

From: Robert Stryker

Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2015 10:15 AM

To: reuben.collins@ci.st.paul.mn.us; lucas.lortie@co.ramsey.mn.us; #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Cleveland Avenue Bike Lane

I am a bike commuter and Nice Ride key holder who lives on Cretin Avenue near Juno.

I am writing in opposition to the proposed bike lane on Cleveland Avenue because of the negative impacts it will have on the small businesses (including Sportsman Barbers and Luci restaurants) and the apartment residents who live in this area.

Prior Avenue is a much quieter street and makes a better pathway through the area than Cleveland and does not need any special bike accommodations.

In addition, the River Road bikeway is approximately 2000 feet (less in many places) from Cleveland Avenue and provides a traffic-free bike experience.

The city of Saint Paul has attempted to alter Cleveland Avenue in the past with center curbs at major intersections. The road simply wasn't wide enough to support whatever was the goal of that effort and the center curbs were quickly removed. I believe that issue remains true for the addition of bike lanes to this already congested (and about to get more congested with the advent of the Ford Plant development) street.

Bob Stryker

From: Melanie Richardson
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2015 2:16 PM
To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Save Cleveland Ave parking

Dear Chris Tolbert,Ave.

I am NOT in support of putting a bike lane in place of parking along Cleveland that will threaten the livelihood of small business owners. These are businesses that have taken blood, sweat and tears to start and keep going. St. Paul is known for more of the small businesses and less big box stores. By putting the bike lane in you will make it difficult for anyone to park to keep these businesses making money to run their business. If those businesses fail to thrive then it is on your hands not the business owners. I think you're smart enough to come up with another solution that will make biking just as accessible. I tell my kids all the time, you get to decide to make a good decision or a bad decision. It's your choice. Choose wisely because your name and your face is on the line.

Concerned citizen
Melanie R

From: Janelle Peine
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 11:26 AM
To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Cleveland ave bike lane

Hi Chris,

I want to express my disapproval of the bike lane plan. And I am a biker!

1. It seems to me that the number of people negatively affected will be way greater than the number of people positively affected.
2. It will make Cleveland avenue less safe. People will park further away. Cleveland ave itself will be more congested.

Thanks so much!
Janelle Peine

Dear Council Members,

Our family has lived on Lincoln Avenue, just a couple houses west of Cleveland for 40 years. We are very concerned with the proposed parking mitigation strategy #2 for area 22 residential parking, outlined in the letter from the City of St. Paul dated June 1, 2015.

This mitigation would expand Area 22 permit parking to include ten houses on Cleveland, where on-street parking would be eliminated. This would unduly impact the availability of parking for the residents on Lincoln and Goodrich, between Cleveland and Finn.

Residents of Cleveland already use off-street parking with garages and parking pads. Several of the houses on these two blocks are student rentals and the concern is that even if those houses have adequate off-street parking, they will purchase the maximum allowed number of parking permits, to share or sell to friends or other students. This will result in the residents once again being unable to park anywhere close to their homes, which was the reason permit parking, was adopted many years ago.

Another problem is when the streets are posted for "No Parking" for street repairs, street sweeping, tree trimming, snow emergencies, etc. Owners of the cars that live on Cleveland, could easily miss seeing the signs and none of the residents will know who the cars belong to in order to alert them. We have already witnessed this happening for years with students that were illegally parked on the street where we live.

Additionally, with the loss of on-street parking on Cleveland, Lincoln will be used for parking for businesses such as Davanni's during evening and weekend hours. We already are subject to late night noise issues, which will only be exasperated by the elimination of parking on Cleveland Avenue and adding more permits.

We are avid bicyclists who ride over two-thousand miles every summer. We have thought from the beginning that Cleveland Avenue is a bad fit for a bike lane. A street like Summit Avenue works well as there are wide driving lanes, much of the street is divided by a median, there are no businesses or apartment complexes along the street, no city buses, etc. Narrowing the driving lanes along Cleveland and eliminating parking is a bad idea. If the proposal is adopted, we ask that you **not** approve parking mitigation strategy #2.

Respectfully,

Jim and Loretta Nuessle
xxxx Lincoln Avenue

From: Margaret Mary Murnane
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 12:45 PM
To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Cleveland avenue bike lane

Mr. Tolbert,

Vote NO on the proposal to change Cleveland Avenue and create bike lanes. To take away the parking from Randolph to Grand for the businesses that are there is not right. Most ,if not all of these businesses, have no parking lots or back entrances for their customers.

While I'm on this topic, I firmly believe that all bicyclists using the public streets should be required to pay a yearly fee for that privilege- seems to me that if it's legal to ride the bike in the same lane as a car, they should PAY UP!

Thank you-

Margaret Mary Murnane

From: Michael Moore
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2015 3:53 PM
To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Parking vs bike lanes in Ward 3

Hello,

I'm writing to express concern about the proposed loss of parking on Cleveland Avenue, as a result of a plan to install a bicycle lane.

As both a motorist and bicyclist, I see the need for both bicycle lanes and parking lanes. As a homeowner in Ward 3, I feel the Twin Cities can pride themselves on being very bike-friendly; recent mention by Copenhagenize Design Co. as the most bike-friendly city in the US is quite an accomplishment, and I'm proud we get that recognition. I also see the need for small businesses in our ward, however, and the ability of people in motor vehicles to be able to shop at these local businesses and find appropriate parking.

