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From: John Levin

Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2016 8:59 PM

To: Stark, Russ (CI-StPaul)

Cc: Hanson, Luke (CI-StPaul); Melissa Cortes; Henningson, Samantha (CI-StPaul); Steve Samuelson

Subject: Re: Hamline Ave

Russ,

I wanted to followup with you regarding your September 2nd letter that was shared with residents and businesses on the north end of Hamline Avenue (between Minnehaha and Pierce Butler). The letter outlines specific plans to mitigate parking concerns related to the implementation of bike lanes on that stretch of Hamline. These plans, including the addition of 11-12 parking spaces by widening short stretches of Hamline Avenue and moving a Metro Transit bus stop, are consistent with the recommendations of the Hamline Midway Coalition, as identified in our July 20 letter to you, and we fully support moving ahead with the proposed improvements.

I want to thank you, your staff, Public Works staff, and others who have been involved in this effort, for your commitment to working through the challenges on this project and for coming up a good solution that allows for implementation of another piece of the the City's bikeway plan while minimizing the impacts on local residents, business owners and visitors. I also want to thank you for identifying the funds necessary for these improvements. While it is fortunately not a huge amount, it is significant funding nonetheless and I'm sure it is not easy to free up any funds in these tight times. The cost of these improvements is clearly a reasonable expense that allows the City to move forward on this important project.

We are hopeful that the City Council will approve this plan on Wednesday and we look forward to working with the City as the implementation of these improvements moves forward over the course of the next year. In particular, I will be asking the HMC Transportation Committee to continue to engage with interested parties to address any remaining issues, such as access to the Hamline Hi-Rise or parking for visitors to the hi-rise or the nearby Friends School of Minnesota.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions on this issue.

Sincerely,

John Levin

Chair, Hamline Midway Coalition Transportation Committee