why is the Countryside Neighborhood being required to provide 5-foot wide bike lanes when other neighborhoods are not held to these same standards?

I have nothing against sharing the road with bikes. I just don't feel that we need to have to pay for an additional 10 feet of pavement dedicated to bikes. They need to share the road with us.

My vote is to eliminate the Bike lanes on Tracy. That will reduce the width of the street and the cost of the project. I believe that will be the opinion shared on the questionnaire you sent to residents. Can you honor what residents really feel is fair?

Bikes can still share the road on Tracy.

The city can still put up signage indicating a bike route on Tracy Avenue. However, the safest option would be to take the bike route to a safer route such as Hansen Road to Valley View or down Vernon to Olinger.

A question that needs to be asked is how many bikes are licensed in the city of Edina. And how many cars and motorcycles are licensed in Edina. Can you share this information with me?

Thanks again for listening.

Bill Rodgers  
6100 Arbour Lane  
Edina, MN 55436  
952-927-9421  
[jbr62@earthlink.net](mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net)

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2012 4:06 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Edinborough Park



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** [KFLEMING\\_51@comcast.net](mailto:KFLEMING_51@comcast.net) [[mailto:KFLEMING\\_51@comcast.net](mailto:KFLEMING_51@comcast.net)]

**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2012 3:36 PM

**To:** Lynette Biunno

**Subject:** Edinborough Park

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I live at Edinborough Village Homes and I have just read about your proposed re-purposing of Edinborough Park that involves the proposed removal of the pool and gym areas for what you term a "multi-generational" facility. Considering that a portion of MY homeowners' association dues are for the Edinborough Park Facilities, as are association dues for Centennial Lakes and Coventry developments, I feel like I should have a very strong say in what happens to Edinborough Park. I am NOT happy about these proposed changes. These are NOT multi-generational changes, they are all geared to CHILDREN. As an Edinborough owner, not only would the loss of the pool and gym devalue my property, it would replace it with NOTHING I am interested in. Moreover, there are many aquatic classes available at Edinborough through the Edina Community Center whose loss would be felt by the entire adult community in Edina. I am single and no offense, but the Edinborough Village Homes, the Edinborough Senior high rise, Centennial Lakes, and Coventry - those effected most by these changes and those who pay special for the Park's facilities unlike the rest of Edina residents -- have a very low child population. In fact, this area of Edina is primarily filled with a high percentage of seniors. Yet all of these changes being proposed are geared only toward children. The use of the phrase "multi-generational" is euphemistic at best, deliberately misleading at worst.

I will be contacting my homeowners' association, my fellow residents, and reaching out to Centennial Lakes and Coventry residents as well about this. I will also attend any city meetings on this to express my ire.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Fleming

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2012 1:26 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Do-Town



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** Seven Sundays [<mailto:hannah@sevensundays.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2012 1:16 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** Do-Town

Hello Edina Council!

I received an email announcing Edina's participation in do-town and wanted to reach out to see how we can help this immensely important cause! I founded Seven Sundays ([www.sevensundays.com](http://www.sevensundays.com)) in 2011, a Minneapolis-based healthy breakfast company (we sell fresh, nutritious muesli cereal to grocery stores around the Twin Cities). We do a lot of research and blogging on healthy eating, particularly focusing on breakfast and the importance for people of all ages to enjoy a nutritious breakfast each morning. So many studies have shown the amazing benefits of eating a well-balanced meal in the morning – from weight management, to cognitive function, to energy levels – and we want to make sure this message gets across to our communities!

I've thought of a couple ways in which we may be able to participate in do-town, but would love to get your thoughts as well.

- We could write a short blog on the importance of breakfast, providing the facts and research behind the benefits and offering tips for families and members of the community and distribute to the do-town distribution list.
- If you plan on coordinating any events, we'd love to donate product, or volunteer, or have a booth with samples, products, education materials, etc.

Please let me know if either of these ideas sound interesting to you, or, how else you think we can get involved!

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,  
Hannah

**Hannah Barnstable**  
Seven Sundays, LLC  
P.O. Box 19294  
Minneapolis, MN 55419  
Ph. (612) 562-5316  
[www.sevensundays.com](http://www.sevensundays.com)

**SEVEN SUNDAYS**  
ARTISAN MUESLI

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012 2:23 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: A roundabout way of decreasing pedestrian safety » Ren Thomas



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us | www.CityofEdina.com

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**From:** Judith Rodgers [mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012 2:13 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno; Scott Neal; Karen M. Kurt  
**Cc:** Barbara Hoganson; karbergman@edina.k12.mn.us  
**Subject:** A roundabout way of decreasing pedestrian safety » Ren Thomas

Please pass this e-mail on to the City Council

Roundabouts are not considered safe for children, adults with disabilities and especially those visually impaired. They prioritize cars over pedestrians and bicyclists.

