



**CITY OF SAINT PAUL**  
*Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor*

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

*Fax: 651-266-6222*

## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** 8/26/2015

**SUBJECT:** Summary of the public process and comments received on the proposal to incorporate bicycle facilities into the scheduled mill and overlay project on Western Avenue.

This memorandum presents a summary of the public process and comments received on the proposal to incorporate bicycle facilities into Public Works' scheduled mill and overlay of Western Avenue. The full text of all written statements received is attached to the end of this memorandum.

The proposal to implement bicycle facilities on Western Avenue was released publicly in July 2015. A website was created for the project, providing an overview of the planned improvements, data, project documents, visuals, timeline, and a project contact for questions and comments. Each project website was linked to on [stpaul.gov/bikeprojects](http://stpaul.gov/bikeprojects), a website providing a list of all bicycle projects throughout the city.

Notification was sent to the executive director of the District Council where the project was proposed (District 7 – Thomas-Dale/Frogdown), and an offer was extended for city staff to attend a district council meeting to present the proposed improvements. City staff presented the proposal for bicycle facilities on Western Avenue to the Frogdown Neighborhood Association Board on Tuesday, August 11, 2015.

### **Western Avenue Open House:**

A community open house was held for the proposed bicycle facilities on Western Avenue and was facilitated by city staff. Residents and property owners within 250 feet of the proposed project were sent notifications of the open house via mail, along with an overview of the project details and impacts. 369 flyers were sent out for the Western Avenue open house. The flyers provided a map of the project, a link to the project website, contact information for city staff, and information about the project details.

Open House details:

- Western Avenue Open House – Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, West Minnehaha Recreation Center
- A total of 14 people attended the Western Avenue Open House



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**Written Statements Received:**

As of August 24, 2015, city staff received a total of 8 written statements specific to proposed bicycle facilities on Western Avenue from the following sources:

- Comment forms from the open house (6 statements)
- Statements received on Open Saint Paul (2 on-forum, and 0 off-forum statements)

It should be noted that the total number of statements received may include multiple statements from some individuals, as well as some duplicate statements (e.g. an individual may have provided written feedback at an Open House and provided feedback online on Open Saint Paul).

**Next Steps:**

The project will be presented to City Council on Wednesday, September 2, 2015. This will be a public hearing. An additional mailing was sent to notify residents and property owners of the City Council public hearing. 369 notifications were sent out. The City Council will be asked to approve a resolution authorizing Public Works to implement the proposed bicycle facilities on Western Avenue between Como Avenue and University Avenue.

**Attachments:**

1. Original text or transcription of all written statements received by city staff
2. Copy of Open House Flyer
3. Copy of City Council Public Hearing Notification

# Western Avenue Bicycle Lanes:

## Transcribed Open House Statements

(Scanned copies of the original statements are provided in the attached Appendix)

1. (No name given)  
-Great Plan! I love biking on Western Ave.
2. (No name given)  
-Thank you for this proposal! I am fully in support of the bike lanes on Western. Many people will benefit from the addition of these lanes, not just bicyclists, but drivers too. Slowing everyone down will make it safer for all users of the road. Please + thank you!
3. (No name given)  
-I'm pleased to see that the city has conducted a parking survey that clearly indicates removal of parking will not be onerous. Western is a crucial north-south connection and a lower volume street, especially for those of us who live in Summit-University. I bike to work and for errands, and dedicated space for bicycles is not only crucial for safety, but is an equity issue – we all pay for roads – we should all feel safe using them with our vehicle of choice.
4. (No name given)  
-Seems like a good plan to me. Parking counts do not seem to be an issue. Finding good safe north-south routes in St. Paul is a bigger issue. If St. Paul's streets are 85% funded by local funds/property taxes, they should be safe for all to use any way they want to... i.e. on a bicycle
5. Keith Goetzman  
-I fully support the plan to implement bicycle lanes on this route. It's between my workplace and my children's school and a frequent travel route for my family. As they grow old enough to bike-on street, I welcome more infrastructure like this to make riding safer. As part of the larger St. Paul bike plan, this is an important step.
6. (No name given)  
-The connection between Charles to 94 is critical. It needs to be funded. These lanes are important. We use Western a lot to connect from Minnehaha to the [??]. Please do this.

