

Opposition

From: Karen Bjorkman

Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 10:59 AM

To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3

Cc:

Subject: Bike Lanes on Cleveland

Hello! I am a resident on Hartford Avenue just a few houses off Cleveland Avenue. I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed addition of bike lanes (and restricted parking) for Cleveland Avenue. Our section of Cleveland Avenue is populated by apartment buildings and other multifamily residences or businesses. Restricted parking on Cleveland will render any open parking in front of our homes virtually unavailable. We have garages, and we use them, but we also have guests (including elderly parents) who can't and shouldn't have to walk a block to get to our front doors. That's what will happen if there's no parking on Cleveland. We experience it temporarily with each snow emergency, and right now, with utility work going on in the intersection of Cleveland and Hartford. There were NO spaces available last night going halfway down the block toward Finn. I understand temporary issues and have no problem with them. But this is a permanent restriction. This just won't work for our neighborhood and for our street. I fully believe that it will permanently depress property values on our street.

Please stop this. If bike lanes are needed, then certainly they can be placed on a street that it's so densely used for parking-Fairview? Cretin? Even Finn? The River Road already has bike lanes.

Thanks

Karen Bjorkman

xxxx Hartford Avenue

St. Paul

I am strongly against putting a bike lane down Cleveland Ave and removing further parking. It is difficult now to get parking and in general it seems like our leaders just add new businesses or other recreational accommodations without the parking to support them.

My husband and I are both bikers. He has biked 2000 to 3000 miles a year for many years so we are supportive of overall biking accommodations but this one doesn't make sense. We need to support all small businesses as they help with the burden of property taxes. The two major concerns we have living in Saint Paul has been taxes and parking. This move does not help relieve either of these concerns but rather makes them worse.

Mary Paoli

Hello - I am writing to voice my objection over the proposed changes to narrow the driving lanes on Cleveland. I am a resident of the neighborhood & value and use the small businesses along the street. I do not want this lane change to happen!

Linda Passon-McNally
xxxx Jefferson

Richard Cornell

Very concerned with bike lane on Cleveland. It will impair access to all the folks who took a chance and opened up businesses on Cleveland knowing they'd have parking available to their customers. Please deny – bikers can still use Cleveland the way it is.

Russell Waldee

He's in total opposition to a bike lane on Cleveland. He's a biker himself but we don't need this on Cleveland - use one of the streets either to the east or the west.

Kristie Englund

Called to say "No" to Cleveland. Too much traffic on Cleveland and she feels Finn would be much better. Thank you for all the hard work you're doing.

From: Tom Probst

Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 1:34 PM

To: Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul)

Subject: Cleveland Bike Lane

Hi Chris,

As a longtime Mac-Grobleand resident (and your former neighbor -- we're still at 1xxx James), I wanted to let you know that I think that bike lanes in general are good, but the proposal to put one on Cleveland and eliminate parking for neighborhood businesses is not.

I would appreciate it if you would take the needs of all businesses and residents into account as you consider this issue.

Thanks for all you're doing for the city; you can count on my continued support.

Tom Probst

Chris,

I cannot believe the City of St. Paul would be so lacking in common sense and compassion as to create bike lanes on Cleveland south of Summit while prohibiting parking along what is both a commercial and residential street.

Supporters of this are mostly NOT from the neighborhood. They suggest that businesses shouldn't predominate over the "needs" of bicyclists and would do more business from bicyclists.

Aside from the straight-out lie of that argument, the fact is that it's the regular and other customers of those businesses, many of whom are elderly or disabled and who would not have a convenient place to park to get to a business. Similarly, many of the residents on Cleveland are also elderly or disabled. Instituting permit parking is really disingenuous. Indeed, the elderly population is growing and living longer. Providing for parking on streets around the corner doesn't cut it. There's a real question of discrimination here, not against bicyclists, who have no legal standing, but the elderly and disabled.

Michael Driscoll