

October 1,

**I submit this letter each year and no one has even had the courtesy of a reply or arrange for an inspection of the situation.**

**Reply requested. This has been a challenging year for all of us. As a common courtesy please send or issue a reply and an adjusted invoice.**

Re: Please present the request to adjust the amount I have to remit for Street access  
For 1185 Randolph Ave, St Paul, 55105  
Northeast corner of Randolph Ave and Edgumbe Blvd

I am extremely disappointed about the lack of responsibility by the City of Saint Paul. I would like to have a permanent reduction / elimination to the amount that is required for street access due to the following issues. It is especially a hardship this year mainly because of the effect of the snow, rain and snowplows.

I take pride in the way my home looks to the many neighbors and walkers who frequent the sidewalks. I wish the city took just a little more care and concern for the residents and people. The lack of respect is a reason I consider leaving St Paul. **I'll do my part, you do your part.**

**I strongly object to his charge and would like to know how I can formally request a review and adjustment.** What alternatives are there for a retired homeowner of a 100 year old home which is in constant need of repair, maintenance and upkeep. Work with me, not against me. I invest in my home just to keep it livable.

I am happy to raise this case in person, however I would like to have it resolved before this year's invoice is raised.

**Issues:**

For the approx 120 feet on the west Edgumbe Blvd side, and the 40 feet on the north east Randolph Ave side I can only use approx 30 feet of driveway access. The rest is either no parking or other signage. In the fall I receive an invoice for approx \$160 related to street access. However, the cost to me in time spent to sweep, shovel, clear and the added cost for salt and equipment and workman is equal to or greater than.

In addition the debris and garbage left by pedestrians there is the seasonal effect of the following.

- In spring there is the accumulated debris that is left behind when snow melts and trees in bloom.
- In summer, I have maintenance for lawns: weeding, clearing dead earth, adding good dirt, fertilizing, mowing and bringing debris to yard waste yards. Note, I no longer drive, so I have to arrange for transport.
- In fall, there is leaves and tree and bark debris from the older, sick trees that the city has deemed not eligible to be removed (just yet). When they remove the trees, I do not want replacements.
- In winter, there is snow, snow plow boulders and lots of ice.

### Street Access / Sidewalks

Bus Stop – clearing (all seasons) and debris left by riders. The 74 and 83 bus routes stop at the corner.

At least 4 street openings (2 for the bus stop if the full 40 feet cannot be cleared and 1 onto Randolph and 1 onto Edgumbe) from front that need to be cleared and kept reasonably ice free, debris from bus patrons and others, seasonal debris from trees.

I have no parking / access from front yard at all as it is restricted due to the bus stop.

Along the Edgumbe side I have street access to the garage which accounts for approximately 30 feet of the 150 feet I am charged. The remaining footage is either not allowed due to parking too close to the corner, is restricted during street clearing / cleaning, or open to the public.

### Street responsibilities

Edgumbe Blvd is a city responsibility

Randolph Ave is a county responsibility

Meaning that the two do not coordinate work efforts and often work against each other.

### **I'm still very upset about the road reconstruction**

Although the reconstruction was done about 2 years ago, I am still struggling to repair the lawns, retaining walls and sidewalk areas. This has already cost hundreds and will need at least another thousand to repair. The issues were reviewed by road crews and I was told the issues were documented, but I have had no correspondence of sympathy, reduction to street access assessments or other assistance. The issues occurred mainly because the sidewalk area was demolished and had to be dug down below the level that the retaining wall, exposing the gravel base that the retaining wall lays on.

### Trees

The 3 trees on the Edgumbe side need to be pruned / eliminated – and do not replace. A few years ago, I was told that they are dying and would be another 3-5 years before action can be taken. Meanwhile, there is a lot of bark debris- causing a perennial fungus issue on lawn and plant area - and the lawn has sunk because the roots are disintegrating. I DO NOT WANT THE TREES REPLACED. There are plenty of other neighborhood and boulevard trees that these 3 won't be missed.

### Boulevard

The Boulevard occurs along Edgumbe.

In my experience, the City planners and workers do not follow standard Project management schedule or assignment of resources. Because I live on a boulevard that is easy and fun to drive, trucks come by many times for each "event"; events are not scheduled and may be piggy backed over and over again over several days or weeks; performing the same routine. The city, county and state charges have a lot to answer for.

Snowplows - Why not structure the plows (which come along in tandem) the plows to organize so snow (and/or debris) to accumulate on the boulevard and not the residential properties.

Snow plows come too often; clearing the boulevard even when it is clear; while side streets and alleys do not have the same attention. The same set of frequency, (i.e., too often) also occurs for treating the roads prior to snow, washing the streets in spring and fall.

Maintenance (for grass, leaves and tree debris) on the boulevard is spotty at best, too often at worst. Lawn care occurs at least twice a week to mow the "weeds" – there is little to no real grass. Tree bark and debris is not removed on a timely basis.

Better project planning and scheduling is needed. This can also be said for road repairs, construction, tree maintenance, garbage and recycle pickup, etc. The effect is additional noise and disturbance occurs for residents.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rose Hightower".

Thank you,

Rose Hightower

No phone line

Use email [roseh@foxwoodwc.com](mailto:roseh@foxwoodwc.com)