# Western Avenue Bicycle Lanes:

Open Saint Paul Statements Received

# Western Avenue Bicycle Lanes

*Please share your thoughts about the Western Avenue bicycle lanes project.*

All On Forum Statements sorted chronologically

As of August 27, 2015, 2:32 PM



*As with any public comment process, participation in Open Saint Paul is voluntary. The statements in this record are not necessarily representative of the whole population, nor do they reflect the opinions of any government agency or elected officials.*

# Western Avenue Bicycle Lanes

*Please share your thoughts about the Western Avenue bicycle lanes project.*

As of August 27, 2015, 2:32 PM, this forum had:

Attendees:	23
On Forum Statements:	2
All Statements:	2
Minutes of Public Comment:	6

This topic started on July 24, 2015, 11:54 AM.

## Western Avenue Bicycle Lanes

Please share your thoughts about the Western Avenue bicycle lanes project.

Eric Saathoff inside Ward 6

August 14, 2015, 9:03 PM

I commuted on Western Ave daily for the past 5 years, year round. I think this is a critical north-south route in the city that should eventually connect many east-west routes. The street is wide and in some blocks won't even have parking taken away. It is necessary to reduce the convenience of some folks to park right in front of their destination or home in favor of removing some of the intense danger of currently riding in the street. I once saw a young girl trying to cross Western. On my bike I stopped for her to pass, as is the law. The cars coming down the street did not stop at all, and I felt like pulling my bicycle into the street to block traffic and let her cross. While the street does not necessarily have high volume, it could still be served by traffic calming (slowing), and I believe narrowing lanes and adding bicycle facilities will do that.

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Michael Kuchta inside Ward 5

July 26, 2015, 7:07 PM

There is a serious lack of north-south through routes in this area. Dale and Rice are not comfortable places to ride. Western is a good choice for a not-too-out-of-the-way short-cut that goes across University and over I-94 in a safe and comfortable way, and connects with the Summit and Marshal bikeways on the southern end, and the Como and Minnehaha bikeways on the northern stretch. The resurfacing and new lanes will be welcomed improvements; let's hope we can stretch this all the way to Maryland.

1 Supporter

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## APPENDIX:

(Scanned copies of the original open house statements and sign-in sheets)

4

West Minnehaha Recreation Center  
685 W. Minnehaha Ave  
Saint Paul, MN 55104

21-7  
21-7

## Sign-In Sheet

# Western Avenue Open House

[illegible]

# Western Avenue Bicycle Lanes

## Comment Form

The City of Saint Paul is planning a street resurfacing on Western Avenue between Como and Thomas Avenues in fall 2015. The City is proposing to implement bicycle lanes on Western Avenue between Como and University Avenues as a component of this project.

.....

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

- Leave a comment on Open Saint Paul ([stpaul.gov/open](http://stpaul.gov/open))
- Send an email to city staff ([reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us))
- Write comments below

Comments:

Great Plan! I love  
biking on Western Ave.

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- Write comments below

Comments:

Thank you for this proposal! I am fully in support of the bike lanes on Western. Many people will benefit from the addition of these lanes, not just bicyclists, but drivers too. Slowing everyone down will make it safer for all users of the road. Please + Thank you!

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- Write comments below

Comments:

I'm pleased to see that the city has conducted a parking survey that clearly indicates removal of parking will not be onerous. Western is a crucial north-south connection on a lower volume street, especially for those of us who live in Summit-University. I bike to work and for errands, and dedicated space for bicycles is not only crucial for safety, but is an equity issue - we all pay for roads - we should all feel safe using them with our vehicle of choice.

# Western Avenue Bicycle Lanes

## Comment Form

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- Write comments below

Comments:

SEEMS LIKE A GOOD PLAN TO ME. PARKING  
COUNTS DO NOT SEEM TO BE AN ISSUE. FINDING  
GOOD SAFE NORTH-SOUTH ROUTES IN ST. PAUL IS  
A BIGGER ISSUE. IF ST. PAUL'S STREETS ARE ~~85%~~ 85%  
FUNDED ~~BY~~ BY LOCAL FUNDS / PROPERTY TAXES, THEY  
SHOULD BE SAFE FOR ALL TO USE ANY WAY THEY  
WANT TO... I.E. ON A BICYCLE

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- Write comments below

Comments:

I fully support the plan to implement bicycle lanes on this route. It's between my workplace and my children's school and a frequent travel route for my family. As they grow old enough to bike on-street, I welcome more infrastructure like this to make their riding safer. As part of the larger St. Paul bike plan, this is an important step.

