



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Melvin W. Carter, Mayor

1500 City Hall Annex

Fax: 651-266-6222

25 W. Fourth Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55102-1660

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: 10/10/2019

**SUBJECT: Summary of the public process and comments received on the Intersection Safety Improvements associated with the Johnson Parkway Regional Trail**

This memorandum presents a summary of the public process and comments received on Saint Paul Public Works' proposal to construct and off-street trail along Johnson Parkway between Burns Avenue and Phalen Boulevard, including the proposed closure of seven minor intersections along the corridor. The full text of all written statements received is attached to the end of this memorandum.

Saint Paul Public Works staff began stakeholder outreach along Johnson Parkway in Fall of 2018. 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. Temporary test closures were performed at all intersections initially proposed for closure along Johnson Parkway in November and December of 2018. In advance of the test closures, notices were mailed to all nearby residents and property owners to inform them of the temporary test closures and provide relevant project and contact information. City staff also presented the project to the Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission. The Transportation Committee recommended approval of the project as proposed.

### Johnson Parkway Open Houses:

Two community Open Houses were held in January and July of 2019 for the Johnson Parkway Regional Trail and associated intersection closures. Residents and property owners along the corridor were sent notifications of the open houses via mail, along with an overview of the project details and impacts. 2380 flyers were sent out for each meeting. The flyers provided a map of the project, a link to the project website, contact information for project staff, and information about the project design. **For a detailed summary of both open houses, please reference the meeting summaries attached to this memorandum.**

### Written Statements Received:

As of October 10, 2019, city staff received a total of 35 written statements specific to the proposed trail and/or intersection closures along Johnson Parkway:

- Comment forms from the project meetings (27 statements)
- Comments sent or forwarded to city staff via email (8 statements)



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Need this translated? Call us at 651-266-6100  
al 651-266-6100

Ma u baahan tahay tarjamadaan Naga soo wac 651-266-6100  
ntawm 651-266-6100

Necesita esta traducción? Comuníquese con nosotros

Xav tau qhov no txhais los? Hu rau peb

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 via email).

**Attachments:**

1. Open House 1 Meeting Summary Memo
2. Open House 2 Meeting Summary Memo
3. Original text or transcription of all written statements received by city staff via email
4. Copies of all Project Meeting Notices

# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT

## Meeting Summary

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### Open House #1

Thursday, January 17, 2019

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Duluth & Case Rec Center (1020 Duluth St, Saint Paul, MN 55106)

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This memo documents summary information regarding Open House #1 for the Johnson Parkway Trail Project on January 17, 2019.

### *Basic Meeting Information*

- Public open house for the Johnson Parkway community
- Date: January 17, 2019
- Time: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- Presentation and Q&A: 5:15 pm – 6:00 pm
- Location: Duluth & Case Rec Center (1020 Duluth St, Saint Paul, MN 55106)

### *Meeting Notifications*

- Posted on City of Saint Paul project website
- Invite postcards were mailed to adjacent properties
- Emails sent to City's email list
- Posting to the City's Twitter account

### *Attendance*

- 45 attendees signed in (See **Attachments** for sign-in sheets)
  - A few attendees did not sign in
  - 27 attendees indicated they would like to receive project email updates
- 9 project staff present
  - 3 City of Saint Paul (Luke Hanson, Nick Peterson, Cheng Xiong)
  - 6 SEH (Wayne Houle, Heather Kienitz, Justin Anibas, William Bauer, Luis Sandia Rodriguez, Emma Siegworth)

### *Meeting Description*

The two-hour long public meeting began with an open house style format followed by a 30 minute presentation. This was followed by a Question & Answer session and then back to the open house. Attendees were encouraged to sign in and to sign up for additional information to stay updated on the Johnson Parkway Trail Project.



Presentation boards provided information on:

- Grand Round history – Horace W.S. Cleveland and Frederick Nussbaumer
- Grand Round vision statement and principles
- Grand Round planning efforts and construction schedule
- Johnson Parkway Trail project schedule, funding, concept designs (plan view and cross sections)
- Saint Paul bicycle network plan
- Results of Johnson Parkway Trail traffic study

Spanish and Hmong interpretation was available, but not utilized.

### **Question & Answer**

Questions asked by audience during the Q&A following the presentation are as follows:

- Will signalized intersections be reconstructed?
- How will trail be maintained during the winter?
- Will lighting be added on the entire parkway (both boulevards)?
- What will road closures look like?
- How much of trail/intersections will have to be re-constructed with future projects?
- How was the east boulevard chosen for the trail?
- What is the risk of pedestrian/bicycle collisions on the trail?
- Recent high speed chase through area...question about safety
- Will bicycles have their own traffic control (i.e. stop signs)?

### **Where Do You Live? Dot Exercise**

Approximately 25 people participated in the exercise by placing a dot on/near their home on the aerial map. Most lived on or within a few blocks of Johnson Parkway, and others lived further from the project area. See **Attachments** for photograph of the results of the exercise.

### **Johnson Parkway Aerial Map Exercise**

Ten post-its with comments were placed on the aerial. The comments and their locations are as follows:

- Near the project start (Johnson Parkway and Burns Ave) – “Endangered rusty patch bumble bees at Phalen & Battle Creek. Help keep wildlife corridors for gene flow.”
- Near I-94 bridge – “Rock veneer replace, missing n. side”
- Near the intersection of Johnson Parkway and Conway St – “Please close this intersection.”
- Near the intersection of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Gotzian St – “<Top of Hill Blind intersection at odd angle> Increases in traffic volume through here increase already high risks associated with this intersection”
- Near the open space on the east side of Johnson Parkway between Bush Ave (behind the Ross Ave E cul-de-sac) – “Art”
- Near the railroad bridge – “Lighting at bridge”
- Near the intersection of Johnson Parkway and Phalen Blvd – “Interconnectivity • It is often difficult to find connections between cycleway segments. Sometimes this is because a segment just ‘ends’ somewhere. Sometimes it is because of a problem spot on a segment. Signage • Some locations have really good route signs. • Others have no signs at all. Easy to get lost.”
- Near the intersection of Johnson Parkway and Magnolia Ave – “Magnolia & Johnson Intersection is terrible. Traffic too close to Phalen Blvd light. Maybe right turn on light?”
- On the east side of the Johnson Parkway and Phalen Blvd intersection – “Lots of bumble bees here – improve habitat for endangered rusty patch corridor. Thanks”



- On the northeast corner of the intersection of Johnson Parkway and Maryland Ave – “6 rusty patch bumble bees seen here 3x 2016-2018. Plant mowed wetlands with their habitat & maintain with burning”

## Comments

20 comment cards were collected from attendees during the meeting. See **Attachments** for digital scans of the cards. The following are the comments transcribed:

- “You are giving the east side another avenue for more crime & drug activity. That is a fact.”
- “I live directly on the GROUND Round trail (East part of Johnson pkwy and Beech) and have 2 concerns: 1) Response time for fire & medical emergencies will be delayed -> every minute is valuable! 2) increased traffic on frontage road with street closures; school bus, etc. show need to make it one way (possibly -> then again – it will create great confusion as drivers don’t read signs in neighborhoods. No good recommendation.”
- “Mary Ellen and I have biked the parkway from Fremont orange south on weekends 3 seasons. If street lanes exist, we will still use them. Drivers seem aware of us. Last summer 9 year old granddaughter & I biked it north from Battle Creek. The off street trail will make this route safer for those family rides. Do what you can to separate the ped/roller & bike paths. That’s why we will stay on the street. We don’t want to kill a ped who is unaware they are on a shared path. Do what to can to emphasize the multiple use nature of the trail. When we walked Wheelock to the Grand Round Kickoff, I was reminded of the cow paths in our pasture in S.W. WI minus the cow piles, 10 inch dirt trails and no sidewalks. Yes to sidewalks! At that event I hoped the G.R. would be finished B4 we’re dead. This is pretty hopeful! Excellent job, Luke! Thank you! Stormwater abatement! Thanks!”
- “Total replacement of traffic lights at Minnehaha and Johnson Parkway is necessary. Left turn arrows and don’t walk signs are needed to increase the public health & safety. Signal timing changes alone are not enough. I want to know what police and fire departments say about response time to the affected neighborhoods east of Johnson Parkway. If response time goes down safety of residents is lessened.”
- “I am impressed with the proposed parkway trail improvements, particularly the road-crossing closures – which will make the trail more function for bike-riding by reducing the # of required stops. While making an important connection for recreational-riding as part of the Grand Rounds, I believe this will also bike-commuting capacity on the east side. Don’t just think “sport” – think transport!”
- “Very supportive of project. Will be a great amenity. Thanks.”
- “I 100% support this project and the various street closures. The one additional intersection I would consider closing is Conway. Drivers exit the freeway and tear down this street to avoid 3<sup>rd</sup>. Some kind of the mid-block/mid-street diverter/circle/bumps on Conway could also be an effective way of making the Conway/Johnson intersection better.”
- “What is your plan for school bus traffic from Parkway Middle School to close Bush Ave would push all traffic to E 7<sup>th</sup> / Minahha.”
- “Looks very well-designed, with lots of data backing up the decisions! I look forward to having the Grand Round fully realized.”
- “We strongly support the Grand Round and the proposed improvements for bike & ped users along Johnson Parkway. As a parent of 2 children and a year-round bike commuter, we frequently use this route. As a homeowner in the neighborhood, I greatly appreciate the road closures. Thank you for your efforts to make St. Paul a better place to live!”
- “I support the bike trail because I love biking and I think we should make bike roads. ☺ And I also support it because biking is awesome! - Teagan (9 years)”
- “Great project! Thanks for the great work! I walk and bike this stretch often. It will be great to have a safer walkway – make signage that it is shared. Make trail visible (Maybe green?) at intersections so cars don’t block the trail. Fix busy problem intersection with Magnolia, maybe median to block left turns?”
- “1) I am concerned about parking on closed off streets. 2) I am concerned about bicycles not obeying traffic rules. IE running stop signs. 3) I am concerned about pedestrian/bicycle collisions –