Please read the attached article by Dr Ren Thomas.

Thank you,

Bill Rodgers

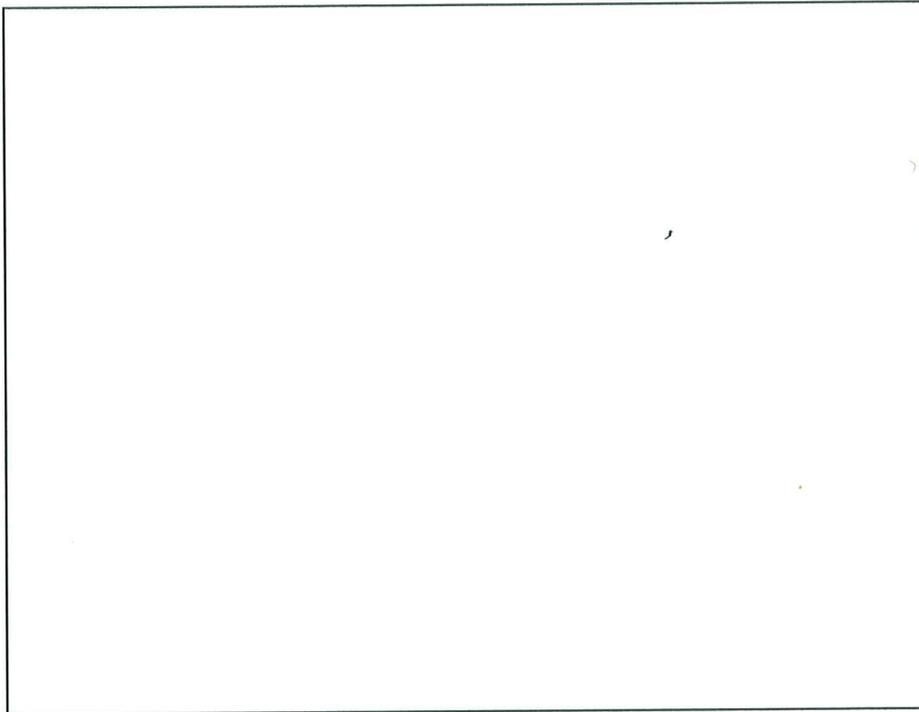
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**Ren Thomas**

## M.A., Ph.D. (Planning)

### A roundabout way of decreasing pedestrian safety

Like many cities in North America, Vancouver is in a love affair with roundabouts. And why not: traffic engineers tell us they improve vehicle safety, increase roadway capacity and efficiency, reduce vehicular delay and emissions, provide traffic-calming effects, and mark community gateways. But hang on isn't this just another road design that prioritizes cars over pedestrians and cyclists?



At a roundabout, pedestrians must wait until there is a gap in traffic to cross, placing them at a considerable disadvantage from traditional stop signs and stop lights. There is no designated time for pedestrians to cross, like a walk signal, which means at a busy intersection you can wait several minutes. And there are reasons to fear for pedestrian safety as well.

Studies shows that while the risk of serious vehicle collisions is decreased, this is mainly because they reduce collisions where cars run red lights/stop signs or drivers misjudge the gap in oncoming traffic while turning. The US Access Board, a Federal agency committed to accessible design, writes that the research findings on pedestrian safety at roundabouts are less clear. There have been relatively few studies, mostly conducted in Europe, concerning pedestrians and roundabouts. Little is known about the effects of roundabouts on the particular demographic groups, such as the elderly, children, and those with accessibility issues. Many drivers do not yield to pedestrians at crosswalks, and it might be difficult to tell if they plan to yield; as the traffic volume increases, the number of crossable gaps decreases.

The design of a roundabout also pushes the crosswalks away from the intersection, creating travel paths that are inconvenient for pedestrians, according to the New Urban News. New Urbanists have been promoting roundabouts for many years as a traffic calming measure, despite any evidence that they increase pedestrian safety.

