



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Melvin W. Carter, Mayor

1500 City Hall Annex  
25 W. Fourth Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55102-1660

Fax: 651-266-6222

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: 5/13/2019

**SUBJECT: Proposed bicycle lanes and White Bear Avenue**

This memorandum summarizes the public process and comments received on Ramsey County's proposal to install bicycle lanes on White Bear Avenue between Upper Afton Road and Suburban Avenue. The full text of all written comments is attached to the end of this memorandum.

### Community Engagement

Saint Paul Public Works hosted a community meeting to discuss the proposed layout on March 28, 2019. Staff posted meeting materials on the city webpage immediately following the meeting. City staff also presented the project to the Transportation Committee on March 11, 2019. The Transportation Committee recommended approval of the project as proposed.

#### *White Bear Avenue Project Meeting*

Public Works staff hosted a meeting to share the proposed layout on March 28, 2019 at Battle Creek Recreation Center. Public Works staff mailed 94 fliers to residents and property owners within 200 feet of the proposed project that included meeting information and an overview of the project details and impacts. The fliers provided a map of the project, a link to the project website, contact information for project staff, and information about the project design.

#### *District 1 Community Council*

Public Works staff attended a meeting hosted by the District 1 Community Council Land Use Committee on April 1, 2019. Staff presented information about the project and summarize public input from the Project Meeting. No formal action was taken by the Committee.

### Written Statements Received

As of 5/13/2019, city staff received statements from nine individuals responding to the proposed project via:

- Comment forms from the project meeting (4 statements)
- Comments e-mailed to city staff (1 statement)



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Necesita esta traducción? Comuníquese con nosotros al 651-

Xav tau qhov no txhais los? Hu rau peb ntawm 651-

**Themes**

Themes identified in the statements are summarized below:

- The proposed bike facilities will improve safety and / or connectivity between the neighborhood and other parts of Saint Paul and is consistent with the adopted Saint Paul Bicycle Plan.
- The planned Gold Line BRT stations nearby will increase bicycling in the area.
- Implementing bike lanes now as part of the overlay is an efficient use of funds.
- The proposed lanes will not have meaningful connections to other bicycle facilities at the north end of the project.
- Other bike routes throughout the City are not well maintained.
- Increased enforcement of traffic laws is desired.

**Attachments**

1. Copy of Project Meeting Flyer
2. Copy of City Council Public Hearing Notice
3. Original text or transcription of all written statements received by city staff

# White Bear Avenue Resurfacing and Bikeway Project Meeting

March 28, 2019  
6:30-7:30 PM  
Battle Creek Rec Center  
75 Winthrop St.  
St. Paul, MN 55119

Ramsey County and the City of Saint Paul are hosting a project meeting to share information and take input on the proposal for bike lanes on White Bear Avenue between Upper Afton Road and Suburban Avenue.

## What is Proposed?

Ramsey County is planning to resurface White Bear Avenue between Upper Afton Road and Suburban Avenue in 2019.

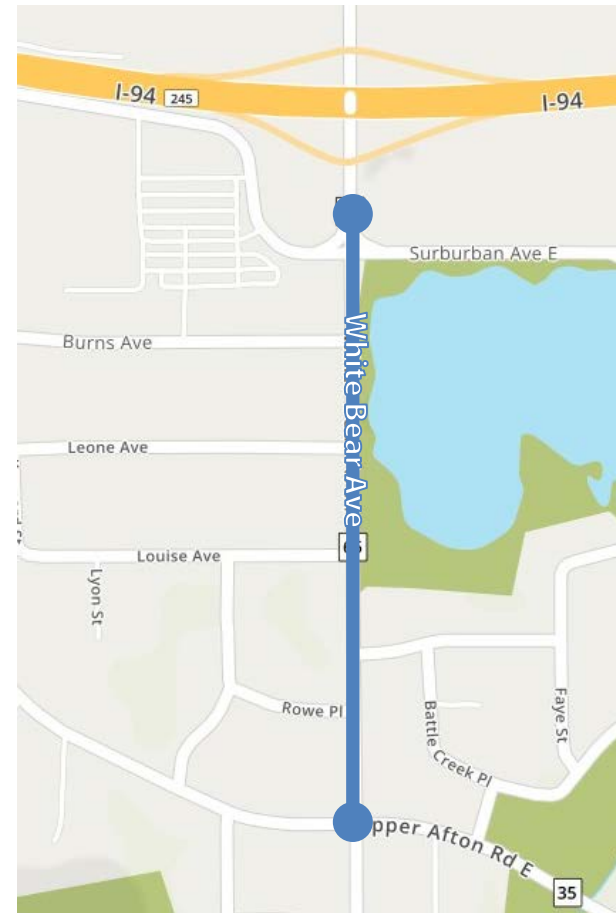
The Saint Paul Bicycle Plan recommends adding bicycle lanes within the project area. Saint Paul and Ramsey County are proposing to install bike lanes when the street is resurfaced.