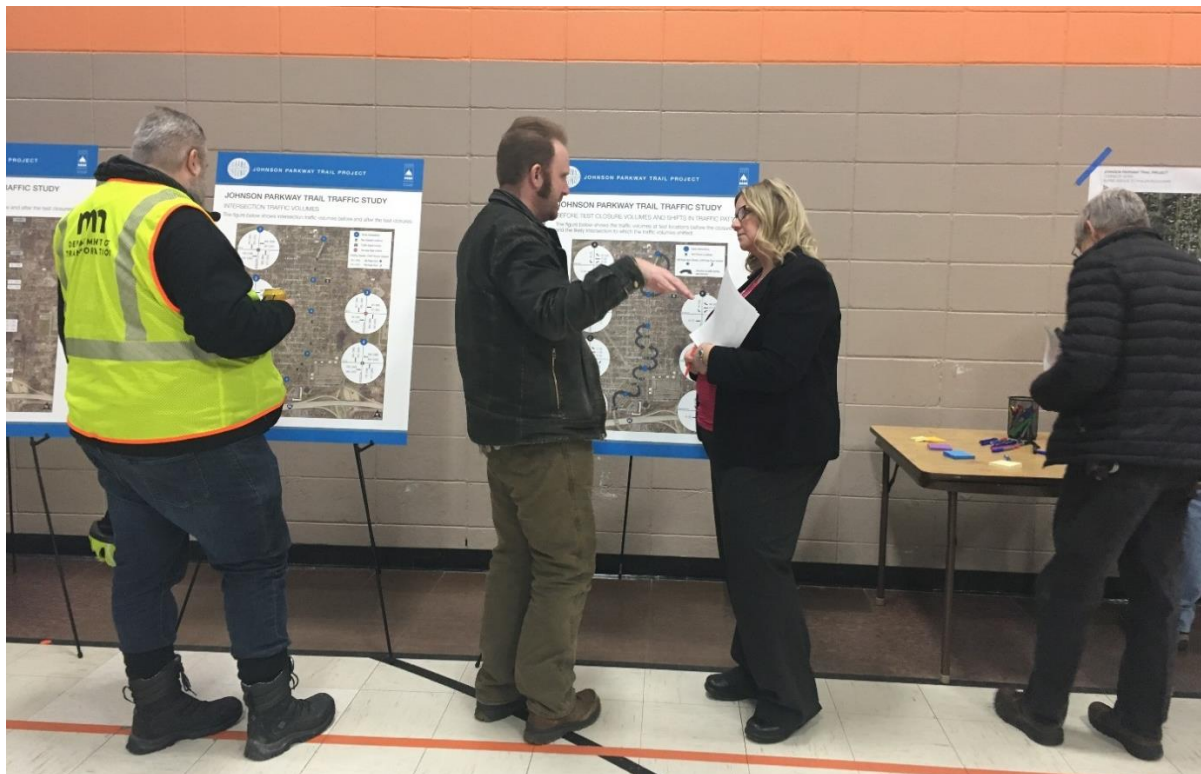
- “I fully support the closures and think it will calm traffic on residential streets. Any way lighting can be increased to better see ped/bicyclist at the crossings would be great. Current St Paul lighting make it hard to see peds and bicyclists.”
- “1) See wildlife corridor and endangered rusty patch essay. 2) Please put “HAT” on street/track lighting to keep light out of bedrooms & keep light out of night sky to we can see stars & so it shines down where we need it.” [See **Attachments** for *Metro Urban Wildlife Corridors are in Trouble*, essay by Kathy Sidles]
- “I’ve lived on the East Side my whole life. I had to walk to Harding after they got rid the busing & I walked on the frontage road. The sidewalk & trail will be a huge improvement. The access closures will make this safer for everyone. More green space is a plus too. We should do more of this type of project throughout Saint Paul. Great presentation tonight.”
- “The street closures are very important – critical – to make their bike trail safe for all bike commuters, families and community members that will use it. Safety should be the highest priority for all street projects. Full support!”
- “Love the Wheelock trail! I think the road closures are critical to the usefulness of this trail for families, especially with younger children. Too many intersections with cars increases danger and decreases comfort. The less comfortable this is, the less people will use it. Super important route as it connects East Siders to Lake Phalen.”
- “I’m so excited to see this happen! I fully support the Johnson Parkway trail plan and look forward to this much-needed infrastructure! Great work as always by Luke – he deserves a raise.”

### Staff Notes

Additional questions and comments by meeting attendees included:

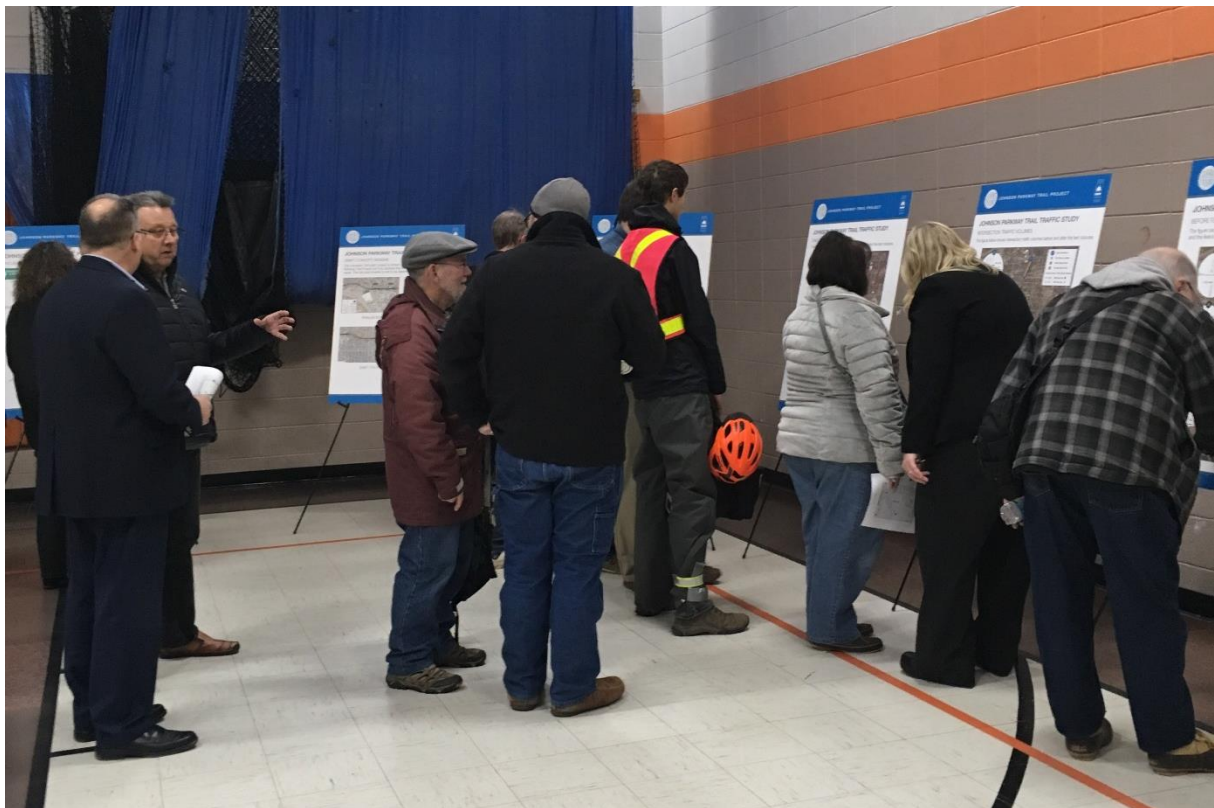
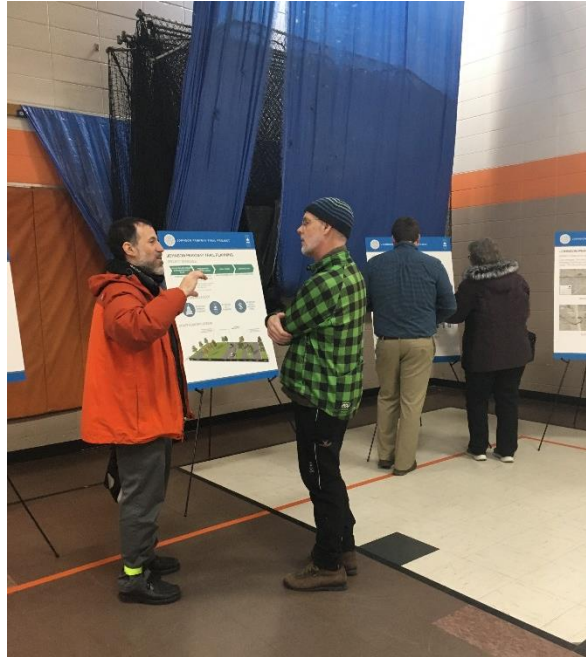
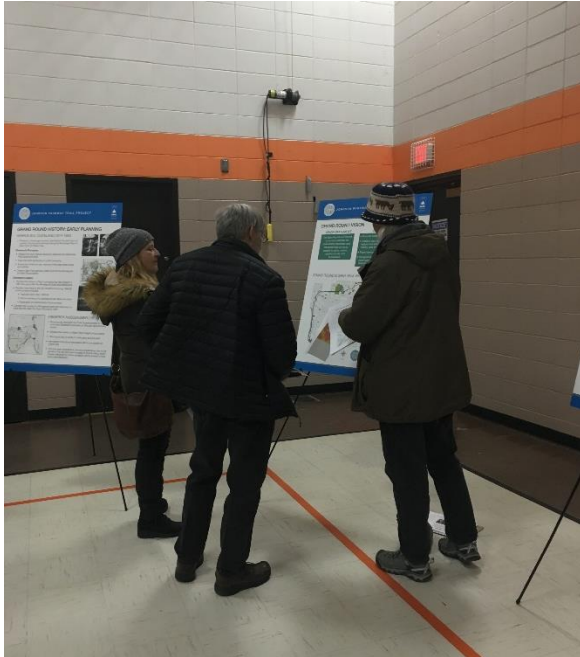
- Is it possible to have traffic signal progression for bicycles? What about adding signals for bicyclists to know if they should speed up to catch the next green light or slow down because it is about to turn red?
- From property owner at 366 Johnson Parkway (first house north of I-94): understands the desire to close Wakefield Ave but asks if we can keep it open. Concerns about access from Wilson Ave...9 houses using 18’ wide street (two way traffic) with parking on one side will be tight. Also asked about access for fire department in the event of a fire.
- Comment that a traffic signal should be added at Ames Ave.
- Many people were concerned about the intersection of Atlantic St and Gotzian St. They mentioned that there have been many near misses.
- What are the limits of the project?
- When the street closures are going to start?
- What streets are going to be closed? (Many people were concerned about potential problems to access their homes)
- How much money does the project cost? And who is going to pay for it?
- When the construction is going to start?