Keith Goetzman  
Maplewood

Work address: 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul



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## Comment Form

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- Write comments below

Comments:

The connection between Charles to 94 is critical.  
It needs to be funded.

These lanes are important. We use Western  
a lot to connect from Minnehaha to the solve.

Please do this.



# WESTERN AVENUE Open House

The City of Saint Paul Department of Public Works is hosting an informational open house on Tuesday, August 4th to present a proposal for bicycle lanes on Western Avenue from Como Avenue to University Avenue.

## What is being Proposed?

The City is planning a street resurfacing on Western Avenue between Como and Thomas Avenues in fall 2015. The Bicycle Plan recommends bicycle lanes on Western within the project corridor. Implementing bicycle lanes as a component of the planned street resurfacing is proposed. To facilitate safe connections and eliminate a gap in bicycle facilities, extending bicycle lanes south to University beyond the boundaries of the street resurfacing is also proposed.

## Changes to Parking and the Overnight Parking Ban

There is currently parking on both sides of Western within the project limits, though a sanitation ban limits overnight parking to one side of the street six days of the week. Between Como and Charles, parking removal is proposed for the west side of Western. Between Charles and University, existing parking will be maintained on both sides of the street. To simplify overnight parking for residents, limiting the overnight parking ban to Monday from 2 AM – 7 AM on the east side of the street is proposed within the project corridor. On the west side of the street, the overnight parking ban would be reduced to Tuesday from 2 AM – 7 AM between Charles and University. To measure parking demand, parking counts were performed at representative time periods on Western. Based on the data collected by Public Works, it is anticipated that parking supply following the implementation of bicycle lanes will be sufficient to meet existing demand. To review the parking data collected, please visit the project website at [www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects](http://www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects)

## At the Open House

- Preliminary layouts will be available for viewing.
- City of Saint Paul staff will be available to answer questions and address concerns about the proposed plan.
- Comment forms will be available to provide feedback on the proposed plan.
- There will be no formal presentation - the meeting is intended as an opportunity for the community to review the project and offer feedback that will inform the final design.

## After the Open House

- A question asking for feedback on the plan for bike lanes on Western will be posted to Open Saint Paul. Link: [www.stpaul.gov/open](http://www.stpaul.gov/open)
- The proposed changes to Western will be presented to City Council. **This will be a public hearing.** We will mail an additional notification detailing the time and date of the public hearing once details are finalized.