In England, where roundabouts are commonplace, drivers are reasonably vigilant and yield to pedestrians. Nevertheless, the real advantage of roundabouts is that cars are not required to stop. Drivers generally like them for this reason; it reduces their travel time. But what does this do for pedestrians? It again places them at the bottom of the pecking order, and places them at considerable risk. It also lengthens their travel time considerably, as they must cross several directions of traffic, waiting for gaps each time. Compare this to a regular four-way signalled intersection, where the pedestrian gets a clear walk signal and does not have to determine whether it is safe to cross. In other words, the problem that cars supposedly have at four-way intersections (trying to judge the gap in traffic) is transferred to the pedestrian, who is not encased in steel for protection.



Path 1 here shows the pedestrian encountering traffic in two instances; Path 2 shows the pedestrian must cross four lanes of traffic. In all cases, since this is a roundabout, traffic does not stop and pedestrian paths are greatly increased from a traditional four-way signalled intersection.

Interestingly, public opinion on roundabouts is divided. Many drivers I know detest them, and find them difficult and confusing to use. A cab driver recently told me that he hated the new roundabouts in Vancouver, but one friend of mine defended them. She hails from England and says that the problem is simply public education: North American drivers just don't know how to use roundabouts. When the issue of pedestrian safety is raised, she said, I see nothing wrong with pedestrians having to wait a few minutes to cross the street. There's way too much encouragement of pedestrians getting the right of way all the time, even when it's unsafe.

I wonder what experts like Barry Wellar, a retired University of Ottawa professor who studies public safety and testifies at trials where pedestrians and cyclists are injured, thinks about roundabouts. Wellar developed the Pedestrian Safety Index, which some municipalities have been using to evaluate their busiest intersections. Similarly, John Pucher of Rutgers University discusses the many innovations in Europe designed for pedestrian safety, including advanced crossings for pedestrians, scatter crossings, grade-separations and separate pedestrian and cyclist signals. One of Pucher's main arguments is that pedestrians and cyclists increase in number with increased safety precautions; he also argues that penalties for striking a pedestrian or cyclist are much harsher in Europe.

Surely we should be examining all the different safety aspects of roundabouts if they are to be applied everywhere from quiet residential streets to major intersections such as the one pictured in this article. My guess is the UBC roundabout, which was converted from a signalized intersection last year, will prove treacherous to the pedestrians (many of them seniors) crossing the intersection at 16th and Wesbook Mall to access the new grocery store, community centre, school, and housing in the area. But UBC already has plans for another roundabout, and like many municipalities seems content to let traffic engineers reports lead the way.

The US Access Board makes several suggestions for improving roundabouts for blind pedestrians, including:

- Landscaping, planters, pedestrian channelization, bollard-and-chain separation, railings, and other architectural features can delineate paths that lead to the crosswalk and prevent or discourage crossing at locations other than the crosswalk; a distinctive edge such as a raised curb
- Traffic calming measures to ensure vehicles are travelling at low speeds, which influences whether or not they will yield to a pedestrian
- Raised crossings to discourage vehicle acceleration
- Smart signals that can sense and signal a pedestrians presence
- Splitter islands with a detectable surface, which can be used as a pedestrian refuge
- Public awareness campaigns encouraging drivers to yield to pedestrians

These measures can help counterract some of the pedestrian safety issues associated with roundabouts, but the fundamental question of whether they are advantageous for all transportation modes is not addressed. Pedestrians and cyclists are considerably disadvantaged by roundabouts as compared to traditional street crossings, proving once again that traffic engineers have a tendency to prioritize cars needs over non-motorized transportation modes. Hopefully we learn more about roundabouts through research and not pedestrian and cyclist fatalities.

August 2, 2009 | Tags: [pedestrians](#), [planning](#), [Transportation](#), [Vancouver](#), [walking infrastructure](#) | [2 Comments](#)

## 2 Responses to A roundabout way of decreasing pedestrian safety

1.  *Achim* says:

September 5, 2010 at 5:12 pm

In my opinion, the roundabout at UBC is a large improvement for slowing down vehicles and severity of collisions, and emissions caused by start and stop traffic. Roundabouts have been in use in Europe and also Hong Kong for a long time. For issues of pedestrian safety, this could be addressed by installing crossing signals, i.e. the flashing amber lights which notifies the motorist to yield. Also in Hong Kong, most roads are fenced off (except for designated crossings, and high medians to discourage jay walking), and includes an fenced island in the middle of the road. Some larger intersections also have pedestrian underpasses and overpasses, and may even include an elevator at both sides of the overpass for people with disabilities. Cyclysts there all know how to navigate a roundabout, and there are even roundabouts that are made only for bicycle traffics. Parking is also discouraged by placing knee to hip-high planter boxes / fences right next to the curb so even if someone parks they will not be able to get out, in which case would allow for better line of sight for both motorists and pedestrians. Roundabouts are great and we need more of them. In places that lack space, a mini-roundabout can also be used, which is just a white painted circle in the middle of the intersection allowing larger trucks and busses to go over them, but to address pedestrian / cyclist safety, education is a key issue along with other components mentioned (over/underpass/elevators/splitter islands/amber signals/bike-only roundabouts to familiarize cyclists without motor vehicle traffic etc)

At last, I would encourage anyone to explore the road design in Hong Kong through Google Earth, as I do believe they have a very safe and efficient system there.