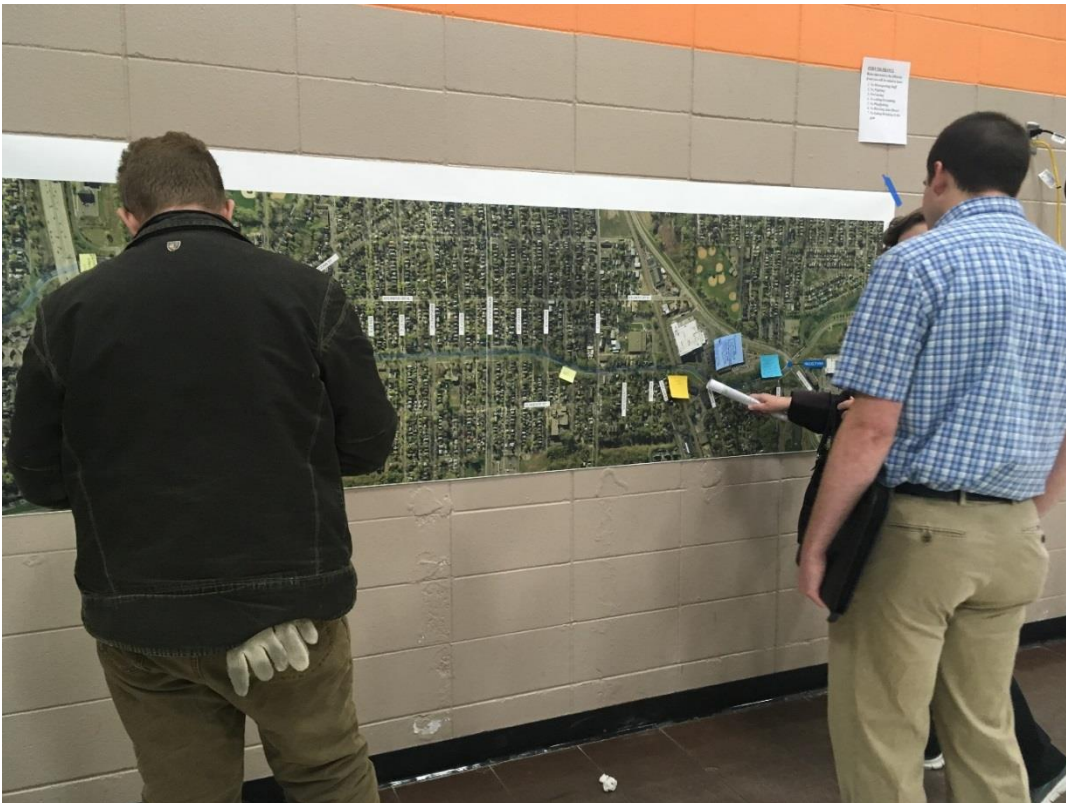
## Photos of Event





## Johnson Parkway Trail Project





***Attachments:***

Sign-in Sheets

Where Do You Live? Dot Exercise

Comment Cards

Essay by Kathy Sidles - *Metro Urban Wildlife Corridors are in Trouble*





## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1	Date: January 17, 2019
Location: Duluth & Case Recreation Center	Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: Theresa Nelson	Address: Mare Minnesota
Phone:	
Email: theresa.n@movemn.org	

☒ Yes
 ☐ No

Name: Tim Olsen	Address: 366 Johnson Pkwy
Phone:	
Email: oltimsen@comcast.net	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No



## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1

Date: January 17, 2019

Location: Duluth &amp; Case Recreation Center

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: Joe DALBEC	Address: 913 Johnson Pkwy
Phone: 612-739-3260	St. Paul MN 55106-3421
Email:	

☐

Yes

☒

No

Name: David/Deborah Schneider	Address: 1306 E 6 <sup>th</sup> St (6th & Johnson Pkwy)
Phone: 612-750-7979	
Email: deborahs24@comcast.net	

☒

Yes

☐

No

Name: KEN ADAMS	Address: 1370 BUSH AVE
Phone:	
Email:	

☐

Yes

☐

No

Name: Mike Dreis	Address: 1379 E 6 <sup>th</sup> St
Phone:	
Email:	

☐

Yes

☐

No

Name: Greg Revalk	Address: 444 Johnson Parkway
Phone: 651-387-6617	St. Paul, MN 55106
Email: gregv1127@yahoo.com	

☐

Yes

☐

No

Name: Jeanne Gehrman	Address: 1963 Nortonia Dr
Phone: 651-731-9618	St Paul 55119
Email: j.gehrman@comcast.net	

☒

Yes

☐

No





## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1

Date: January 17, 2019

Location: Duluth &amp; Case Recreation Center

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: Otto Hiller	Address: 1331 Stillwater Ave
Phone: 651-270-2468	St Paul 55106
Email: hilleo1@comcast.net	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Eric Saathoff	Address: 691 Wells St.
Phone: 651-771-0210	
Email: eric.saathoff@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: ROB LUBKE + NEIL	Address: 825 JOHNSON PKWY
Phone:	
Email: orville76@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Libby Kantner	Address: 753 Fuller Ave
Phone: 612 860 7823	
Email: libbykantner28@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Stuart Knappmiller	Address: 1112 Orange Ave E.
Phone: 651-470-6124	ST Paul 55106
Email: stuartknappmiller49@hotmail.com	

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name: Chris Xiong	Address: 7580 Scott Ave N
Phone: 263 477 1799	
Email: ChrisXiong92@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No



## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1	Date: January 17, 2019
Location: Duluth & Case Recreation Center	Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: ROY JOHNSON	Address: 1021 CONWAY ST.
Phone: 651-442-4625	ST. PAUL, MN. 55106
Email: roy.johnson@cco.lap.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: ALINE SCOTTS	Address: 678 Johnson Pkwy
Phone:	St Paul, MN 55106
Email: ahscoles12@yahoo.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: KATHY SIDCES	Address: 1380 WINCHELL ST
Phone:	
Email: KESID@AOL.COM	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Dan Bassett	Address: 1725 Minnehaha Ave E
Phone:	
Email: danielmbassett@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: KAREN GORZ	Address: 1388 AMES AVE
Phone:	ST PAUL MN 55106
Email:	

☐ Yes ☒ No

Name: Ethan Oster	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes ☐ No





## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1

Date: January 17, 2019

Location: Duluth &amp; Case Recreation Center

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: Joe & Joanne Vetter	Address: 1201 Wilson Ave
Phone: 651-771-0528	St Paul MN
Email: vetterlj@gmail.com	



Yes



No

Name: Christopher R. Hertel	Address:
Phone:	
Email: crh@ubi9x.org	



Yes



No

Name: Mark O'Neill	Address: 1433 Frits Trail N
Phone: 651 230-3753	
Email: mbonen@mmn.com	



Yes



No

Name: Ian R Buck	Address: 514 Thomas Ave W
Phone: 612-522-1138	
Email: ian.r.buck@gmail.com	



Yes



No

Name: Stephanie Harr	Address:
Phone:	
Email: stephanie.harr@ci.stpaul.mn.us	



Yes



No

Name: JANE PRINCE	Address:
Phone: 651-266-8670	
Email: jane.prince@ci.stpaul.mn.us	



Yes



No



## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1

Date: January 17, 2019

Location: Duluth &amp; Case Recreation Center

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: <u>ROGER REHBEIN</u>	Address:
Phone:	
Email: <u>rkrehbein@gmail.com</u>	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: <u>DAVID RONZANI</u>	Address:
Phone: <u>651-266-6410</u>	
Email: <u>DAVID.RONZANI@CI.STPAUL.MN.US</u>	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: <u>Linda Kantner</u>	Address:
Phone: <u>651-485-4071</u>	
Email: <u>Kand@comcast.net</u>	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: <u>TED MADISON</u>	Address: <u>1116 HYACINTH AVE E 55106</u>
Phone: <u>651-776-1297</u>	
Email: <u>tedmadison@msn.com</u>	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: <u>Jacob Poffen</u>	Address: <u>1245 3<sup>RD</sup> ST E</u>
Phone: <u>612-867-0147</u>	
Email: <u>biclormoban@gmail.com</u>	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: <u>Paul Sanyer</u>	Address: <u>1346 Point Douglas Rd S</u>
Phone: <u>612-269-1024</u>	
Email: <u>paul.m.sanyer@gmail.com</u>	

