

From: Mitzi
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2015 6:21 AM
To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)
Subject: No bike lane on Cleveland Ave.!

Dear Chris,

Please do not support putting a bike lane on Cleveland Ave. Losing parking on Cleveland Ave. is very unwise, not only for the businesses in the area but for us residents! Please remember the nightmare of winter street parking during snow emergencies. The majority of bicyclists have a limited cycling season, but if parking goes away for the sake of a few winter cyclists, the interests of the majority of business owners and residents will not be served.

Thank you for your consideration,
Mitzi Lewellen

Becca Leininger

Sent Mon 6/1/2015 9:32 PM

City Council members,

My name is Becca Leininger, I am 14 years old, and currently attending Cretin-Derham Hall high school. Tonight, I am emailing you concerning the bike lane you want to put in on Cleveland Ave. While I understand the need for a bike lane I do not think that is the best place for it. I hope to be able to get my drivers license/permit soon but just riding in the car now, I can tell you that the bike lane doesn't seem to fit on that street. As well as not fitting, it's a huge disruption to many businesses. I am currently working at Davannis on Cleveland and Grand and I think the bike path would negatively affect the business and many others. As well as describing to you what is so wrong with putting the bike path on Cleveland, I have a different suggestion for you. Why not put the bike path one street down on Finn? I currently use Finn when I need to bike to work and I feel as though it's a lot safer because it is a road less traveled by cars. I feel as though many families with children would feel more comfortable having a bike lane on Finn because it would be much easier than on a busy street such as Cleveland. My other confusion with the bike lane is that in Minnesota we get a lot of snow even through spring. While there may be some committed bikers not a lot of people are going to be biking because of the slippery roads, cold weather, and snowfall. In Minnesota we can get snow as early as October- November all the way to March-April. I'd ask that you please take that into consideration as there is little time the bike lane will even be used. Overall the bike lane is a huge disruption on Cleveland and if there is such a need for one it should be put in on Finn where there are no businesses to disrupt, where it is safer for more families, and more people to enjoy because what would be the point of a bike lane if nobody used it.

I truly hope you read this and take it into consideration that many people feel this bike lane is a bad, disruptive and potentially unsafe idea, including me.

Thank you!

Becca Leininger

Please use the following form to contact Mayor Christopher B. Coleman with your comments and concerns.

Full Name*

Judith E. Krow

Street Address*

Scheffer Avenue

City*

St. Paul

State*

MN

Zip Code*

55116

Home Phone

Email Address*

Message Details

Subject

Cleveland Avenue Bike Lanes

Your Comment*

We have lived at xxxx Scheffer Avenue in Highland Park for the past 23 years. We are writing this to state that we are strongly AGAINST the installation of bike lanes on Cleveland Avenue. The reasons for this are as follows: first, every day at lunch and on Saturdays, overflow parking from Cecil's Deli stretches from the corner of Cleveland and Scheffer to our house, which is four houses to the east of the corner of Finn and Scheffer. This gives us a good idea of what will happen if parking is removed from Cleveland Avenue. The residential blocks on either side of Cleveland will become parking lots, as is the case on Scheffer. Second, we believe that the businesses on Cleveland, particularly between Scheffer and Ford Parkway will lose customers due to lack of parking. As residents of Highland Park, we value these businesses and want them to succeed. Removing parking will impede that success. Third, removing parking from Cleveland will have an adverse impact on the people who rent apartments or live in houses along Cleveland, forcing them to rent elsewhere, where there is parking, or causing the residential streets to take the overflow, again becoming parking lots. The students and faculty of St. Catherine's will have and cause similar problems. Given the fact that there are relatively few bicyclists (compared to the number of residents and businesses in the area), the installation of bike lanes will cause more harm to the neighborhood than the benefit the bike lanes will create. There are other options for bikers, including biking on other streets or continuing to bike on Cleveland as they have been. Neither the residents of Highland Park nor the businesses have such options. Accordingly, the bike lanes should not be installed. Whether the bike lanes are installed or not, we have the following additional comment. We have observed

bikers regularly disobeying or ignoring traffic laws; particularly running red lights and stop signs. We think that bikers should be required to take a licensing test, as is required for drivers of motor vehicles, and that bikes should be licensed in the same way that motorcycles and motor vehicles are. Further, an annual license fee should be charged. Bike lanes are not free to construct or maintain, and we think it unfair that bikers are not required to pay any portion (let alone their fair share) of the cost. A license or other fee would force bikers to contribute to the amenity of a bike lane, of which they are the sole users. David MacMillan and Judith Krow

Elizabeth Kiernat – Ward 3 Resident re proposed Cleveland bike lane

Called with concerns and in opposition to the Cleveland bike lane – she's concerned because there's already a lot of traffic and bikes on Cleveland, and this is a disaster waiting to happen. Just because road work is scheduled doesn't mean you have to hurry and rush to make lanes. She's reminded of a few years back when the city wanted to hurry up and rush getting bike lanes down Highland Parkway and Edgumbe Road only because there was Federal money about to expire – and thankfully the neighbors were able to stop that 'hurry up and make a decision' – same thing happening here for a push to hurry up. Please don't approve.