I'm hoping some balance can be struck, much like what transpired when a median was installed on Snelling Avenue between Grand and St Clair Avenues. I participated in hearings on the Snelling Avenue median, and supported the median - with provisions to allow for parking spaces near Carmelo's / St Paul Corner Drug, and improved access to Lincoln Commons. It's possible to find a third way that helps motorists find parking as well as helping pedestrians and bicyclists get around safely.

Please keep in mind these small business located along Cleveland Avenue. They contribute to the economy, and to the 'small-town' feel of Ward 3.

Thanks.

Michael Moore
xxxx Sargent

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Michalik

Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2015 9:06 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Subject: Cleveland Ave. Bicycle Project

Dear Councilman Tolbert,

I am an avid cyclist and have been for over forty years. I'm one of the people you see riding around with a smile on my face in mid-winter. I love the idea of dedicated bike lanes in our city and I very much appreciate the work you and our city government is doing to make St. Paul even more bicycle friendly. At the same time, I have some concerns about the Cleveland Ave. project. Specifically, I think we have to find a way to engineer the project such that the businesses a Randolph and Cleveland can survive. And I think this is possible. It might even make sense to begin the route at Cleveland and Ford, and then at Randolph turn left to Finn. Finn is a natural bike route and has long been my route of choice when heading to St. Thomas. Prior is another route I frequently use, but I have always avoided Cleveland. Again, if the city is simply not willing to consider alternatives, I favor engineering Cleveland to preserve all the businesses on that street.

Sincerely,

Mike Michalik

From: Mary Kaye Medinger

Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2015 11:08 AM

To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)

Subject: FW: bike lane on Cleveland NOT a good idea!

Dear Councilmember Tolbert – I am writing with regard to the proposal regarding Cleveland Avenue and the plan to narrow the traffic lanes, remove parking lanes and add bike lanes.

I have lived in this area of St. Paul nearly my whole life and have worked near Cleveland for over 30 years. It is a very busy street and does not seem to me to be a safe or sensible choice for a street with bike lanes. In addition, removing parking lanes would adversely affect local businesses such as restaurants and shops, including Astound Video. As one who tries very hard to “shop locally” and support local businesses of all sorts, I ask that you please NOT support the installation of bike lanes on Cleveland.

THanks for your consideration.

Mary Kaye Medinger

-----Original Message-----

From: Kate McGowan

Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2015 11:54 AM

To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)

Subject: bike lane

Dear Chris,

Please consider the welfare of the neighborhood businesses on Cleveland when making the decision about the bike lane which will reduce the number of parking spaces on the street and potentially negatively impact the small businesses that make Mac-Groveland and Highland the delightful neighborhoods that they are.

Ristorante Luci and Luci Encore offer delicious and affordable Italian food and it would be a shame to see them go. My dad comes from the Lowry Hill neighborhood in Mpls. to eat there, and I know there are many others who come from other parts of the Twin Cities to enjoy their fine food and comfortable atmosphere.

I am, of course, in favor of making biking safer and accessible for more people. Maybe there is a way to accomplish this without infringing on the already limited parking of our special places. Don't send us out of the neighborhood to spend our time and money!

Thank you,

Kate McGowan

XXXX Sargent Ave.

June 3rd, 2015

Bill Finney
320-C City Hall
15 Kellogg Blvd., West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Councilmember Finney:

I am one of a growing number of increasingly frustrated citizens who feels my concerns regarding the proposed Cleveland Avenue bike lanes are falling on deaf ears at City Hall.

This plan is being advanced with no consideration whatsoever for those who will be most affected by it and with total disregard for any public comment.

It was my understanding that when the Bike Plan was adopted it was just that, a plan that would serve as a guide for developing bike facilities throughout our city.

However it is now being used as a hammer to bludgeon the businesses and residents along Cleveland Avenue with total disregard for our concerns.

What do I need to do to have you vote no on the proposed Cleveland Avenue bike lanes?

Your prompt response is appreciated, as I am willing to do what it takes to preserve my business and the character of my neighborhood from this plan that is being imposed upon us against our will.

Sincerely,

Stephen E. Maas
Owner

Astound Video Duplication & Transfer
437 Cleveland Ave. S.

From: Lynne Stryker
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2015 11:12 AM
To: Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Cleveland Ave. bike lane

Dear Mr. Collins,
I live 2 blocks from the corner of Cleveland and Randolph, and I am an avid fan of the bike movement, however, I am writing to strongly oppose putting the new bike lane on Cleveland for MANY reasons.

It is critical both to bike safety, as well as the lifeblood of several businesses and apartments to leave this street alone.

We have Prior and the River Road for the cyclists. Cleveland is too narrow and too busy to consider this as a viable safe bike option.

Bicyclists can use the street now as is, and most choose not to based on their own self-preservation instincts.

Sane people do not like to compete with one of the busiest narrowest parts of Cleveland.

St. Kate's swallows up the parking on Randolph, so these businesses will force their patrons to walk in the snow and cold, parking in residential blocks, annoying those folks, but most of all moving the people wanting to do business away from the heart of the business itself. It's a really crazy idea, and I wish it would go away. Do NOT SUPPORT this.

Thanks for listening,
Lynne Stryker

Mary Lynch - Ward 3 - Cleveland Bike Lane

Mary called in 100% opposition to the bike lane on Cleveland saying 1) it will kill businesses; and 2) the neighborhood just doesn't need any more bike lanes.