

**From:** Dani Nicholson [<mailto:serendipitousdani@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, May 11, 2018 9:56 AM

**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4 <[Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** Wheeler sidewalk project

Hello, my name is Dani Nicholson and I live near Wheeler & Lafond. Some part of my family (my husband, two kids (6 & 8), and me) travels the stretch of Wheeler daily, either on foot, bike, or scooter. I encourage you to make this sidewalk a priority for the safety of families like mine but, even more importantly, for the numbers kids who receive before and after school care at the YMCA. These kids traverse a dangerous stretch of road and busy traffic times to catch school buses at Thomas & Wheeler. During the winter they either have to climb through snow banks or walk in the street.

With the success of the new Midway YMCA there is increased traffic and parking to contend with. Please make it easier for individuals to choose to walk to the Y but currently don't because of the unsafe street.

This is a heavily traversed couple of blocks, by both people and vehicles. Let's do our best to make sure everyone can stay safe!

Thank you,  
Dani Nicholson

**From:** Emily Spende [<mailto:emilynaberspende@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Friday, May 11, 2018 9:36 AM

**To:** [transportation@hamlinemidway.org](mailto:transportation@hamlinemidway.org); #CI-StPaul\_Ward4 <[Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** much-needed sidewalk on Wheeler

Hello,

We are a Y-family. My youngest spends her days at the Y childcare center. My oldest has utilized the school-aged program, and we are Y members. We are often walking between the childcare buildings and the main Y facility. It's so busy with cars--between parents picking up their kids from daycare, and all of those who utilize the Y for exercise and other community functions, it's a very busy stretch on Wheeler, between Thomas and University. It's an unsafe situation for pedestrians, in general, and children, in particular.

The city needs to provide safe passage for these pedestrians by building a sidewalk. I full support the proposal to add a sidewalk to the west side of the street.

Please contact me with any follow-up questions.

Thank you,  
Emily Spende

**From:** Renee Spillum [<mailto:renee.spillum@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, April 2, 2018 1:32 PM

**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4 <[Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Simer, Fay (CI-StPaul) <[Fay.Simer@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Fay.Simer@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>; Michael Jon Olson <[michaeljon@hamlinemidway.org](mailto:michaeljon@hamlinemidway.org)>

**Subject:** Fwd: FW: Wheeler Sidewalk Update

CM Henningson,

Thank you for your leadership in moving this project forward. As families that use this route to walk our toddler and preschool children to daycare, we are grateful for the opportunity to have a safe sidewalk. We know many vulnerable pedestrians will use this route to access Dickerman Park and the YMCA, in addition to the many children that use it to get to their busstop for Pre-K, go on walks around the neighborhood, and are delivered to the childcare facility on foot. By initiating the sidewalk now, it is very likely that injuries or worse have been prevented. We know it's an uphill battle sometimes to get these things done. Thank you for prioritizing vulnerable pedestrians in your ward.



-Renee Spillum

**From:** Brian Gasper [[mailto:brian\\_spot\\_roots@yahoo.com](mailto:brian_spot_roots@yahoo.com)]

**Sent:** Saturday, May 12, 2018 8:47 PM

**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward4 <[Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Ward4@ci.stpaul.mn.us)>

**Subject:** Sidewalk on Wheeler Ave.

I am writing to express my support for a sidewalk on Wheeler Ave. between Thomas and University. Currently we send our 4 year old to the YMCA daycare and are members of the YMCA gym. We also occasionally go to Burning Brothers brewery. Driving and walking this street can be scary.

There is a ton of pedestrian traffic walking in the street including large groups of pre school and kinder garden age children. Site lines are bad trying to pull out into traffic. We understand these conditions might not have been the case before, but this is a high use area now lacking the infrastructure for people to safely access the amenities located on Wheeler.

I ask for your support in moving forward with this project for the safety and enhanced quality of life for this neighborhood.

Thanks for your time,

Brian Gasper

May 16, 2018

Councilwoman Henningson,

I'm writing to express my support for the Wheeler Sidewalk Project. Multiple times a week, I walk or drive on Wheeler to get to the YMCA, Dickerman Park, the Green Line, and many other amenities in the Hamline-Midway. Each time, I feel that I'm taking my life in my hands when walking in the street as cars, trucks, and sometimes buses buzz through to get to University, Thomas, Fairview, or Minnehaha. When driving on Wheeler, I fear that I'll fail to see a pedestrian trying to dodge moving vehicles on the street and in parking spaces.

The absence of a sidewalk on Wheeler is especially concerning when watching families with young children getting dropped at day care, the elderly navigating a busy street to get to an exercise class at the YMCA, or my neighbors simply trying to frequent and support neighborhood businesses on this stretch. It is only a matter of time before a vehicle hits a pedestrian. I hope the city will not wait for this to happen until they build a sidewalk.

A sidewalk on Wheeler would provide Hamline-Midway residents and visitors a safe pathway to get to the many amenities at the corner of Wheeler and University. The city has made many investments in or near the Hamline Midway. Dickerman Park is a beautiful green space that was needed and the YMCA's new facility is exemplary. With the advent of the new soccer stadium there will be more growth in this area of the city which means more foot traffic, drivers, and transit riders. It is critical that with new developments the city also invests in safe, walkable pathways for the residents who want to enjoy the new development.

Thank you for your leadership on moving this project forward.

Best,

Erin Parrish  
1656 W Minnehaha Ave  
St. Paul, MN 55104