From: Alice Lightner Johnson

Sent: Monday, June 01, 2015 6:15 PM

To: Tolbert, Chris (Cl-StPaul)

Subject: Preserve parking on Cleveland!

Hello Chris

As longtime residents in the Mac-Groveland neighborhood, AND avid bicyclists we want to tell you that we oppose the proposed idea of taking away parking on Cleveland Avenue for bike lanes. This idea does not make sense to us, as Fairview, which is also a main north south artery, has a perfectly fine bike lane that can deliver any biker relatively close to their destination the same as Cleveland Ave.

Cleveland has quite a few businesses that we patronize all the time where we are using the on street parking such as Pro-Pharmacy.

Again, we are avid cyclists and support making St. Paul a more bike friendly city. However, many of these proposals that come up seem very willy nilly and not as part of a greater plan, so frankly that is why they tick so many people off. Show us the plan, what are you hoping to achieve for bikers, and then we can get behind the ideas.

Thank you for your service to our city and for your consideration.

Alice Lightner Johnson

From: BJ Smith
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 12:05 PM
To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Parking

I live in the neighborhood of Cleveland Avenue. I value being able to park there when I patronize the local businesses.

All my life, I have been a bicycle rider. Now I am retired, but I used to ride my bicycle to work daily. I was riding long before anyone was concerned about bicycle paths. I never had any difficulty establishing a safe route on which to ride. I still ride my bicycle; however, I would never ride it on Fairview Avenue or Cleveland Avenue. Those are busy streets which cars use a lot. Even though there is a bike lane on Fairview, I do not consider it safe to ride their. If one had the misfortune to lose control of his bicycle on Fairview, he might quickly find himself under the wheels of an automobile. I ride on all the other streets, such as Kenneth, Prior, Wheeler. They are much more safe.

I believe we should push back against the self-concerned bicycle groups who are looking for more and more territory.

I will be interested to learn of your view on this subject.

David Jensen

From: JOHN JR
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2015 8:02 AM
To: Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Bike Lane

To people working on the proposed bike lane on Lexington south of Randolph:

I don't think it would do any favor to cyclists to make a lane for them. Too many people rely on street parking to make it safe. There isn't enough room on surrounding streets to accommodate off Lexington Parking. Where will baseball players park during games? Where will guests of Deer Park town homes park? Where will home owners with one car garages, and up to 2 extra cars park? During ball games at the park at the south end of Lexington, both sides of Lexington are filled. There is no other area in which they could park within blocks.

The major flaw in the plan is the area south of Randolph on Lexington. The intersection by Trader Joe's is already impossibly crowded and difficult to navigate by car during heavy traffic times. How and where would you put a bike lane when you already have all the lanes filled without any parking there for several blocks on either side? Your map doesn't show room.

My vote is a definite NO to any bike lane south of Randolph on Lexington for reasons of safety near Trader Joe's and a severe lack of parking options for residents, guests, and park users.

Jack & Pat Jensen
Deer Park
St. Paul, MN. 55116

From: Ginger K. Hedstrom
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2015 11:34 AM
To: Tolbert, Chris (Cl-StPaul)
Subject: Cleveland Avenue Bike Lane proposal-urgent
Ginger K. (Virginia) Hedstrom
XXX Randolph Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105

I am opposed to adding a bike lane to Cleveland Avenue because:

1. The street is too narrow to safely accommodate adding a bike lane
2. The negative impact on businesses along Cleveland Avenue
3. Fairview provides an excellent opportunity for bike riders and is less than six blocks to the east.