## Changes to Parking

There is currently parking on both sides of White Bear Avenue within the project area. Adding the proposed bike lanes would remove parking from the east side of White Bear Avenue from Upper Afton Road to Suburban Avenue.

## At the Meeting

- Preliminary layouts will be shared.
- Presentation at 6:45PM
- Ramsey County and City Staff will be available to answer questions.
- Comment forms will be provided.



## Project Contacts:

### Ramsey County

Kathy Jaschke  
651-266-7192  
kathy.jaschke@ramseycounty.us

### City of Saint Paul

Reuben Collins  
651-266-6059  
reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us

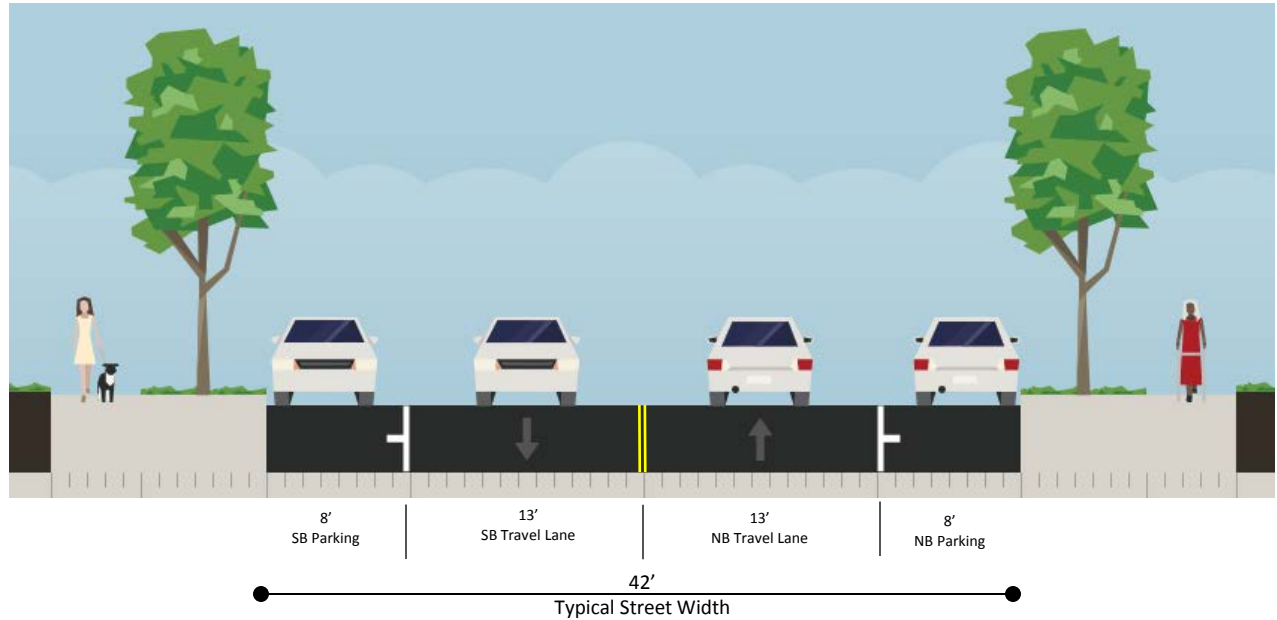
For more information on the project and to view the materials that will be presented at the meeting, please visit the project website at:

[www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects](http://www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects)

