

From: Bob [<mailto:boblite@comcast.net>]
Sent: Sunday, May 08, 2016 4:11 PM
To: Bob
Subject: Upper Afton Road

Please do not allow bike lanes to be put in and take away our parking on Upper Afton Road. Upper Afton Road is all hills and I count maybe 2 bikes a day in summer going down the street (I work from home mainly and see out quite a bit).

1. Bikes do NOT belong on the street. The sidewalks are just fine for them and safe.
2. They will say they don't want to brake for walkers - well car drivers don't want to brake for bikes.
3. Streets are very dangerous as is without bikes weaving and taking over lanes of traffic. I have seen plenty of bikers go over the lines when they have bike lanes.
4. They claim to be green, but when cars have to slow and/or stop for them, this wastes gas.
5. Such a waste for the 4 or 5 months bikers actually ride.
6. Parking is scarce enough for households with multiple drivers.
7. Bikes should be mandated to have mirrors and obey the laws!!
8. Bikes should be made to pay taxes instead of snowmobilers, car drivers, etc.

Please do not allow this to happen to our street just because you want to be politically correct.

Voter
Robert J. Fisher
1779 Upper Afton Road

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Nesbitt [<mailto:m.nesbitt@comcast.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 2:49 PM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward7
Cc: #CI-StPaul_Ward1; #CI-StPaul_Ward2; #CI-StPaul_Ward3; #CI-StPaul_Ward4; #CI-StPaul_Ward5; #CI-StPaul_Ward6; district1council@gmail.com
Subject: Loss of on-street parking on upper Afton Road

Counsellor Prince,

I am writing this email to express my objection to bike lanes on our street, Upper Afton Road. My main concern is the loss of our street parking!! We won't actually lose the spots in front of our house, but, our neighbours across the street will lose their spots. The loss of their on-street parking will result in friction when they start parking in front of our house. I browsed some of your data that the city gathered about our on-street parking, and, the conclusion seemed to be that we really didn't need our on-street parking!!! Nothing could be further from the truth!! People are utilizing on street parking in our neighbourhood (between Winthrop St and McKnight Rd) all the time!! I also gathered from the online information that the people utilizing the bike lanes are quite well organized!! I also wonder how they would feel if the city decided that they didn't need their on-street parking and how they would feel about that!! I also feel that the tax paying citizens who utilize the on-street parking should carry more weight in the decision about said parking!! I hope this email will sway enough of the counsellors from the bad decision of removing taxpayers on-street parking! Maybe Burns Avenue could be a better choice since there are long stretches of that street with residences only on one side!!

Thank you for hearing our concerns
Michael & Kim Nesbitt

Dear Councilmembers,

I'm writing to request your support for adding bike lanes on Upper Afton Rd. during the Ramsey County resurfacing project this year. Tomorrow's agenda looks full and I'm unable to attend in person so this email is my testimony.

I live on the corner of Upper Afton and E. Sandra Lee Dr. in Ward 7 and I now have two kids who will be growing up in this neighborhood. I support the addition of bike lanes because it will provide my family a safer route to access Battle Creek Regional Park, Battle Creek Rec Center and playground, and the businesses on Suburban Ave. These amenities are why we chose to live in this neighborhood!

I'm not a strong cyclist (understatement of the year), but I recently bought a used bike and a burley for my kids to ride in. Unfortunately, I do not feel safe riding on the street without some separation from traffic and this could make all the difference. Also, Upper Afton is currently too wide and cars drive too fast. We walk our dog along the road and it makes me nervous to have my 3 year old walk with me since cars are racing down the street and the sidewalk is pretty narrow. I hope the bike lanes will calm traffic and provide a buffer for the sidewalk as well.

Finally, I'd like to make a plug for improving the pedestrian crossings on this road. Most notably, the uncontrolled intersection where Battle Creek Regional Trail crosses Upper Afton. Currently, there are yellow ped signs and white stripes, but I would love to see a park-like treatment here that makes cars more aware and signals to passersby that they are driving through a park. Battle Creek makes my neighborhood really special and, if given the proper treatment, will continue to attract families who want to enjoy the convenience of city living in a more natural setting.

I'd like to thank Councilmember Prince and Stephanie for their work listening to neighborhood concerns and working through issues. I think the proposed striping treatment and resurfacing will make my neighborhood an even better place to live. Thank you for your consideration of this project. Can't wait to come back to work! (Well, in a few weeks, that is.)

Sincerely,
Kim O'Brien
11 E Sandra Lee Dr.
651-276-4696