

From: Idel L <imland11@gmail.com>
Date: April 19, 2017 at 12:25:28 AM CDT
To: publicworksinfo@ci.stpaul.mn.us, Contact-council@ci.stpaul.mn.us, ward7@ci.stpaul.mn.us
Subject: Battle Creek Road Reconstruction

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Subject: Battle Creek Road Replacement Project. 2017. From discussions with some of our neighbors in the BCR neighborhood. Concerns shared by some of the neighbors, we'd like clarified by City Council Meeting Wed 4/19/17.

We believe the majority of the traffic along Battle Creek Road consists of motorists who live in South Washington County, Maplewood, and in St. Paul homes that are located in the neighborhoods across from and south of Lower Afton Road. Battle Creek Road is clearly a "feeder" street that motorists take daily to commute between home and work from these neighborhoods, and to access businesses along Suburban Avenue. Question: Are other homeowners living in the Battle Creek neighborhood assessed for maintenance and improvements made to homes located on residential "side streets"? (The term side street excludes: White Bear Avenue, Suburban Avenue, Upper Afton Road, Lower Afton Road, and McKnight Road.)

Or are these costs largely paid from the City of St. Paul's Transportation Budget? Battle Creek Road residents have to put up with a much higher volume of traffic than do most Battle Creek neighborhood residents who live on numerous side streets and cul-de-sacs. Homeowners living along Battle Creek Road pay some of the highest property taxes in the Battle Creek neighborhood! We therefore believe there's no justification for a special assessment to be levied against us unless all homeowners living on residential side streets in the Battle Creek neighborhood are also being assessed for their road maintenance and improvement costs. Please clarify this on Wednesday.

In addition to commuters from Washington County and southeastern St. Paul, the St. Paul Fire and Rescue Department utilizes Battle Creek Road heavily to carry out it's responsibilities 24/7 -- 365 days a year. This means that Battle Creek Road is most definitely not a typical "low traffic volume" residential side street!

In summary: We don't believe it's fair to compare the traffic volume on Battle Creek Road with that on major city streets like White Bear

Avenue. A fairer comparison is with the residential "side streets" in the Battle Creek district. The majority of the traffic on Battle Creek Road consists of commuters and/or "shoppers" living in southeast Ramsey County, Washington County, and in the communities of South Maplewood and Woodbury. These drivers benefit daily from using Battle Creek Road to access Highway 61, I-94, Lower Afton Road, Upper Afton Road, Suburban Avenue businesses, etc., but few of them pay taxes to St. Paul or to Ramsey County. It's unfair for the few homeowners living along Battle Creek Road to have to pay an expensive special assessment for the convenience of motorists who live elsewhere -- most of whom pay no property taxes in St. Paul or Ramsey County. We constitute a small percentage of the motorists driving on Battle Creek Road daily.

Please clarify this at the meeting on Wednesday, April 19th.

Thank you for reviewing our concerns. We look forward to your consideration and feedback at the meeting and/or via reply to this email.

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Respectfully,

Mrs. I. L.

Battle Creek Road resident

imland11@gmail.com