

Senta Riley  
584 Pelham Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55104

January 28, 2026

**Via Email :** Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us

Re: Pelham: Franklin to Mississippi River Blvd. Street Paving and Lighting Project (Project 19275, Asmt 265202)

Dear St. Paul City Council Members,

As the owner of the property located at 584 Pelham Blvd, I am writing to object the proposed redesign of Pelham Blvd and the proposed special assessment of \$6,826.50 on my property, as the project is laid out today.

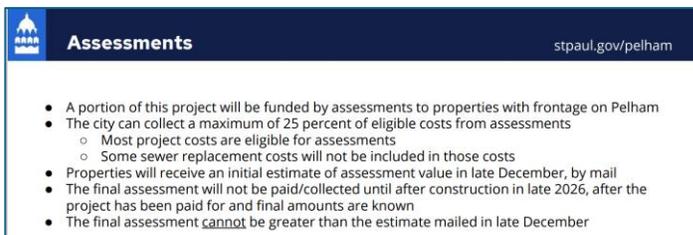
According to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 429, special assessments can be charged to pay for public improvements that directly benefit those parcels. While I agree that Pelham needs to be re-milled, I would argue there needs to be additional follow up and communication from the project team on how their current proposed solution will deliver on reducing traffic speed in the neighborhood with backing data and if it does not, then suggest an alternative solution that meets these criteria in tandem with the Grand Round improvement plan.

In charging property owners on Pelham for a special assessment that does not address reducing traffic and speed in the neighborhood, which greatly impacts the overall road wear and well-being of people who live in the neighborhood, the assessment benefit can be seen as non-beneficial to those who are paying for it.

Regarding the assessment amount, the project team communicated at the on 12/9/25 Desnoyer Park Improvement Association (DIPA) Meeting the assessment presented at the 12/17/25 City Council meeting would be the maximum possible amount assessed to property owners. Whereas in the follow-up Pelham Blvd Project Meeting on 1/20/26, the project team back tracked and indicated that property owners could be billed more than communicated a month prior subject to the project cost. This is not acceptable, nor is it reasonable to expect homeowners to pay more than the proposed assessment. Especially when our property taxes continue to dramatically increase year after year.

I understand that the project team has many considerations that they need to account for when developing a design, but I would implore that the City Council:

- Request the project team provides data backing that their current design will reduce through traffic speed on Pelham or an alterative design that addresses this before approving the project
- Abide by the maximum assessment amount communicated at the 12/17/25 city council meeting (See last line item in DIPA notes here and screenshot below: [Pelham Blvd UPDC August 12, 2024](#) )



Sincerely,

Senta Riley