

**Re: Griggs-Scheffer Paving Project Phase 2** (Project 19233, Assessment 215200)  
To: Members of the Saint Paul City Council

Request to revise proposed project in order to follow present roadway

We live at 3 Edgcumbe Place and join our neighbors in voicing our objection to the changes planned for our street as part of the Griggs-Scheffer Project Part 2. Our unique tree-lined, dead end street was constructed over 30 years ago in Highland Park. We have been surprised to discover that the proposed Griggs-Scheffer Project would not simply repave our street, but would in fact move and rebuild several segments. This would result in the removal of mature trees, decorative walls and fences, and for one property owner, would move the street a significant distance to within 10 feet of their house.

**The residents of our street unanimously object to the current plan for Edgcumbe Place, and offer a logical, more efficient solution that would keep the road in its current location and be a less expensive undertaking for the City. Repositioning our street would create new problems rather than fixing any existing ones.**

Our objections are as follows:

1. The repositioning of the street as part of this project is based on an erroneous easement. The legal description for our street does not follow the road as built over 30 years ago, and now the City is proposing to rebuild the street to follow the faulty legal description. However, the City accepted, maintained and honored the street boundaries for the past 30 years. Moving the street does not fix a problem where none exists.
2. Repositioning the street actually creates several new problems: multiple mature trees will have to be sacrificed, several fences will have to be moved, and several hundred square feet of land on one property will be taken resulting in the street being within 10 feet of their house.
3. The repositioning of the street will also result in additional costs to homeowners beyond any usual street paving costs. On our street all electric utilities, telephone and cable are buried; several places where the street will be repositioned will compromise these utilities and therefore they will have to be moved. Multiple irrigation systems will likewise be affected.
4. The effort to reposition the street and the cost to the City (which will be passed on to property owners) could be significantly decreased by following the existing roadway.

Our solution to the above objections is simple:

1. By constructing the replacement road on the location of the existing roadway, all of the problems noted above will be avoided.
2. All the Edgcumbe Place neighbors have agreed to cede by quit claim or other legal process any portion of their property needed by the City to enable the street to remain in the present location. It's easier to fix the erroneous easement than to reposition the road.
3. Following the current roadway would be less expensive for individual homeowners, but would also save the City significant time and cost by not having to sacrifice mature trees, remove fences and level and grade land that is now private property.

Our request

We request that the Council, before authorizing any work on Edgcumbe Place as part of Part 2 of the Griggs-Scheffer Project, order City staff to revise project plans to allow the replacement road for Edgcumbe Place to be constructed on the location of the current road.

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