2.  *Greg Alexander* says:

May 25, 2011 at 9:18 am

Roundabouts do not reduce emissions.

When you are wearing trousers, if you gain weight, then eventually the trousers will pinch your belly. And you may say, the problem is that my belly is pinched, and therefore the solution is trivial, I will buy looser trousers. Then you are free to gain more weight. Since gaining weight wasn't actually your original goal, though, and in fact the problem was the weight and not the trousers.

This is literally the same problem with the car. The car makes you fat, angry, and impatient. These are the problems with the car. It also pollutes, in rough proportion to how many times you stop and start, but that's just an auxiliary effect. If you reduce the number of times you stop and start the car then it will seem more convenient, as one of the downsides will be removed. So you'll drive it more, and longer distances, which will in turn make you fatter, angrier, and more impatient. The primary ills of the car for the society are increased, and ultimately so are the emissions because people substitute longer drives for shorter ones.

That is to say, the emissions reduction of a roundabout is true only if the traffic patterns do not change in response to the increase in perceived vehicular convenience. However, if you did not expect traffic patterns to change then why would you make an additional investment in infrastructure in the first place?

Go ahead, loosen your belt, it'll cure your obesity.

- Greg

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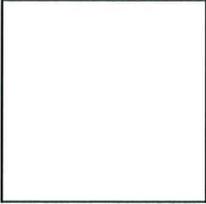
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2009 Ren Thomas



Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012 1:59 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed closing of Edinborough Pool



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** [Anguscottie@aol.com](mailto:Anguscottie@aol.com) [<mailto:Anguscottie@aol.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012 1:57 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** Proposed closing of Edinborough Pool

To the attention of the Edina council members;

I am a participant in the Edina Community Education program for senior water aerobics and am distressed to hear that there is a possibility that the pool might be closed. It is the one exercise program I have ever stayed with and am so happy with the benefits of just such an exercise.

The pool is busy with swimmers in the other lanes while our classes is going on. We have classes that are quite full, the members are very loyal in attendance and we are fortunate to have a wonderful instructor.

I am hoping you will take into consideration the effect that the closing of the pool will have on the many participants who are regular users of this facility..

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Ruth M Reed

cc. Edina Park and Recreation Department

**From:** Judith Rodgers [<mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012 12:19 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno; Jack Sullivan; [aplowman@wsbeng.com](mailto:aplowman@wsbeng.com)  
**Subject:** ROUNDABOUT AND BIKE LANE INFORMATION

**From:** Bill Rodgers [<mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net>]

Attached is some additional information, from another resident, relating to the Tracy Avenue rehabilitation Project.

Please pass this e-mail on to the City Council.

Does the City Manager get these e-Mails also?

Thanks,

Bill Rodgers

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Greg Rustad <[GRustad@schadegg-mech.com](mailto:GRustad@schadegg-mech.com)>

**Date:** January 25, 2012 11:17:33 AM CST

**To:** "[jbr62@earthlink.net](mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net)" <[jbr62@earthlink.net](mailto:jbr62@earthlink.net)>

**Subject: ROUNDABOUT AND BIKE LANES**

I agree wholeheartedly that although the current intersection is a bit unusual, it does force drivers to proceed with additional caution and respect, which is inherently a good thing for an intersection near a school/playground. Also, keep in mind that if a roundabout is installed, there would not be a crossing guard in the evenings, on weekends, and over the summer months, when neighborhood kids use the playground, sledding hill, etc. One other thing...

Regarding the proposed bike lanes, it seems a bit odd to me that they would install bike lanes from the bridge over 62 to Vernon. Neither the roadway south of the bridge, the bridge itself, or Vernon have bike lanes. Vernon does have a striped shoulder which varies in width as you travel east towards Jerry's. But there is no official markings indicating this roadway to be a bike lane. Therefore, my point is they want to build a bike lane which does not connect to any other bike lanes for a very few bike commuters for 6 months of the year. As I said in the second meeting, it seems like a lot of heartache to satisfy these very limiting conditions. Why not simply "stripe" the side of the road to create an official shoulder which could be used by the serious bikers.