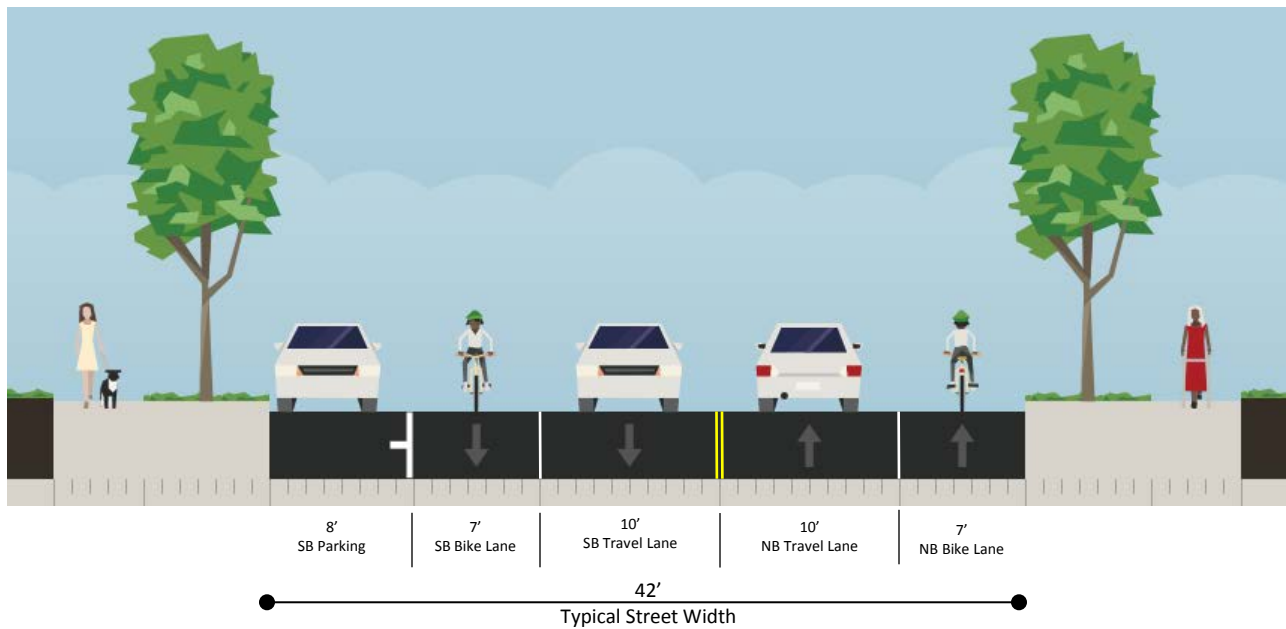
# White Bear Avenue

Upper Afton Road to Suburban Avenue

## EXISTING



## PROPOSED



**Saint Paul Minnesota**  
*The most livable city in America*

For more information on the project and to view the materials that will be presented at the meeting, please visit the project website at:

[www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects](http://www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects)



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Melvin W. Carter, Mayor

1500 City Hall Annex  
25 W. Fourth Street  
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Fax: 651-266-6222

April 5, 2019

Dear Saint Paul Resident / Property Owner:

Ramsey County is resurfacing White Bear Avenue between Upper Afton Road and I-94 in the summer of 2019. The project will improve the pavement condition, upgrade curb ramps to meet ADA accessibility requirements, and add bike lanes. Removal of on-street parking is proposed along the east side of White Bear Avenue from Upper Afton Road to Suburban Avenue.

This project will be presented to the Saint Paul City Council on Wednesday, May 15. **This will be a public hearing, and there will be an opportunity for public comment.** The City Council will be asked to approve a resolution supporting Ramsey County's proposal to add bicycle and pedestrian facilities and remove on-street parking from the east side of White Bear Avenue.

This hearing will be held at:

**5:30 PM, Wednesday,  
May 15, 2019**

**City Council Chambers  
300 City Hall  
15 Kellogg Blvd, West  
Saint Paul, MN 55102**

#### Feedback Opportunities

Saint Paul Public Works and Ramsey County attended a community meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup> to present information and receive feedback on the project. If you have not submitted a comment already or cannot attend the public hearing on May 15, you may email project staff or your Councilmember to have your comments entered into the public record. To review the proposed project in more detail, please visit the project website at: [www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects](http://www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects)

#### Project Contact

Reuben Collins  
Phone: 651-266-6059  
Email: [reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us)



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# White Bear Avenue Resurfacing

## Comment Form

Ramsey County and the City of Saint Paul are proposing to install bicycle lanes on White Bear Avenue between Upper Afton Road and Suburban Avenue in 2019.

Please provide written feedback on the proposed plans for White Bear Avenue by doing one of the following:

- Write comments below
- Send an email to project staff

City of Saint Paul: [reuben.collins@stpaul.gov](mailto:reuben.collins@stpaul.gov)

Ramsey County: [Kathy.jaschke@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:Kathy.jaschke@co.ramsey.mn.us)

Name, address (optional):

Melissa Wenzel 613 Burlington Rd Saint Paul 55119

Comments:

I'm thrilled about this project & the amount of car parking is a lot less than I thought. Please build it! I support bike options.