☒ Yes ☐ No



## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1	Date: January 17, 2019
Location: Duluth & Case Recreation Center	Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: JUDITH DRISCOLL	Address: 1896 WALTER ST
Phone: 612 961 2199	MAPLEWOOD, MN 55109
Email: JUDITHANNDRISCOLL@GMAIL	

☐ Yes  
☒ No

Name: DAVID KUDOLPH	Address: 1363 BLAIR AVE
Phone: 651 775 1718	
Email: david@lowertownloft.com	

☒ Yes  
☐ No

Name: Micheal Foley	Address: 136 Western Ave N Apt 207
Phone: 715-245-6829	
Email: mike@foleymo.com	

☒ Yes  
☐ No

Name: Lonrel Reger	Address: 1360 4th St E
Phone: 651 699 1698	
Email: lonrelreger@gmail.com	

☒ Yes  
☐ No

Name: Sandra Kweger	Address: 1258 Beech St
Phone: 651-485-75125	St. Paul MN
Email: SandraKweger1@hotmail.com	

☐ Yes  
☒ No

Name: Peter Grasse	Address:
Phone: 651-428-1279	1734 Timberwood Echo
Email: ptoisgrasse@gmail.com	Woodbury MN 55125

☒ Yes  
☐ No





# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1	Date: January 17, 2019
Location: Duluth & Case Recreation Center	Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: Steve Yetter	Address: 1499 Hythe St
Phone: 651 917 3993	
Email: styetter@gmail.com	

☒ Yes  
☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes  
☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes  
☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes  
☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes  
☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes  
☐ No



## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1

Date: January 17, 2019

Location: Duluth &amp; Case Recreation Center

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: <b>ANDY SINGER</b>	Address:
Phone: <b>651-917-3417</b>	
Email: <b>andy@andysinger.com</b>	

☒ Yes
 ☐ No

Name: <b>Leigh Behrens</b>	Address:
Phone: <b>612-567-6504</b>	
Email: <b>LJBehrens@gmail.com</b>	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes
 ☐ No



# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 1

Date: January 17, 2019

Location: Duluth & Case Recreation Center

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: <i>Brian Martinson</i>	Address: <i>1943 Princeton Ave</i>
Phone: <i>651-357-6469</i>	
Email: <i>brian.e.martinson@gmail.com</i>	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes ☐ No



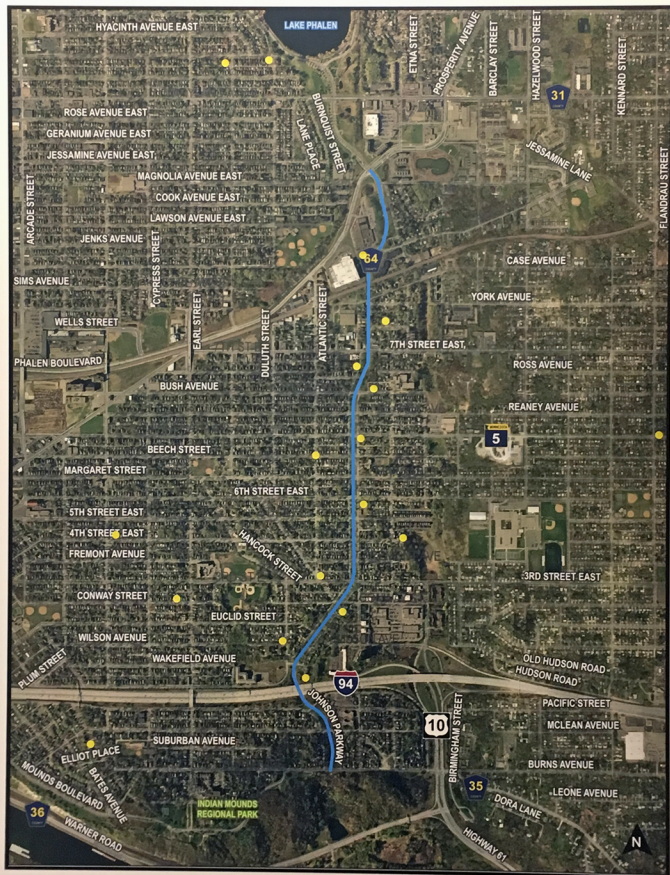


## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



### WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

PLEASE PLACE A YELLOW DOT NEAR YOUR HOME



# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Sandy Kuyper \* PHONE 651-485-7525

\* EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\* ADDRESS 1258 Beech St

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: You are giving the east side another  
venue for more crime & drug activity  
that is a fact

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)

# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME L AINE Scoles \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* EMAIL ahscoles12@yahoo.com

\* ADDRESS 678 Johnson Pkwy, St. Paul 55106

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: I live directly on the GROUND Round trail &  
have 2 concerns: (1) Response time for <sup>Fire & Medical</sup> EMERGENCIES will be  
delayed - every minute is valuable!

(2) increased traffic on frontage Road with street closures;  
School Buses <sup>etc.</sup> show need to make it one way (possibly -> then again -  
it will create great confusion as driver's don't read signs in neighborhoods  
NO GOOD Recommendation

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)



# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Stuart Knappmiller \* PHONE 651-470-6124  
\* EMAIL StuartKnappmiller49@hotmail.com  
\* ADDRESS 1112 Orange Ave E.

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: Mary Ellen & I have biked the parkway from Frank & Orange south on weekends 3 seasons. If street lanes exist, we will still use them. Drivers seem aware of us. Last summer my 9 year old granddaughter & I biked it north from Battle Creek. The off street trail will make this route safer for those family rides. Do what you can to

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separate the ped/roller + bike paths. That's why we will stay  
on the street. We don't want to kill a ped who is unaware they  
are on a shared path. Do what you can to emphasize the  
multiple use nature of the trail.

Place  
stamp  
here

When we walked Wheelabrator to the Grand Round Rock off I was  
reminded of the cow paths in our pasture in S.W. WI. m/n/s  
the cow piles, 10 inch wide dirt trails and no sidewalks. Yes  
to sidewalks! At that event I hoped the G.I.R. would be  
finished by we're dead. This is pretty hopeful!

Attn: Luke Hanson - excellent job, Luke!  
25 West 4th Street Thank you!  
800 City Hall Annex  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Stormwater abatement! Thanks!

# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME ROGER REHBEIN \* PHONE 651-770-3154

\* EMAIL rkrehbein@gmail.com

\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

★ COMMENTS: TOTAL REPLACEMENT OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT MINNEHAWKA & JOHNSON PARKWAY IS NECESSARY. LEFT TURN ARROWS & DON'T WALK SIGNS ARE NEEDED TO INCREASE THE PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY. SIGNAL TIMING CHANGES ALONE ARE NOT ENOUGH.

★ I WANT TO KNOW WHAT POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENTS SAY ABOUT RESPONSE TIME TO THE AFFECTED NEIGHBORHOODS EAST OF JOHNSON PARKWAY.

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)

IF RESPONSE TIME GOES DOWN  
SAFETY OF RESIDENTS IS  
LESSENED.

# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Brian C. Martinson \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: I am impressed with the proposed parkway trail improvements, particularly the road-crossing closures - which will make the trail more functional for bike-riding by reducing the # of required stops. While making an important connection for recreational-riding as part of the Grand Rounds, I believe this will also improve bike-commuting capacity on the East Side. Don't just think "sport" - think transport!

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Peter Graste \* PHONE 651 428-1279  
\* EMAIL petergraste@gmail.com  
\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: Very Supportive of Project.  
will be a great amenity.  
Thanks.

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME ANDREW SINGER \* PHONE 651-917-3417  
\* EMAIL andy@andysinger.com  
\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: I 100% SUPPORT THIS PROJECT AND THE VARIOUS  
STREET CLOSURES. THE ONE ADDITIONAL INTERSECTION  
I WOULD CONSIDER CLOSING IS CONWAY. DRIVERS EXIT  
THE FREEWAY AND TEAR DOWN THIS STREET TO AVOID 3rd.  
SOME KIND OF MID-BLOCK/MID-STREET DIVERTER/CIRCLE/BUMPS  
ON CONWAY COULD ALSO BE AN EFFECTIVE WAY OF MAKING  
THE CONWAY/JOHNSON INTERSECTION BETTER.

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME KEN ADAMS \* PHONE 651 235-5282

\* EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\* ADDRESS 1370 BUSH AVE

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: WHAT IS YOUR PLAN FOR SCHOOL BUS  
TRAFFIC FROM PARKWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
TO CLOSE BUSH AVE & ZEANY AVE WOULD PUSH  
ALL TRAFFIC TO ETH / M. NAHHA.

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Ian R Buck \* PHONE 612-520-1138

\* EMAIL ian.r.buck@gmail.com

\* ADDRESS 514 Thomas Ave W

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: Looks very well-designed, with lots of  
data backing up the decisions!  
I look forward to having the Grand Round  
fully realized.

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)



# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Dan Bassett \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
\* EMAIL daniel m bassett @ gmail.com  
\* ADDRESS 1725 Minnehaha Ave E

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: We strongly support the Grand Round and the proposed improvements for bike + ped users along Johnson Parkway. As a parent of 2 children and a year-round bike commuter, we frequently use this route. As a homeowner in the neighborhood, I greatly appreciate the road closures. Thank you for your efforts to make

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Teagan bassett \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
\* EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
\* ADDRESS 1725 minnehaha ave e

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: I support the bike trail because I love biking and I think we should make bike roads. I <sup>go</sup> and I also support it because <sup>a</sup>bike biking is awesome!