**Greg Rustad**

Project Manager, P: 651-292-9933

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012 8:20 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: tracy ave



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

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**From:** David Seidel [<mailto:david@dgs-group.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2012 9:36 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** tracy ave

Do not put in a bike line. That's nuts. You have: a hundred school buses a week between high school and grade school. Thousands of student cars and parent cars. You don't live near by you have no idea how much traffic is on Tracy with just school traffic in the morning. Now you have the senior place with employees and garbage trucks and visitors. You8 have the park with games all summer long and no parking and kids running into the street balls flying. And now you want flocks of peddle bikers going by this is not a few neighbors on bikes any more they go by 20-30 at a time.

What are you guys nuts. Wake up, streets are for cars and in this case school buses and the neighborhood. You changed the zoning to accommodate the senior place at the church. Another city scam with the neighborhood. Knock off the scams boys.

Get real guys this is not lake Calhoun this is Tracy Ave with thousands of students 4 blocks apart with cars and buses

Oh add the normal on and off traffic on the bridge at 62.

Wake you guys peddle bikes are out.

Don't you think tax payers get fed up with these make up projects just to support all the over paid government employees and your pensions and unions.

You're all over paid

Stop the extra expenses due what is basic and that's it. Repave and fix Benton/Tracy intersection and that's it.

**David G. Seidel**

DGS Group, LLC.

Tel: 952-451-5902

Fax: 952 922-8499

Email: [david@dgs-group.com](mailto:david@dgs-group.com)

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012 8:14 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Edinborough Swimming Pool



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

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**From:** deborah mcknight [<mailto:dmcknight7@hotmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2012 4:57 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** Edinborough Swimming Pool

Dear Council Members,

I just learned the Park and Rec Department is considering closing the Edinborough pool. This would be a huge loss for seniors who take water aerobics classes there. I hope you won't let it happen.

I started taking water aerobics classes at Edinborough before I retired. Now as an official senior, I can say that seniors often come to these classes because of a medical referral or, in my case, a bad knee that makes aerobics on a floor impossible. We need the lap pool depth Edinborough provides because many of us simply can't do a class in deep water. We need a city pool because, even if we could do deep water, we can't use the school pools when school is in session. Finally, the warm water temperature at Edinborough is helpful to aging joints.

I assume this proposal arises for financial reasons. I would be willing to pay higher class fees. Other people probably have ideas to increase revenues to help with pool expenses.

One third of Edina residents are seniors. Please think about what a serious loss closing the pool would be to our age group.

Sincerely,

Deb McKnight

5617 Oaklawn Ave

Edina 55424

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2012 1:22 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: closing Edinborough pool

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com) ...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business -----Original Message-----

**From:** Sally Kamps [<mailto:sallyka@msn.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2012 11:34 AM

**To:** Lynette Biunno

**Subject:** closing Edinborough pool

Dear Edina City Council--I would like to be advised of any meetings that the public can attend concerning the possibility of closing the Edinborough pool. I attend an Aerobics class there taught by Kay Zucarro which is a fabulous way for people of all ages to stay fit. I have been an Edina resident for 44 years and find the Edinborough facility a real asset to our community. Please advise of any informational meetings. Sally Kamps [sallyka@msn.com](mailto:sallyka@msn.com) Thank you.

Susan Howl

---

**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2012 8:23 AM  
**To:** Wayne Houle  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: survey

Good morning,

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and Council members and Wayne Houle.



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

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**From:** David Seidel [<mailto:david@dgs-group.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2012 9:18 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** survey

Do NOT put a bike lane on Tracy Ave when the repairs start.

**David G. Seidel**  
DGS Group, LLC.  
Tel: 952-451-5902  
Fax: 952 922-8499  
Email: [david@dgs-group.com](mailto:david@dgs-group.com)

**From:** Michael & Mirta Calvo [mailto:mcalvo12@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2012 5:06 PM

**To:** Lynette Biunno

**Cc:** jonibennett12@comcast.net; Mary Brindle; joshsprague@edinarealty.com; swensonann1@gmail.com

**Subject:** market analysis report on Edinborough Park

To: Mayor Hovland, Council Member Bennett, Council Member Brindle, Council Member Sprague, Council Member Swenson

From: Mirta I Calvo, Resident at Village Homes of Centennial Lakes

Re: market analysis, program assessment, and operational feasibility of Edinborough Park