**Tuesday, August 4, 2015**

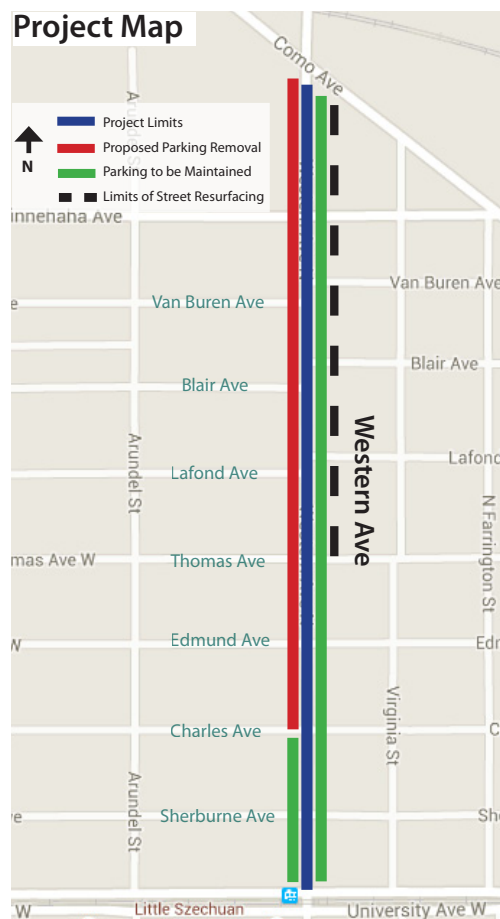
**6:00 to 8:00 PM**

**West Minnehaha Recreation  
Center Gym**

**685 W. Minnehaha Ave**

**Saint Paul, MN 55104**

### Project Map



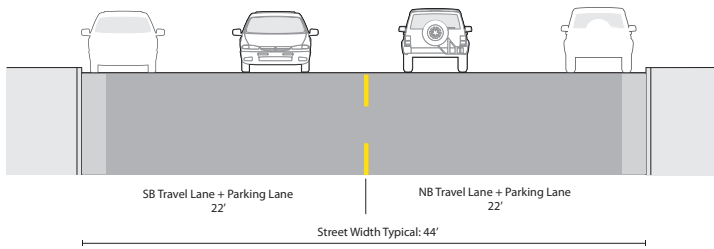
An example of bicycle lanes on Western Ave

### Project Contact:

City of Saint Paul  
Reuben Collins, PE  
651.266.6059  
[reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

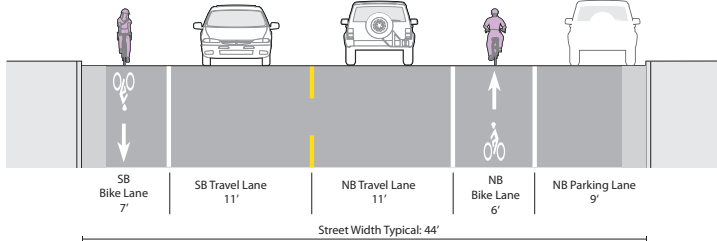
# Western Avenue Bicycle Lanes

## Existing



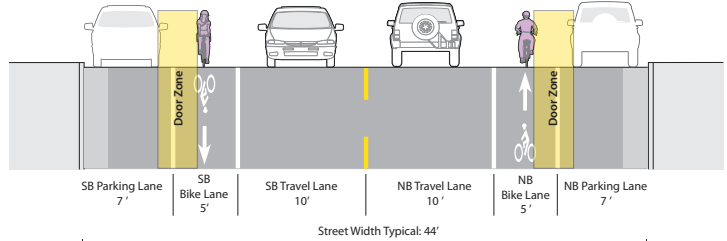
- 1 travel lane in each direction
- No existing bicycle facilities
- Parking on both sides

## Proposed: Como to Charles



- 1 travel lane in each direction (narrower to reduce speeding)
- 1 bicycle lane in each direction
- Parking on one side (east)

## Proposed: Charles to University



- 1 travel lane in each direction (narrower to reduce speeding)
- 1 bicycle lane in each direction
- Parking on both sides

## Español

El Ministerio de Obras Públicas de la ciudad de Saint Paul va a ser sede de una jornada a puertas abiertas el martes 4 de agosto para dar a conocer los cambios que se proponen para Western Avenue, desde Como Avenue hasta University Avenue. La ciudad está proponiendo implementar ciclovías en Western Avenue entre las avenidas Como y University y quitar el lugar de estacionamiento del lado oeste de Western Avenue entre las avenidas Como y Charles. La propuesta del nuevo diseño sería implementada junto con la repavimentación de las calles de Western, programada para el otoño del 2015. La jornada se desarrollará desde las **6:00 hasta las 8:00 p. m. el martes 4 de agosto del 2015**, en el **West Minnehaha Recreation Center, 685 W Minnehaha Avenue**.

## Hmong

Lub Zos Saint Paul Tuam Tsev Tswj Dej Num Pab Rau Pej Xeem Huab Hwm yuav tsa muaj lub koom txoos qhib txais tos pej xeem rau hnuv Tuesday, lub Yim Hli Ntuj hnuv tim 4 los nthuav qhia txog cov kev hloov ntawm txoj kev Western Avenue pib txij ntawm txoj kev Como Avenue mus txog University Avenue. Lub zos xav kho kom muaj cov kab caij tsheb kauj vab taug txoj kev Western Avenue pib txij txoj kev Como mus txog txoj kev University Avenue, thiab tshem tawm lub tiaj nres tsheb ntawm sab hnuv poob txoj kev Western Avenue txij li ntawm txoj kev Como thiab Charles Avenue. Lub tswv yim no yog yuav muab txuam nrog lub tswv yim yuav rov pua txoj kev Western uas teem rau thaum caij nploov ntoos zeeg hauv xyoo 2015. Lub koom txoos qhib txais tos pej xeem yuav muaj rau thaum **6:00 txog 8:00 teev tsaus ntuj hnuv Tuesday, lub Yim Hli Ntuj hnuv tim 4, 2015**, nyob rau hauv **West Minnehaha Recreation Center, 685 W Minnehaha Avenue**.

