



# SIERRA CLUB

## NORTH STAR CHAPTER

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President Noecker and Councilmembers,

The Sierra Club North Star Chapter consists of over 50,000 members and supporters across Minnesota, thousands of whom live and work in Saint Paul. Our organization supports clean transportation and safer streets for all - especially vulnerable road users such as people walking, bicycling, rolling, and accessing transit.

Pelham Boulevard is part of the Saint Paul Grand Round. It is a local road, much of which is in a residential neighborhood and along a greenspace. I drive or bike this road multiple times a week on my way to and from work.

As you have heard from residents, speeding on this road and local streets across the city is rampant, dangerous, and unchecked. A major part of the problem is the street is overbuilt. And you are going to do it again, because your hands are tied with bureaucratic tape.

Pelham is an MSA route. That's Municipal State Aid - meaning it's bound by state design standards that are intended for roads like Interstate Highways, like I-94, for vehicles traveling at 55 - 65 (or faster) miles per hour.

Vehicle lanes will be 12 feet wide on the new Pelham Boulevard. That's the same width as the lanes for semi-trailer trucks going 65 mph on I-94!

Why? Because of mandated MSA standards. Pelham is a perfect example of why you need to advocate for Local Control. Please look up: [SF 2162: State-Aid Engineering and Design Standards Variances Modification](#)

Pelham is a local road that should have 10 foot lanes to calm traffic and promote safety, not 12 like I-94 that promote speed.

**Please add SF 2162 to your list of legislative priorities and untie your hands for local control of Saint Paul's streets.**

Thanks,

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