If you have questions, please call me at XXX. Thank you, Ginger K. Hedstrom

From: J Hallermann
Sent: Saturday, June 06, 2015 11:43 AM
To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)
Subject: Please no Cleveland Ave. Bike Lanes

Dear Councilmember Tolbert,

As 20 plus year residents of St Paul Mac-Groveland neighborhood, We have to say the proposed bike lane project on Cleveland Avenue is one of the worst proposals we have heard for our neighborhood. We already have so many designated bike lanes and bike paths in our area. We are disheartened to think we are adding another, especially on such a heavily traveled road through our neighborhood. It is a very bad idea. Let me tell you why we feel strongly about it.

1st. Hard working small businesses will loose there parking. St Paul is the kind of town where small business thrives. We the neighbors of the community appreciate all these businesses and we look forward to supporting them whenever possible. The proposed bike lanes do not support the tax paying small businesses that need to count on neighbors for there very existence. No parking=No business!

2. Cleveland Ave has about 30 streets and 15 alleys that feed into Cleveland Ave. Cars are constantly turning right or left or crossing Cleveland. Rush hours are brutal. This proposal is an accident waiting to happen. I live here, trust me cars pull up to Cleveland watching for traffic to pull out in order to turn or cross Cleveland. Looking for bikers is not going to be what people are watching for, and Bikers will have to be riding so slow to be prepared to stop at every street and alley entrance. IT WILL BE UNSAFE FOR BIKERS! We would not let our children/family members ride on that street even if there were bike lanes.

3. Pedestrian traffic. There are 2 grade schools and a college with patrols and students crossing children at Cleveland Ave. Most of these are small children. Bikers are not going to stop, they don't on Summit Ave. and they wont here either.

We are a city that over caters to Bikers, yet we require no licensing for bikers who want road privileges, Automobile drivers have no recourse when bikers fail to yield to the rules of the road. It is a shame. We love to bike and have never felt there were not enough adequate trails or safe side-streets to ride on. Please leave Cleveland Ave. alone!

Sincerely,
Jim and Jean Hallermann
Goodrich Ave.

From: Glendenning, Brian
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2015 2:08 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3; Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul)
Subject: modification to bike lanes

To whom it may concern, I own 3 properties on Cleveland Ave. S. and have concerns about the Cleveland Avenue proposed bike lane amendment and modifications to the plan. If the idea is to make a bike lane then make a bike line, don't complicate the bike lane project for a few parking spots. If the bike lane is safer for the community, why put parking from 57 Cleveland to 115 Cleveland. I am not in favor of this proposed amendment to the bike lane.

Thanks for your consideration,
Brian Glendenning

From: Barry & Rena Glaser
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2015 1:02 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3
Subject: Bike lanes

Dear Councilman Tolbert:

I am writing you to express my concern and frustration over the proposed plan to eliminate parking on most of Cleveland Avenue north of Highland Parkway in order to add two bike lanes to the street. While I am not an avid biker, my adult children and grandchildren are. The other day my son, David, who lives on River Blvd. in Highland, was incredulous when I told him about this proposal. He said the lanes aren't needed – bikers can use River Blvd. I also pointed out that Fairview has bike lanes as well.

While I am sympathetic to the bikers' needs, we can't forget about those of us who drive cars. There are numerous bike trails and paths throughout the Twin Cities for bikers to use. Additionally, most of the bikers that I encounter don't seem to believe that any of the traffic signs or laws apply to them. I saw a biker signal a turn the other day and then proceed to run the stop sign at the intersection even though there was traffic present.

Additionally, the thought of taking Shepard Rd. down to one lane each way, adding bike lanes, and making it into more of a parkway seems ridiculous. We make it difficult for people to reach their jobs and shopping areas and then we wonder why establishments go out of business. We seem to make it more and more difficult to reach those places and/or park nearby. We're already doing enough damage by narrowing Ford Parkway and Randolph and adding more bike lanes there.

Please reconsider the proposals for those projects that are not already underway. Bikers are important but they certainly don't make up the majority of the constituency and population in our area.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Rena Glaser
Norfolk Ave.
Saint Paul, MN 55116

From: Meg Gillespie

Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2015 9:50 AM

To: Tolbert, Chris (Cl-StPaul)

Subject: Cleveland Ave Bike Lane proposal

I am writing to voice my concern about bike lanes on both sides of Cleveland from Grand to Randolph. I am opposed to these for two reasons:

Interferes with businesses. I often stop at the coffee shop and parking would be eliminated. Also many other businesses would be affected

Dangerous for drivers: Fairview is a wider street and that is dangerous with bikers not always staying in the narrow lane. The student use on Cleveland would be just waiting for a serious accident.

Thanks you for considering these thoughts.

Meg Gillespie, CSJ

XXX Randolph Ave

St. Paul, 55105