Having read the January 3, 2012, minutes of the joint work session of the Edina City Council and the Edina Park Board I am concerned about several of the statements and proposals found therein. In particular, I find the following particularly disturbing, untrue or lacking information:

1. "a project to infill the pool and create a soft play area and party rooms..." would devalue our residences and cost the Edinborough Park income from the Village Homes at Edinborough, Village Homes of Centennial Lakes, Coventry, hotel and other entities. I completely disagree with the statement that "the pool and fitness areas were poorly designed and underutilized, so it was not a matter of losing space that people were making use of today." I personally use the indoor pool 2-3 times a week for water aerobic classes, as do many of my neighbors and other members of the community. Many of the lanes not used by the group are in used by swimmers each and every time.
2. "It was noted that Edina Park Plaza tenants, hotel and business owners were not surveyed." Neither were any of the residents in the properties that would be among the most affected by these changes. Obviously, my response would have been, IS, completely against these proposals. Edinborough Park is part of our lifestyle at the Village Homes, part of what attracted us there to begin with. Although "600 respondents were surveyed a year ago for a four-month period", none of the most affected individuals were surveyed or consulted.
3. Repeatedly as I reviewed the minutes, I found unanswered questions, unaddressed issues and incomplete information. It is no wonder that a subsequent working session is needed and hopefully, a lot of research and surveying of the most affected members of the community take place during this time.

One of the best things about Edinborough Park, adding to the uniqueness of the place, is that it provides for a multigenerational experience. The over 55 water aerobic crowd is generally enthralled by the children playing in the play area. Just as enchanting is to watch as the little ones stand at the large glass windows fascinated by the activity in the pool. I personally enjoy bringing my grandsons, Edina public school students, to Edinborough Park. Please keep this wonderful exchanges. Keep this year-round form of exercise for so many of us in Edina, even as you launch the "do.town" initiative. Keep this valuable part of our lifestyle at Edinborough Park.

Susan Howl

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From: Lynette Biunno  
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 8:15 AM  
Cc: Susan Howl  
Subject: FW: THE CLOSING OF THE EDINBOROUGH PARK SWIMMING POOL

Lynette Biunno, Receptionist  
952-927-8861 | Fax 952-826-0389  
[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com) ...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business -----Original Message-----  
From: Nancy Gilligan [<mailto:nancylee41@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Monday, January 23, 2012 5:01 PM  
To: Lynette Biunno  
Subject: THE CLOSING OF THE EDINBOROUGH PARK SWIMMING POOL

TO ALL CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

I AM A RESIDENT OF RICHFIELD, BUT FOR THE PAST SIXTEEN YEARS I HAVE DONE SWIMMING AEROBICS AT EDINBOROUGH PARK SWIMMING POOL. I AM IN A SWIMMING AEROBIC CLASS FOR SENIORS

.....I AM A DIABETIC AND HAVE PROBLEMS WITH MY LEGS.....SO SWIMMING

IS MY ANSWER FOR EXERCISE.....PLEASE.....PLEASE.....PLEASE .....RECONSIDER.  
..... THIS POOL IS PERFECT

FOR EXERCISE BEING ONLY FOUR FEET DEEP IN THE WHOLE POOL.....I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND ONE SO PERFECT .....I UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS A MONEY PROBLEM.....MAY I SUGEST MORE ADVERTISING IN THE SURROUNDING

CITY.....IT IS SUCH A NICE POOL FOR CHILDREN, ADULTS, SENIORS, AND MOST OF ALL , FAMILYS.....PLEASE HEAR MY PLEA.....IT WOULD BE MISSED BY MANY.....

NANCY GILLIGAN

[nancylee41@gmail.com](mailto:nancylee41@gmail.com)

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2012 8:10 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Edinborough Park Pool



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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

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We're a do.town ... working to make the healthy choice the easy choice!

**From:** Liz O'Daniel [<mailto:lizodaniel@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2012 4:25 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** Edinborough Park Pool

Dear Edina Mayor and Council Members,

It has come to my attention that you are considering closing the pool at Edinborough Park.

As a Senior that comes weekly to Water Aerobics classes there, I am hoping you will re-consider.

The size and location is very important there. The teacher is outstanding!

I'm hoping you are able to make it work out to continue as is.