Teagan (9 years)

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Otto Hiller \* PHONE 651-270-2468  
\* EMAIL hilleo@comcast.net  
\* ADDRESS 1331 Stillwater Ave, St Paul 55106

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: Great project! Thanks for the great work!  
I walk and bike this stretch often. It will be great to have  
a safer walkway - make signage that it is shared.  
Make trail visible (maybe green?) at intersections so cars don't  
block the trail.  
Fix <sup>busy problem</sup> intersection with magnolia, maybe median to block left turns?

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME ROY JOHNSON \* PHONE 651-442-4625  
\* EMAIL roy.johnson@ecolab.com  
\* ADDRESS 1021 CONWAY ST., SAINT PAUL, MN 55106

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: 1) I AM CONCERNED ABOUT PARKING ON CLOSED  
OFF STREETS  
2) I AM CONCERNED ABOUT BICYCLES NOT OBEYING  
TRAFFIC RULES. IE. RUNNING STOP SIGNS  
3) I AM CONCERNED ABOUT PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE  
COLLISIONS -

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME \_\_\_\_\_ \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: I fully support the closures. and think it will calm traffic on residential streets. Any way lighting can be increased to better see ped/Bicyclist at the ~~cross~~ crossings would be great. ~~Current~~ Current St Paul lighting makes it hard to see

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pedals + bicyclists

# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME KATHY SIDLES \* PHONE 651-771-7528

\* EMAIL KESID@AOL.COM

\* ADDRESS 1380 WINCHELL ST. ST. PAUL MN 55106

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: ① SEE WILDLIFE CORRIDOR + ENDANGERED RUSTY PATCH ESSAY

② PLEASE PUT "HAT" ON STREET/TRAIL LIGHTING TO KEEP LIGHT OUT OF BEDROOMS + KEEP LIGHT OUT OF ~~ST~~ NIGHT SKY SO WE CAN SEE STARS + SO IT SHINES DOWN WHERE WE

NEED IT.

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)



# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Paul Sawyer \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: I've lived on the East Side my whole life. I had to walk to Harding after they got rid of the busing. I walked on the frontage road. The sidewalk & trail will be a huge improvement. The access closures will make this safer for everyone. More greenspace is a plus too. We should do more of this type of project throughout Saint Paul. Great presentation tonight.

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)

# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME \_\_\_\_\_ \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: The street closures are very important - critical - to make this bike trail safe for all the bike commuters, families and community members that will use it. Safety should be the highest priority for all streets projects. Full support!

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Eric Saathoff \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* EMAIL ericsaathoff@gmail.com

\* ADDRESS 691 Wells St.

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: Love the Wheelock trail! I think the road closures  
are critical to the usefulness of this trail for families, especially  
with younger children. Too many intersections with cars  
increases danger and decreases comfort. The less comfortable  
this is the less people will use it. Super important route as it  
connects East Siders to Lake Phalen.

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# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME \_\_\_\_\_ \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: I'm so excited to see this happen! I fully  
support the Johnson Parkway trail plan and look  
forward to this much-needed infrastructure! Great  
work as always by Luke - he deserves a raise.

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JHanson Bike  
Public input

① Don't wreck Rusty Patch Bumble Bee  
Habitat

② Increase habitat by landscaping with  
Metro Urban Wildlife Corridors are in Trouble  
Bee expert input

Kathy Sidles, 01/13/2019, east side Saint Paul resident kesid@aol.com

#### BACKGROUND

③ see Fish Wildlife & Jungles species  
map through MN DNR due to Federal  
Shutdown  
I walk to Frost Lake Park to see ducks and warblers, and bike down the Bruce  
Vento Bike Trail to hear birds, in the east side of Saint Paul. I collect trash and pull  
garlic mustard along the trail and in neglected green spaces above the buried Lake  
Phalen creek and sewer pipes. I count birds and bumblebees as I work and enter  
data into ebird.org and bumblebeewatch.org. Chimney Swifts nest in apartment  
chimneys, feeding above Phalen Corridor as the creek bed it used to be, and I  
count them. I organize the Audubon Christmas Bird Count in this area – we  
always see Eagles and Hawks and sometimes an Owl. I enjoy living within and not  
instead of nature here on the east side of Saint Paul.

Its not just me! Neighbors created the Big Urban Woods (1) at the Phalen  
Boulevard yard waste drop off site, a flower garden kept up by a neighbor is at  
the rail road berm along Maryland, a group teaching Native American traditions is  
at another woods, and behind apartments are dirt people paths to green spaces  
and across rail road right-of-ways.

As a high school student in southern Iowa I learned the importance of natural  
area corridors – wildlife genes have to flow for a healthy population. As I pick up  
trash and pull invasive Garlic Mustard I see how a wildlife corridor works close up.

Though not a biologist, through reading (2) and observation I have learned that  
insects, the birds and plants that depend on insects for food and pollination, and  
other plants and animals, need particular and connected habitats full of native  
plants to thrive.

#### PRESENT SITUATION

I see good natural area upkeep near the Bruce Vento Trail. Saint Paul Parks  
employees burn Ames Lake, East Side Heritage Park, and shores of Lake Phalen.

There are problems elsewhere where little or no maintenance is done. Native  
plant wetlands are filling in with burdock and spotted knapweed. Storm ponds  
and the Vento Trail are being mowed and taken over by lawn grass. Train wheels  
have been fixed (3) so, though fire-resistant oak and prairie grass remain, wheels

1380 Winnetka ST  
ST PAUL, MN  
55106

651-777-1128

7528

Kesid@aol.com

Kesid@aol.com

aol.com

Thanks,  
Kathy  
Sidles

no longer set the right-of-ways on fire and Spotted Knapweed and Garlic Mustard invade. And with no formal pick up plans, trash blows to and builds up in these natural areas.

There is a plan to upgrade Minnesota wildlife corridors and some money to do it. According to the 2007 state corridor map (6) the only complete corridors in the Twin Cities are along the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers. There is a corridor on the map through Washington County and along the Saint Croix. But the map shows large areas with no corridors in dense urban neighborhoods where most families live.

A highlight is the presence of Endangered Rusty Patch Bumble Bees in the Metro area, especially in and near Saint Paul! (21) I found 9 of them along the Vento Trail. So far they are not found in large numbers outstate. They need native flowers blooming throughout the season so their presence means we still have large areas of quality green space. The Fish and Wildlife Service has marked areas where their presence must be taken into account for development. ((20) and map below). There are three other endangered species in Ramsey County, two in the Mississippi and one in the Saint Croix.

But at least three large development plans for the east side of Saint Paul affect the urban corridors and the Rusty Patches. See maps below for their locations -

1. There is an approved plan for the Rush Line bus lanes (5), which removes much of the Vento Bike Trail and its natural areas. The plan could be changed so the Vento Trail is a Regional Park and Route 64 buses are upgraded like the Snelling buses to go to Bus Rapid Transit on 35E. This would help save the Rusty Patched, improve transit to jobs throughout the metro for the people along Maryland and White Bear whose ridership numbers were used to justify replacing the trail - and not just go to White Bear Lake with few jobs after an additional bus transfer.
2. The Port Authority is planning for an upgrade of the Rail Road so it goes into park land at Pig's Eye. There are alternate solutions for this proposal also. This area is part of the same east side Saint Paul Rusty Patched critical area and involves barge traffic on the Mississippi. There are other species of concern that state maps say have been seen in the park and endangered species in the river.



3. The metro area is planning for a large population increase. Saint Paul's plan for this so far doesn't include improved wildlife corridors, from looking at its map. (4) The plan adds denser industrial, mixed use and public transit corridors and removes green spaces from the map other than city and regional parks.

These future city and transit plans make the lack of protected and enhanced continuous wildlife corridors through the city even worse. Neighborhood Chimney Swifts and Grackles that are listed in the 2014 State of the Birds as "Common Birds in Steep Decline" will continue as well as we could contribute to the extinction of the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee. And most importantly for the long term health of all of us, local people lose many of their nearby wildlife corridors and parks that enhance and connect isolated urban natural areas.

#### NATURAL AREA FUNDING

There is money to preserve and upgrade Minnesota natural areas. From what I could find online there is about \$46 per person available each year – roughly \$11 from gambling and \$35 from our 3/8 percent sales tax (7).

About \$13 million of this money goes each year to metro wildlife corridors. This is about \$4.50 per person per year in the Metro area. It is called Metro Conservation Corridors – MeCC (8). It is run this year by the Minnesota Land Trust and DNR. **Even with sales tax and gambling money available in Minnesota the MeCC web site says 60 acres of natural areas are being lost in the Metro area each day!** (8). If these numbers are right we should look at if giving \$46 and getting \$4.50 back is enough to protect our quality river town wildlife corridors.

#### WHY ARE NATURAL AREAS STILL BEING LOST?

None of the neglected natural areas I volunteer in – the Bruce Vento Bike Trail, buried Phalen Creek and sewers, or Frost Lake Park - receive this money that I know of. They don't meet the criteria of being a Regional Park or have not applied for it. Railroads, the many east side cemeteries, private land, and Highway right-of-ways also don't qualify and are not seen as the urban wildlife corridors they could be.

