



ST. PAUL Smart Trips

55 E 5TH ST. SUITE 202
ST. PAUL, MN 55101

October 7, 2015

Office of the City Council
310 City Hall
15 Kellogg Blvd., West
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Councilmembers,

I'm writing on behalf of St. Paul Smart Trips to express our support for the draft Gold Line Station Area Plans and associated property rezonings. St. Paul Smart Trips is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the mission to improve access and mobility for those who travel in and around Saint Paul. To fulfill this mission, we partner with individuals, organizations and government across Saint Paul and maintain a 15-member board of directors that reflects this diversity of interests.

The Gold Line is a critical transportation investment for St. Paul that will serve as a catalyst for growth and revitalization on the Eastside. The station locations and proposed rezonings will create opportunities for development that promote high-density, livable communities that will be supported by this new transit corridor, bringing an influx of opportunity to a part of the city that has been overlooked in infrastructure and development projects.

Further, we support the emphasis being placed on the bicycle and pedestrian facilities to access the stations, especially the new/renovated pedestrian bridges over Interstate 94. Safe walking and biking routes to and from the stations are imperative to the success of the Gold Line and communities surrounding them.

In conclusion, we support the collective vision for the future of land use along the Gold Line in St. Paul. Coupled with improved transit, the vision laid out in these plans with help to revitalize Eastside neighborhoods and improve access and mobility in a section of the city where these are limited.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Treat".

Jessica Treat
Executive Director
jessica@smart-trips.org