## Somali

Waxda Hawlaha Guud ee Magaalada Saint Paul waxay martigelisay soo dhaweyn (guriga furan) maalinta Talaadada, Agoosto 4, si loo soo bandhigo isbaddalada la soo jeediyay in lagu sameeyo Western Avenue laga bilaabo Como Avenue ilaa University Avenue. Magaalada waxay soo jeedisay in la fulliyo leemanka ay isticmaalaan baskiilada Western Avenue laga bilaabo Como Avenue iyo University Avenue, lana joojiyo meelaha baabuurta la dhigto dhinaca bidix ee Western Avenue inta u dhaxeysa Como Avenue iyo Charles Avenue. Handasada la soo jeediyay waxaa lala fullin doonaa qorshaha laamiga dib loo saari doono Western Avenue horaanta xilliga qaboobaha (fall) 2015. Soo dhaweynta (guriga furan) waxaa la qaban doonaa laga bilaabo **6:00 ilaa 8:00 PM maalinta Talaadada, Agoosto 4, 2015**, waxaana lagu qaban doonaa **West Minnehaha Recreation Center, 685 W Minnehaha Avenue**.

## Oromo

Qajeelchi "Department of Public Works" Magaalaa Saint Paul jijjiiramoota daandii Western Avenue kan Como Avenue fi University Avenue gidduu jiru irratti godhamuu yaadaman ilaalchisee ibsa gochuuf gaafa Kibxataa, August 4 walgayii qopheesseera. Magaallii kun Western Avenue kan Como Avenue fi University Avenue gidduu jiru irratti iddoowwan doqidoqqeen dhaabbatuu uumuufi hojii irra oolchuufi Western Avenue kan Como Avenue fi Charles Avenue gidduu jiru kutaa karaa lixaa jiru irraa bakka konkolaataan dhaabbatu hambisuuf karoofatee jira. Dizaayiniin yaadame xumura bara 2015 ALatti jijjiirama mallaattoowwan daandii kanneen Western Avenue irratti taasiifamaniin hojii irra ni oola. Walgayiin kun gaafa Kibxataa, **August 4, 2015 galgala keessaa sa'aatii 12:00 hanga 2:00tti (6:00 – 8:00 PM)** bakka **West Minnehaha Recreation Center, 685 W Minnehaha Avenue** itti gaggeefama.



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

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

Fax: 651-266-6222

August 18, 2015

Dear Saint Paul Resident / Property Owner:

The City of Saint Paul Department of Public Works is proposing to implement bicycle facilities on Western Avenue from Como Avenue to University Avenue. This project will be presented to the Saint Paul City Council on Wednesday, September 2. **This will be a public hearing.** The City Council will be asked to approve a resolution authorizing Public Works to implement the proposed bicycle facilities on Western Avenue.

This hearing will be held at:

**5:30 PM, Wednesday,  
September 2, 2015**

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

### Project Details:

The City of Saint Paul is planning a street resurfacing on Western Avenue between Como Avenue and Thomas Avenue during the fall of 2015. The City is proposing to implement bicycle facilities on Western Avenue between Como Avenue and University Avenue as a component of this project.

To accommodate the installation of bicycle facilities, parking removal is proposed for the west side of Western Avenue between Como and Charles Avenues. Existing parking will be maintained on both sides of Western Avenue between Charles and University Avenues. Reducing the existing overnight parking ban to Monday from 2 AM – 7 AM on the east side of Western Avenue, and Tuesday from 2 AM – 7 AM on the west side of Western Avenue is also proposed within the project limits.

### Project Updates:

A public open house was held on Tuesday, August 11 at the West Minnehaha Recreation Center to present information and receive feedback on the proposal for bicycle facilities on Western Avenue. Feedback was also received online on Open Saint Paul and via email to city staff. If you have not submitted a comment already and cannot attend the public hearing, you may email your Councilmember to have your comments entered into the public record.