One of the goals of the sales tax money is to increase access to natural areas by young people and the diverse populations of Minnesota (9). The highest concentration of households with children, lower income people, and diverse

populations in Minneapolis and Saint Paul, and maybe the state, is the east side of Saint Paul (10). But no gambling or sales tax funds can be used for natural areas in large parts of it. And from what I have seen development proposals either don't have to look at loss of wildlife and wildlife corridors, and the public input isn't asked for until planning is completed. Also the new Saint Paul development plan map doesn't include wildlife corridors or non-park green spaces like the old one did – just high density industrial. These same things metro-wide could be a cause of the removal of natural areas that MeCC is worried about.

#### WHAT CAN BE DONE? HOW CAN WE ALL HELP?

Here are twelve ideas to stop removal of urban natural areas, enhance them, and increase use and understanding of them by young and diverse metro area people:

1. Saint Paul and other cities long range development plans could include no loss of green space and higher density development on already paved/developed areas. All development proposals such as the Rush Line and Pig's Eye rail upgrade should include an assessment of natural areas lost and degraded and impacts on endangered species before project approval. For example, environmental assessment of the Rush line bus lane replacement of the Vento Trail is being done after approval. (5)
2. Support neighborhoods along river corridors that are included in recent MeCC plans (11) to bring some public dollars back to urban neighborhoods. Expand the plan to neighborhoods that are green interpretive desserts.
3. All parts of the metro area can have a protected neighborhood corridor. Give Rail Roads (3), highway right of ways, buried stream and waste water green spaces names, protect them, pick up the trash and enhance them.
4. The Bruce Vento Bike Trail could become a Regional Park and enhanced for wildlife instead of a bus lane (12) (13). The high density of diverse families along it would then have access to Regional Park programming. As with the Snelling buses, public transit to all parts of the metro can go where the riders are - White Bear, Maryland, English, Phalen Boulevard to BRT on 35E (5). We need both trails and public transit to compete with the suburbs for business and homeowners and prevent urban sprawl.
5. Volunteer homeowner's yards can be a permeable corridor (2) related to one of the major corridors. A discount can be given on sewer bills for



- people who participate since less water runs into sewers. Audubon has an App and booklet to help people find the best plants for their yard.
6. A Park Ranger can float among the corridors and block clubs with the goal of educating diverse and young populations (13). Audubon members can help with bird watching programs.
  7. Assign a DNR school forest to each metro school and a coordinator. The Big Urban Woods is a school forest for three schools. Audubon chapters are already organized to help schools but this way have a woods to learn in.
  8. Audubon can use 70 years of metro Christmas Bird Count Data and eBird data to pick declining species to enhance the wildlife corridors for. (14) Otherwise migrant warblers, ducks, Grackles, Woodpeckers, Owls, Kingbirds and Hawks will lose their urban stop-over points and homes.
  9. Ramsey County has reached the maximum amount of water new development can put down storm drains (15). The new storm ponds taking the place of sewers can be maintained for native plants, frogs, woodchucks, and with standing water become stop overs and hotspots for birds.
  10. The State of Minnesota can work with the Minnesota Soybean Association (16) and cities to come up with a plan to remove Buckthorn. Soybean aphids overwinter in our Buckthorn then fly south and eat soybean leaves, so farmers have to spray pesticides. North Saint Paul has removed all its Buckthorn (17) and other cities can too.
  11. Nectar and milkweed plants for Monarchs and native plants for migrating birds can be put on and near Highway 35E, an official Monarch (18) highway, and other urban roadsides. Highways connect with Minnesota and Mississippi flyway Birding Trails (19).
  12. We could plan to maintain our many railroad corridors as good natural areas for hawks, turkeys and other grassland birds. Otherwise oaks and prairies still there from when the wheels set the corridors on fire (3) go away.

## CONCLUSION

The recent designation of the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee as Endangered and finding the majority of them in the Metro areas presents some good luck and challenges to us as we try to protect them and bring them back from the brink of extinction. And in doing so we can set an example of how to live within nature so

other species don't become endangered. As an urban area we have a chance to bring our diverse greenspaces (Railroads, Cemeteries, Storm Ponds, yards) back up in quality as they were in their original state. This mindset and public input needs to be in place at the beginning building projects and as we maintain our green spaces.

We are lucky to have gambling and sales tax money for natural area enhancement. But thanks to the work of birds and other plants, insects and animals Wildlife Corridors pay for themselves. The top predator Hawks and Owls keep rodents in check. Chimney Swifts eat mosquitos. Native plants direct water down their roots and reduce flooding and replenish Aquifers. Pollinators and birds spread natural areas and keep them healthy for free. Well-kept green spaces in all neighborhoods encourage private dollars to recycle neighborhood housing. Local wildlife corridors allow households to enjoy nature without paying for a trip up north. In a lot of ways natural areas pay for themselves.

Local urban corridors with interpretive programs for families will allow more diverse populations and young people to learn about and experience natural areas in their own neighborhood. They will grow up knowing how to support natural areas state-wide. And we will be living within and not instead of nature.

(See Rusty Patch, Saint Paul planning maps and MeCC corridor map below)

Kathy Sidles, Saint Paul Audubon member, Saint Paul Parks volunteer

[kesid@aol.com](mailto:kesid@aol.com) 651-771-7528 (evening)

- (1) Big Urban Woods website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/bigurbanwoods/home>

- (2) Portland, Oregon Wildlife Corridor Plan:

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/265085554 Wildlife corridors and permeability - a literature review](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/265085554_Wildlife_corridors_and_permeability_-_a_literature_review)

- (3) Trains wheels setting right-of-way on fire, studies of native plants in right-of-ways (notice Ramsey County rail right-of-ways have never been studied):

<file:///C:/Conservation%20Committee/Minnesota%20Railroad%20Right%20of%20Ways.pdf>

(4) Saint Paul Land Use draft plan:

<https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/planning-economic-development/planning/2040-comprehensive-planning/land-use-chapter>

(5) Rush Line dedicated busway web site, and alternative Rapid Bus Lines:

[www.rushline.org](http://www.rushline.org) and <http://www.startribune.com/more-rapid-bus-lines-planned-for-twin-cities/474438883/>

(6) Minnesota Wildlife Corridor maps:

[file:///C:/Conservation%20Committee/MN\\_BirdCorridorsMap040611.pdf](file:///C:/Conservation%20Committee/MN_BirdCorridorsMap040611.pdf)

[file:///C:/Users/KathyS/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/IE/EO3Q2MT/Metro\\_Greenways\\_Seven-County\\_Twin\\_Cities\\_Region,\\_Minnesota%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/KathyS/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/IE/EO3Q2MT/Metro_Greenways_Seven-County_Twin_Cities_Region,_Minnesota%20(1).pdf) Figure 6

(7) Web site with estimate of gambling and sales tax money Environmental Trust Fund (lottery funds) \$35.3 million Trust Fund, \$13.3 million Game and Fish, \$13.3 million Natural Resources, total \$62 million each year:

<file:///C:/Conservation%20Committee/Annual-Report-FY17%20lottery.pdf>

Outdoor Heritage Fund 33% estimated at \$80 million, 14.25% parks and trails, 33% clean water total ~\$195 million each year:

<http://www.legacy.leg.mn/about-funds>

(8) MeCC web site, urban corridor dollars and acres being lost:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/metroconservationcorridors/index.html>

(9) Sales tax and gambling goals web site:

[http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/nrplanning/community/nrplanning\\_guide/handbook.pdf](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/nrplanning/community/nrplanning_guide/handbook.pdf)

(10) Concentration of school aged kids:

<https://mn.gov/admin/demography/data-by-topic/children-families/>

(11) MeCC plans for neighborhoods along corridors:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/maps/mecc/mapper.html>

(12) Example of an urban wildlife regional park and trail in Saint Paul:

<https://www.traillink.com/trail/samuel-h-morgan-regional-trail/>



(13) Gateway/Browns Creek is assigned a DNR Naturalist (see Directors):

<http://gatewaybrowns creektrail.org/>

(14) eBird and Christmas Bird Count data: [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org) and

<http://netapp.audubon.org/CBCObservation/Historical/ResultsBySpecies.aspx?1>

(15) Ramsey County and Saint Paul storm water runoff reduction plans:

<https://www.minnpost.com/line/2016/12/rain-resource-st-paul-innovates-shared-sustainable-stormwater-management>

<https://www.rwmwd.org/explore/management-plan/>

(16) Soybean aphids overwinter on Buckthorn, Soybean Association:

<https://www.extension.umn.edu/agriculture/soybean/pest/soybean-aphid/>

<https://mnsoybean.org/msga/>

(17) North Saint Paul Buckthorn City Code - Buckthorn must be removed:

[http://library.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Minnesota/north\\_saint\\_paul/cityofnorthsaintpaulminnesotacodeofordin?f=templates\\$fn=default.htm\\$3.0\\$vid=amlegal:northstpaul\\_mn](http://library.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/Minnesota/north_saint_paul/cityofnorthsaintpaulminnesotacodeofordin?f=templates$fn=default.htm$3.0$vid=amlegal:northstpaul_mn)


(18) 35E Monarch Highway, and roadsides for wildlife:

<http://blog.nwf.org/2017/06/interstate-35-monarch-butterfly-highway/>

<https://www.wired.com/2015/04/roadside-utility-corridor-habitat/>

(19) Bird Migration Highways:

<https://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/bwdsite/explore/travel/birding-flyways.php>

 (20) Rusty-Patched Critical Areas in the Twin Cities, and threatened and endangered species in Ramsey County:

<https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/insects/rpbb/rpbbmap.html>

<https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/lists/minnesot-cty.html>

