



February 7, 2020

Mr. Chai Lee
Member—District 13
Metropolitan Council
390 Robert Street North
St. Paul, MN 55101-1805

Dear Council Member Lee:

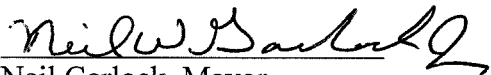
On behalf of the Mendota Heights City Council, I am writing to ask you to assist in encouraging the City of St. Paul to keep the traffic carrying capacities of Ayd Mill Road unchanged as St. Paul contemplates that roadway's future.

We understand that a plan was considered by the City as far back as 2009 to modify the existing four lane divided highway into a pair of single one way lanes in the current southbound location, and that the northbound lanes would be reconfigured to become a bikeway. That design question was tabled at that time, and deferred to the future when other improvements would be slated for Ayd Mill Road. That time appears to be now.

While we recognize the desire of St. Paul to enhance facilities for non-motorized traffic, we have significant concerns that reducing by one-half the number of traffic lanes for motorists will increase vehicle congestion, and push that traffic onto neighboring streets in both St. Paul, and surrounding communities.

We recognize that the current deteriorated condition of Ayd Mill Road must be addressed. However, the roadway is of regional significance for traffic into and out of St. Paul. For that reason, I urge you to do what you can to help to retain the current four lanes of capacity so that traffic is not diverted to other roadways which are not set up to handle the additional vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.


Neil Garlock, Mayor
City of Mendota Heights