

From: [Christopher Hilton](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul Contact-Council](#)
Cc: [Maren Hilton](#); [#CI-StPaul Ward3](#)
Subject: Comments for 4/23 public hearing on Griggs/Scheffer paving assessment
Date: Sunday, April 20, 2025 5:45:12 PM

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Dear Council Members,

We are writing to ask that you vote against approving the assessment of \$22,744.50 on our property, 1516 Edgcumbe Road, Saint Paul MN as part of the Griggs/Scheffer Area Paving and Lighting, Phase 2 project.

We understand that the city of Saint Paul can not assess property owners for street maintenance unless it provides a 'special benefit' which increases the value of the assessed property.

While the addition of the sidewalk which runs through our front yard may have improved the quality of life for those who use it, it has the following affects for us:

- 1) Pedestrian trash and dog waste on our front lawn
- 2) Loss of privacy with what has now become a popular walking route
- 3) Loss of numerous mature healthy trees
- 4) Additional expense and labor to maintain the sidewalk in winter.

We do not question that the sidewalk and paving project in front of our house improves the quality of life of the city as a whole, **but it did not provide us any special benefit and it did not increase our property value.** It is against both the letter and the spirit of the law to put this large financial burden on us when no honest appraisal would say this added value to our property.

A callous decision to approve this appraisal would not be in keeping with the city's goal to be the "most livable city in America." It is not livable to have this unreasonable large fee added on to our property taxes. We strongly request that you vote against approving this assessment.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration,

Sincerely,

Chris and Maren Hilton
1516 Edgcumbe Rd
Saint Paul, MN