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/mcbs/maps.html>

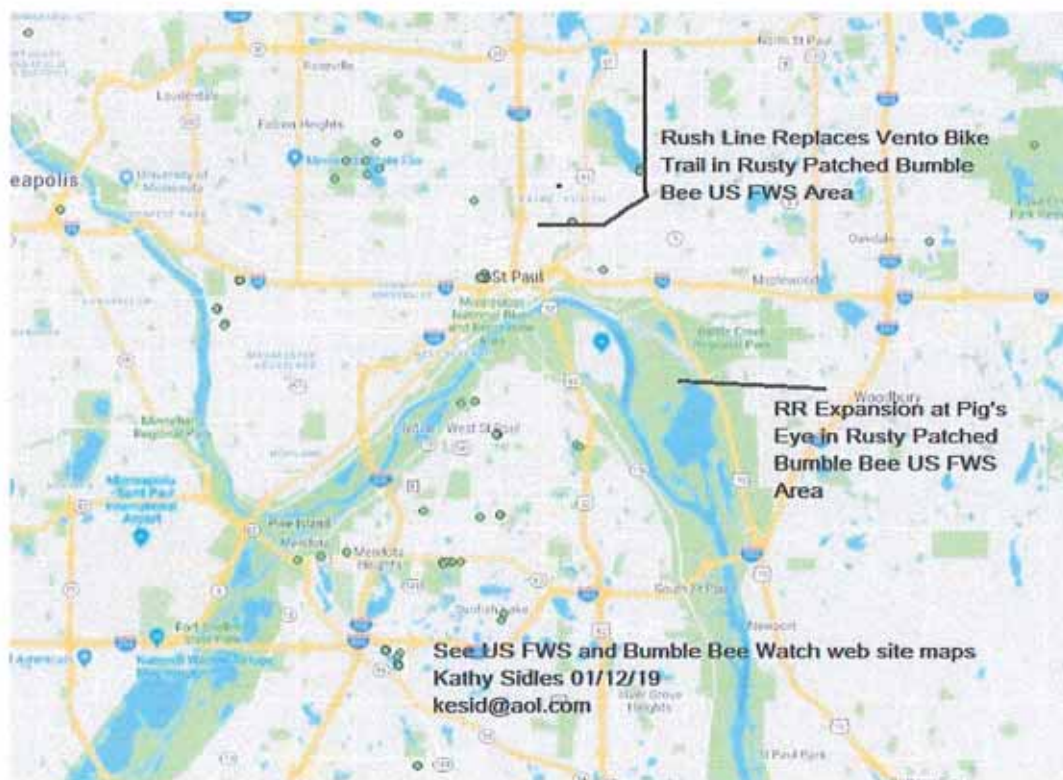
(21) See Rusty Patched Bumble Bee sightings by year here:

<https://www.bumblebeewatch.org/app/#/bees/map>

US Fish and Wildlife Service Rusty Patched Bumble Bee High Potential (red):