Thank you for your consideration,

Liz O'Daniel

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2012 8:50 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Richmond Hills/City Council Meeting 1/17/12



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** [debramead@aol.com](mailto:debramead@aol.com) [<mailto:debramead@aol.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2012 7:14 AM

**To:** Lynette Biunno

**Subject:** Richmond Hills/City Council Meeting 1/17/12

Dear Mayor Hovland and City Council Members,

We were unable to attend the City Council meeting on January 17, 2012, regarding the Richmond Hills project but did watch it on channel 16 last night. We just would like to add to what some of our neighbors brought up to you and the Council. No one came right out and said it, but some alluded to it, but we are currently in the biggest recession since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Our family fortunately still has employment, but our wages have been cut by nearly 40 percent. We have watched our retirement accounts drop by nearly one-half of its previous value. We are struggling financially to keep our home and meet our monthly financial obligations. When we received a letter from our city for a potential special assessment of nearly \$17,000.00 you can imagine our shock and dismay. While we realize some of our neighbors have been unaffected by this Recession, we certainly have and we think there are others like us as well. I don't think you can look at the census figures to determine exactly what incomes are in the Richmond Hills area. As stated above, our incomes have dropped significantly in the past 2-3 years. We don't know when or if they ever will be restored to what they were before the Recession.

An additional \$140.00 per month is, for us, a lot of money that we don't currently have to spare. Hopefully, that will not be the case in 2 years when we will actually be assessed, but right now we can't count on anything but what we are currently earning. We just want to bring to your attention the fact that there are families who have been severely affected by the Recession, even in Edina. We feel the City has been very insensitive to this situation by forging ahead with the 20/20 Vision plan while not taking into account that financial situations of families have changed in the past 2-3 years due to the Recession. We urgently request that you look into the 15 year repayment instead of 10 years to make this more affordable to families like ours.

We love living in Edina and want to continue to live here. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Norman and Debra Mead  
5032 Kent Avenue

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 11, 2012 2:24 PM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Please support the Clean Water Act  
**Attachments:** Clean Water Act Letter to President Obama.doc



**Lynette Biunno, Receptionist**

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

[lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:lbiunno@ci.edina.mn.us) | [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com)

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**From:** renee noren [<mailto:renee.noren@hotmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 11, 2012 2:17 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Cc:** Michelle Hesterberg  
**Subject:** Please support the Clean Water Act

Dear Mayor Hovland,

My name is Renee Noren, and I'm a student at Metropolitan State University. I'm currently an intern with Environment Minnesota, and I'm excited to be working to protect Minnesota's 10,000 lakes.

As you already know, our lakes are irreplaceable treasures - creating lasting memories for our families, adding enjoyment to our lives, and providing us with drinking water.

Unfortunately, our lakes are threatened: 40 percent of tested lakes in Minnesota are unsafe for fishing and swimming. Our lakes can only be as clean as the streams and wetlands that feed and filter them. But recent Supreme Court decisions gutted 30 years of protections provided by the Clean Water Act, and more than half of Minnesota's streams may no longer be protected from polluters who would dump toxic chemicals into streams and pave over wetlands.

Environment Minnesota is calling on President Obama and the Environmental Protection Agency to restore Clean Water Act protections to all of Minnesota's waterways.

That's why I'm asking you to join local leaders from across Minnesota who are standing up for Minnesota's lakes. As an influential leader in our state, your support would go a long way. You can support this effort by signing a letter to President Obama urging him to restore protections to our cherished lakes. (Please see the attached letter).

Thank you for helping to protect Minnesota's lakes. Please let me know if you have any questions, would like additional information, or if there's any other assistance we can provide. You can reach our Field Associate, Michelle Hesterberg, at [612-331-3315](tel:612-331-3315) and [mhesterberg@environmentminnesota.org](mailto:mhesterberg@environmentminnesota.org).

Sincerely,

Renee Noren  
Intern, Environment Minnesota

Susan Howl

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**From:** Lynette Biunno  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 18, 2012 8:11 AM  
**Cc:** Susan Howl  
**Subject:** FW: Moratorium on development of 50 foot lots

**From:** [DUHRHAMMER1@comcast.net](mailto:DUHRHAMMER1@comcast.net) [<mailto:DUHRHAMMER1@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 17, 2012 5:36 PM  
**To:** Lynette Biunno  
**Subject:** Moratorium on development of 50 foot lots

Dear Council Members:

I am writing in support of placing a moratorium on the development of sub-code sized lots. Namely 50 foot lots which are being developed all over our neighborhood.

My Name is Dan Uhrhammer, I own and more importantly, reside at 6101 Oaklawn Ave, Edina. My property is located adjacent to 6109 Oaklawn Ave. which was approved by the Planning committee for subdivision last Wednesday night.