To review the proposed parking mitigation strategies in more detail, please visit the project website at:  
**[www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects](http://www.stpaul.gov/bikeprojects)**



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**Project Schedule:**

Saint Paul Department of Public Works will resurface Western Avenue between Como and Thomas Avenues in the fall of 2015. No permanent changes to the operation of the roadway or parking will be made before the City Council Public Hearing on September 2 and without subsequent authorization from the City Council to implement the project.

**Project Contact:**

Reuben Collins, P.E.

Phone: 651-266-6059

Email: [reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

**Español:**

El Ministerio de Obras Públicas de la ciudad de Saint Paul propone implementar instalaciones para bicicletas sobre Western Avenue desde Como Avenue hasta University Avenue. Este proyecto será presentado en la municipalidad de Saint Paul el miércoles 2 de septiembre. Será una audiencia pública. La municipalidad votará si prefiere que Obras Públicas implemente la propuesta de las instalaciones para bicicletas en Western Avenue o si prefiere que no la implemente. La audiencia se realizará a las **5:30 p. m. del miércoles 2 de septiembre del 2015, en 300 City Hall, 15 Kellogg Blvd West.**

**Hmong:**

Lub Zos Saint Paul Tuam Tsev Tswj Dej Num Pab Rau Pej Xeem Huab Hwm xav kom ua cov chaw tso tsheb kauj vab rau txoj kev Western Avenue pib txij ntawm txoj kev Como Avenue mus txog University Avenue. Yuav muab lub tswv yim no nthuav qhia rau lub Zos Saint Paul Pab Tswj Hwm thaum hnuv Wednesday, lub Cuaj Hli Ntuj hnuv tim 2. Lub rooj sib tham no yuav qhib rau pej xeem huab hwm. Lub Zos Pab Tswj Hwm yuav txiav txim seb puas cia lub Tuam Tsev Tswj Dej Num Pab Rau Pej Xeem Huab Hwm ua cov chaw tso tsheb kauj vab rau txoj kev Western Avenue. Yuav muaj lub rooj sib tham rau thaum **5:30 tsaus ntuj, lub Cuaj Hli Ntuj hnuv tim 2, 2015, nyob rau ntawm 300 City Hall, 15 Kellogg Blvd West.**

**Somali:**

Waaxda Hawlaha Guud ee Magaalada Saint Paul waxay soo jeedisay fullinta waxyaabaha fududeeya meelaha baskiilada maraan ee Western Avenue laga bilaabo Como Avenue ilaa University Avenue. Mashruucaan waxaa loo bandhigi doonaa Guddiga Magaalada Saint Paul maalinta Arbacada, Satembar 2. Tani waxay ahaan doontaa dhageysi u furan dadweynaha. Guddiga Magaalada wuxuu codkiisa ka dhiiban doonaa haddii loo baahan yahay in lagu talliyo in Hawlaha Guud fulliso waxyaaba la soo jeediyay ee u fududeeya baskiilada isticmaasha Western Avenue. Dhageysiga waxaa la qaban doonaa **5:30 PM maalinta Arbacada, Satembar 2, 2015, waxaana lagu qaban doonaa 300 City Hall, 15 Kellogg Blvd West.**

**Oromo:**

Qajeelchi “Department of Public Works” magaalaa Saint Paul daandii Western Avenue kan Como Avenue fi University Avenue gidduu jiru irratti faasilitiiwwan doqidoqqeen dhaabbatuu uumuuf karoofateera. Piroojeektiin kun Mana mare Magaala Saint Paulitti gaafa Roobii, September 2 ni dhiyaata. Kunis dhimma marii bakka buutoota uummataa irratti marihatan dha. Manni maree magaalichaa Public Works faasilitiiwwan doqidoqqee yaadaman kana Western Avenue irratti akka hojii irra oolchu heeyyamuufi dhiisuu irratti sagalee kan kennu ta’a. Mariin kun gaafa **Roobii, September 2, 2015 sa’aatii 11:30tti (5:30 PM) bakka 300 City Hall, 15 Kellogg Blvd West** itti gaggeefama.