

From: [Krestina Bednarz](#)
To: [CouncilHearing \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: Support for RES PH 24-76 Saint Paul Bicycle Plan
Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2024 5:56:17 PM

To whom it may concern,

Hello - my name is Tina Bednarz and I am a recent Minnesota transplant originally from Kalamazoo, Michigan. I currently live in Highland Park of Ward 3 as of September 2023. I am reaching out to express my full support of RES PH 24-76 and the long-term benefits it will provide to the City of Saint Paul. Having just listened to public hearing comments from community members on 4/17/2024, I wholeheartedly agree with the benefits this plan will provide to the city. This includes addressing climate change, increasing pedestrian safety, and bringing the community together. Additionally, this plan will provide the citizens of Saint Paul (especially the 54% wanting to bike, such as myself) with an alternative form of transportation, even if just for one task (such as a grocery run, eating out at a restaurant, returning books to a library, or even just visiting a friend down the road).

Since living in Saint Paul, I have worked on becoming car lite and hopefully in the future, car free. This includes walking to my local grocery store and using the bus and light rail to get to downtown Saint Paul to visit the Farmer's Market and the Science Museum. After travelling this past February to Zadar, Croatia, where walking and biking are the primary modes of transportation for necessary amenities (such as groceries and healthcare), I want to start biking to the places I visit on occasion, such as the Saint Paul Public Library in Highland Park, versus taking a car. However, I am in that 54% that are concerned about safety. While walking along the sidewalk of Cleveland Ave, I have seen a car driving half and half on both the car lane and the painted bike lane. Additionally, when I was driving to work on Cleveland Ave, I had a car use the bike and parking painted lanes to pass me for going the speed limit. Thankfully, there were not biking pedestrians utilizing these lanes at the times, but it does speak to the issue of needing dedicated and protected bike lane infrastructure.

Collectively, we still have a car-dependent mindset and need to take actionable measures to change our roads to benefit everyone. I have seen the "20 Is Plenty" signs on multiple yards for the past 8 months of living here. How we can achieve that is by changing how the roads look and RES PH 24-76 helps with that. By having the dedicated bike lanes, it will improve the safety of biking pedestrians, walking pedestrians, and even drivers who with the new road designs will hopefully psychologically drive slower speed. Additionally, the slower driving and increased pedestrian biking and walking will provide calmer streets and quieter neighborhoods. I do not know anyone who would not benefit from this plan. Add to that improved maintenance, this is a winning solution! I have seen so much of Saint Paul in the past 8 months of living here, and I am excited to continue exploring this city with a bike versus inside a car.

Thank you for your time in reading my comments and I look forward to hearing the results of this plan!

Regards,
Tina