I'm not going to get long winded on the effects this subdivision will have on me. Since although I and my neighbors pleaded our case to the Planning committee, it was passed because, as stated by a member of the committee, the area is predominately 50 foot lots, so 50 is OK. Even though the City saw differently in the early 1950s, and some current members of the committee saw no reason for a variance as no hardship existed.

My reason for concern, outside of the cities abrupt change as to minimum required lot size. Is what the city allows to be built on this sites. The structures are far to over-sized and take up most of the city allowed building pads. This includes only a 5 foot side yard set back. This set back does not include the overhang which in many cases sticks back over the 5 foot set back by as much as 1 1/2 feet. This with the fact that the Facia height can be as tall as I believe 23 feet, can greatly limit the amount of sun light an existing home receives.

More importantly is the potential water drainage issues. These new homes limit the amount of available land scape area for absorption of water run off. The square area of roof on these homes collect enormous amounts of water. This, along with the before mentioned height, and limited side yard set back, drop a tremendous amount of uncontrolled water between the new and existing home with less then 8 feet (including the 1 1/2 foot return of the soffit) of side yard between the properties. Most of us with older homes in this area deal with water run off the same way, by grading our yards away from our homes, which works very well. This increase in water volume, and the fact the new home will set a new yard grade in their favor, pose huge potential for water problems in the existing older homes basements. I seriously doubt any developer, new property owner, or the city will consider this their problem or pay for repairs and damages. If gutters are required to collect this water, it still must be dumped somewhere. Given the limited size of the new homes yard, even if it is dumped on their property it won't be absorbed fast enough by the available lawn, and the water run off will be the neighbors to deal with again because the new properties grade will be set in its favor again.

Also, no one has thought of how these properties will be maintained by the new owner. There so close to the property side yard set back, and so tall there is no way for the owner to maintain his homes exterior, or clean his gutters if installed. His only access " if using a ladder" is to place it in the neighbors yard. This may sound all right, until he falls. A twisted ankle, no big deal. A broken neck or back, given our societies current trend, is a law suit, a **giant** problem. So do we risk it so the neighbor can get the job done. Or, tell him to leave our lawns and post them. It doesn't make for good neighbors or neighborhoods. Also where do their children play? Apparently on the neighbors yard to.

These are only a few of the issues those of us who live here think about, and can get no answers to.

I think it is time to stop this process of 50 foot yard development until the city has some answers, and some standards that work on these lots. It's not as clear cut as the city and planning committee think.

One of the planning committee members asked the other members why, when these subdivision come up there is so much Resistances to them by the neighbors. IT'S BECAUSE OF WHAT THE CITY IS MAKING US LIVE WITH.

I'm a believer that a property owner should be able to do with his property as he likes, but only to the point where it doesn't effect those around him to any great degree. And the Developers, just doing what they do to the limit the city allows.

This issue is yours to deal with. Please do it now, it's time

Sincerely,  
Dan Uhrhammer  
6101 Oaklawn Ave.  
Edina, MN

Dear President Obama,

As elected leaders across Minnesota, we write you to urge you to propose a rulemaking to restore critical Clean Water Act protections to Minnesota's waterways and waters nationwide.

Public leaders 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 water, fishing, swimming, agriculture, recreation, and the wellbeing of their communities. They depend on the tributaries and wetlands that feed into waterways like the Mississippi and Saint Croix Rivers. Our waterways are part of what make Minnesota beautiful, thriving, and prosperous. Stewardship and strong protections for our water resources are integral parts of our citizens' health and economic vitality.

But our waters' health is in crisis. Beginning in 1972, the Clean Water Act protected all of the nation's waters, from small, unnamed streams to the cherished Great Lakes. But now, because of two bitterly-divided Supreme Court decisions (SWANCC in 2001 and Rapanos in 2006), legal uncertainty threatens countless critical resources with unregulated pollution, including headwater streams, lakes, tributaries, and wetlands that feed into and filter the river.

The threat is enormous. Here in Minnesota, according to EPA data, the drinking water of 978,928 Minnesotans may no longer be protected. Similarly, more than half of Minnesota's streams may no longer be protected from polluters who would dump toxic chemicals into streams and pave over wetlands.

To protect Minnesota's cherished 10,000 lakes, we urge you to move forward with a rulemaking to restore critical protections to these waters under the Clean Water Act and reaffirm the broad scope of the Clean Water Act that existed for more than three decades. We believe, by restoring the Clean Water Act, you can put us back on track to becoming a country where all our waters are 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,

NAME

TITLE, CITY/DISTRICT