I think the big aha moment was that people think the road was 2 lanes in each direction. Thank you for supporting the safety of all road users. ~

# White Bear Avenue Resurfacing

## Comment Form

Ramsey County and the City of Saint Paul are proposing to install bicycle lanes on White Bear Avenue between Upper Afton Road and ~~Suburban Avenue~~ in 2019.

Please provide written feedback on the proposed plans for White Bear Avenue by doing one of the following:

- Write comments below
- Send an email to project staff

City of Saint Paul: [reuben.collins@stpaul.gov](mailto:reuben.collins@stpaul.gov)

Ramsey County: [Kathy.jaschke@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:Kathy.jaschke@co.ramsey.mn.us)

Name, address (optional):

Resident + homeowner in Highwood neighborhood (St. Paul)


Comments:

This is an important improvement needed by all road users. We need to utilize these opportunities to save money and be responsible w/ taxpayer dollars while implementing the council-approved bike plan. Failing to implement the improvements for narrowing lanes + adding bike lanes at this time ~~will~~ <sup>would</sup> be shameful. The bike lanes are essential for me and my family to transit through this area in the future and it'll be so great when the gold line starts up.

the wide streets are dangerous. Its so bad that some drivers think there are two lanes in each direction - it's scary! There are car crashes and near-misses. This plan helps to fix that. Lets get this road restriped with bike lanes now! Thank you so much for all your hardwork and great design.

April 10, 2018

To: The Commissioners of Ramsey County  
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

From: Lynne Goughler   
36 White Bear Ave. So.  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55106

Re Bike Paths

Attached please find an e-mail to you regarding the following:

1. Proposed Bike Path to be included in the resurfacing of 0.09- mile roadway on White Bear Ave. So.
2. Current Bike Trail allowing folks to commute under Highway 61.
3. Policing of Bike Riders

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**From:** lynnesjeep2014@outlook.com  
**To:** jim.mcdonough@co.ramsey.mn.us victoria.reomjardt@co.ramsey.mn.us maryjo.mcquire@co.ramsey.mn.us trista.matascastillo@co.ramsey.mn.us oni.carter@co.ramsey.mn.us rafael.ortega@co.ramsey.mn.us  
.usruben.collines@ci.stglpaul.mn.us kathy.jaschke@ramseycunty.us  
**Cc:** janice.prince@c.stpaul.mn.usi  
**Subject:** Upper Afton Road to Suburban Avenue

On March 28<sup>th</sup> a presentation was given to several persons at the Battle Creek Community Center concerning a bike path to be built on White Bear Ave.

The purpose to this meeting was to present a project to resurface the roadway between Suburban Ave. and Upper Afton. This project also includes a bike path down this road which is approximately 0.9 mile long and 42 feet wide.

I did at the meeting and do now express my concern to a project that includes a bike path for the following reasons:

1. This is a bike path that goes from "nowhere to nowhere. White Bear Ave from the Maplewood Mall area to Suburban Ave. has NO bike paths. I personally have never seen bikers in any significant number travel that section of the road. My question becomes, where are these bikers riding down this 0.9 miles getting on the bike path? There are no bike paths running either direction on Suburban at this intersection. If this connection is so important why was not the entire White Bear Ave. done with bike paths when it was redone a few years ago.
2. There are bike trails going East and West on Upper Afton, but once they get on this 0.9 stretch of road way going toward Suburban the path will end. While the Suburban intersection does have a Target and fast food restaurants I have never seen bikers in numbers congregate at a Target or the fast food restaurants.

I realize that roads were built for cars and that times have changed, but I do not believe that every resurfaced road needs to accommodate bikes.

If bike paths are so important then why are they not maintained such as the bike path running under highway 61. Before entering the tunnel running under 61 there is a huge erosion which has been blocked of for two years. So, now if someone actually wanted to ride into down town St. Paul to work they would literally have to cross over a busy highway.

It is also concerning to me that the laws governing bikers are not being enforced by police. Bikers are subject of the same traffic laws as motor vehicles. My question becomes, why is there not a concentrated effort to have bikers follow these laws.

According to the 2017 Crash Facts book of the 816 bicyclists involved in crashes 22.9% were caused by a bicyclist's Failure to Obey Traffic Signs, Signals or Officer. Compared to Motor vehicle Drivers at 2.5%.

I urge each of you to take a closer look at this project.

I also urge you to start taking a look at paths already in place that are not maintained by the county or the city.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Lynne Goughler  
36 White Bear Ave. So.  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55106  
651-303-1903