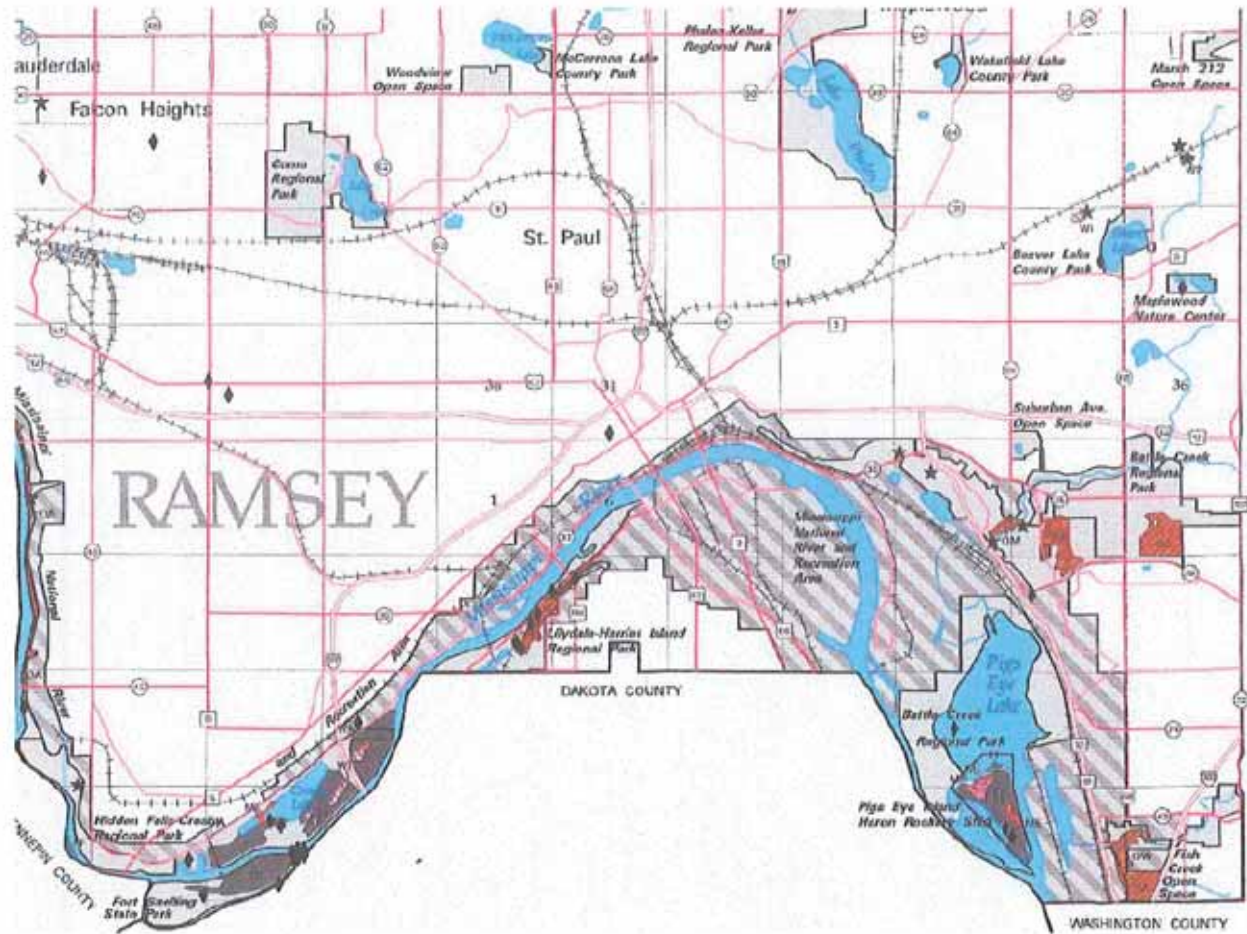


## RUSTY PATCH SIGHTINGS IN MINNESOTA/SAINT PAUL AREA

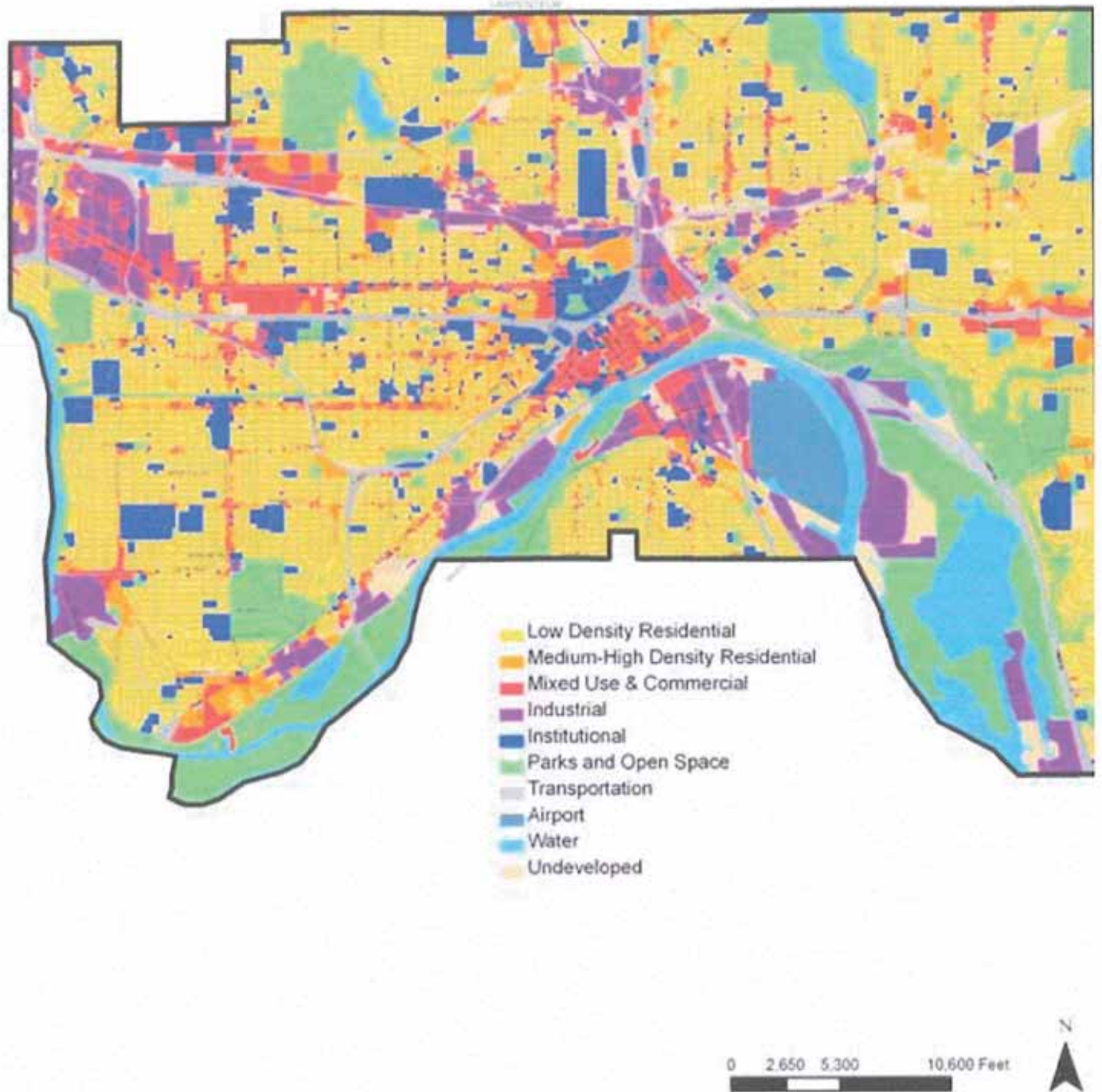




## RAMSEY COUNTY RARE PLANT AND ANIMAL COMMUNITIES

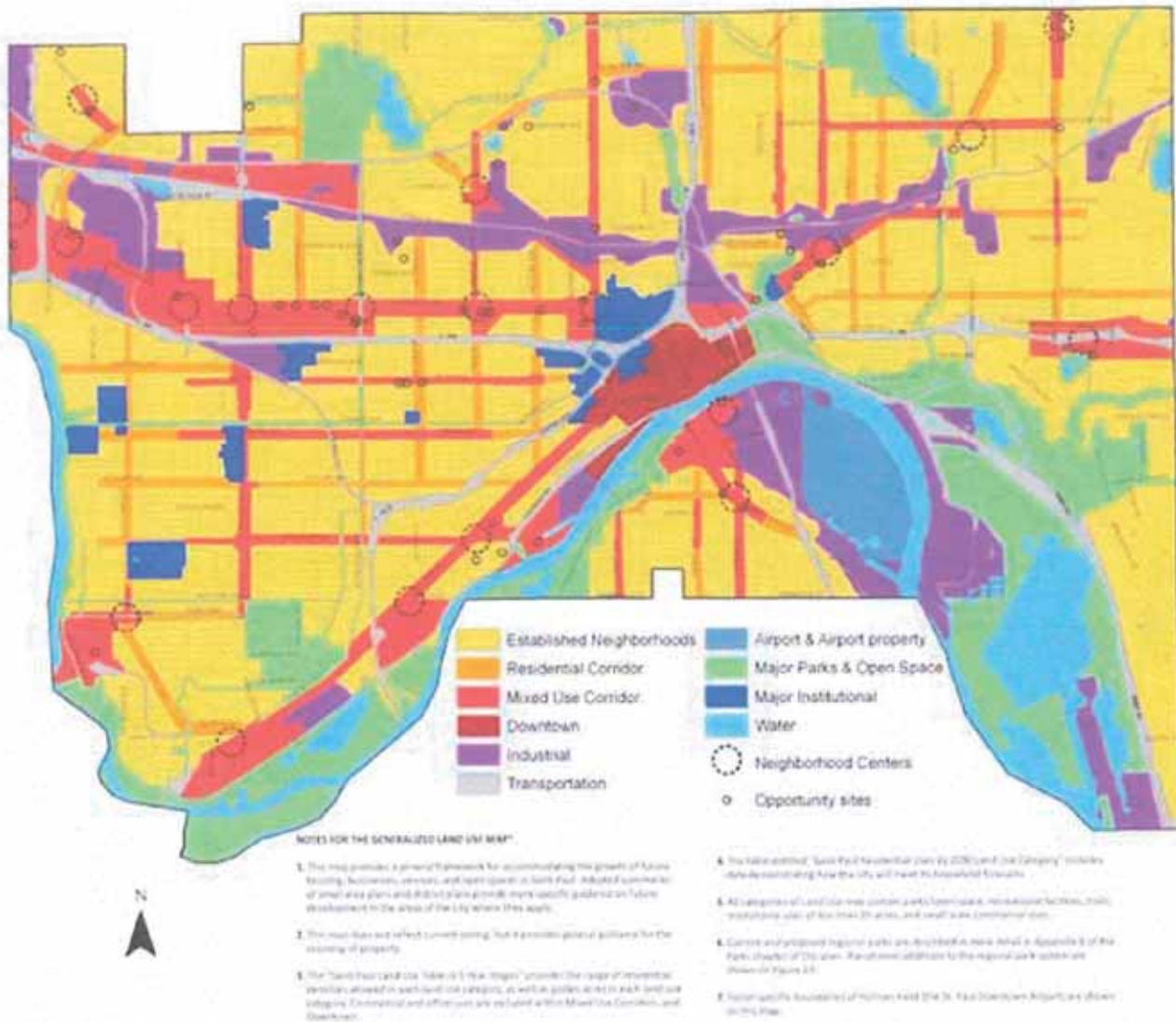


## PRESENT SAINT PAUL LAND USE MAP – PERMEABLE GREEN SPACE





## FUTURE SAINT PAUL LAND USE MAP (PROPOSED): NOT PERMEABLE







# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT

## Meeting Summary

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### Open House #2

**Tuesday, July 9, 2019**

**5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

**Duluth & Case Rec Center (1020 Duluth St, Saint Paul, MN 55106)**

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This memo documents summary information regarding Open House #2 for the Johnson Parkway Trail Project on July 9, 2019.

### *Basic Meeting Information*

- Public open house for the Johnson Parkway community
- Date: July 7, 2019
- Time: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
- Presentation and Q&A: 5:15 pm – 6:00 pm
- Location: Duluth & Case Rec Center (1020 Duluth St, Saint Paul, MN 55106)

### *Meeting Notifications*

- Posted on City of Saint Paul project website
- Invite postcards were mailed to adjacent properties
- Emails sent to City's email list

### *Attendance*

- 19 attendees signed in (See *Attachments* for sign-in sheets)
  - A few attendees did not sign in
  - 14 attendees indicated they would like to receive project email updates
- 9 project staff present
  - 3 City of Saint Paul (Luke Hanson, Reuben Collins, Cheng Xiong)
  - 3 SEH (Wayne Houle, Adrian Diaz, William Bauer)

### *Meeting Description*

The two-hour long public meeting began with an open house style format followed by a 30 minute presentation. This was followed by an open Question & Answer session and then back to the open house. Attendees were encouraged to sign in and to sign up for additional information to stay updated on the Johnson Parkway Trail Project.



Presentation boards provided information on:

- Grand Round history – Horace W.S. Cleveland and Frederick Nussbaumer
- Grand Round vision statement and principles
- Grand Round planning efforts and construction schedule
- Johnson Parkway Trail project schedule, funding, concept designs (plan view and cross sections)
- Saint Paul bicycle network plan
- Proposed changes in access to Johnson Parkway – intersection changes since last meeting
- Proposed changes in access to Johnson Parkway – infrastructure changes and locations of changes
- Daily traffic study volumes before and after test closures along Johnson Parkway
- Intersection traffic volumes before and after test closures along Johnson Parkway
- Before test closure volumes and shifts in traffic patterns along Johnson Parkway

Spanish and Hmong interpretation was available, but not utilized.

### *Question & Answer*

Questions and comments by audience during the Q&A following the presentation are as follows:

- Why aren't we spending money to fix up the streets instead of spending it on a trail?
- Why will only one side of 5th street be closed?
- Johnson & Burns - what are we doing for west crossings?
- Closing at Euclid - how will it affect public safety?
- Ames & Johnson Parkway - What are we prioritizing from 7th and Phalen?
  - It's hard to get out
  - There are lots of rear ends, etc.
  - There are no turn lanes
- What's happening at the rail road bridge?
- Reaney & Johnson Parkway - What are we doing with Frontage Road?
- What is going to happen to the St. Paul Classic on Johnson Parkway?
- Why are we giving more priority to Bike trails? The streets should stay open
- \$5.5 million is way too much money - it's creating federal debt

### *Where Do You Live? Dot Exercise*

13 people participated in the exercise by placing a dot on/near their home on the aerial map. Most lived on or within a few blocks of Johnson Parkway, and others lived further from the project area. See *Attachments* for photograph of the results of the exercise

### *Comments*

7 comment cards were collected from attendees during the meeting. See *Attachments* for digital scans of the cards. The following are the comments transcribed:

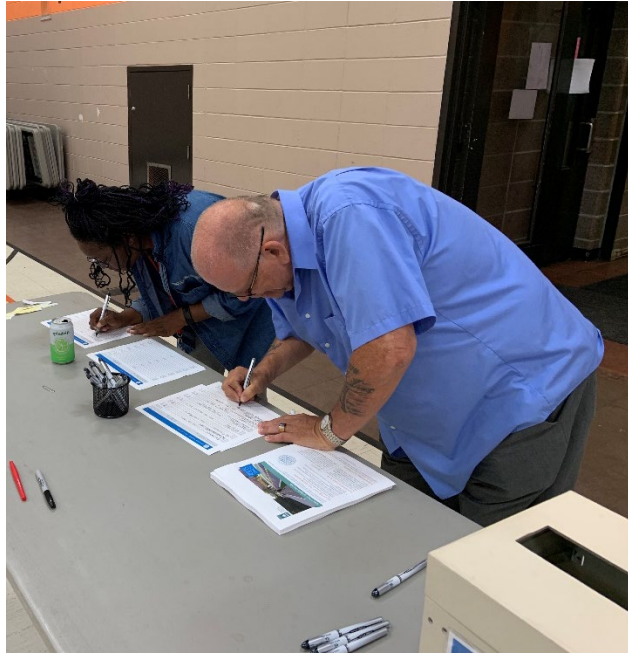
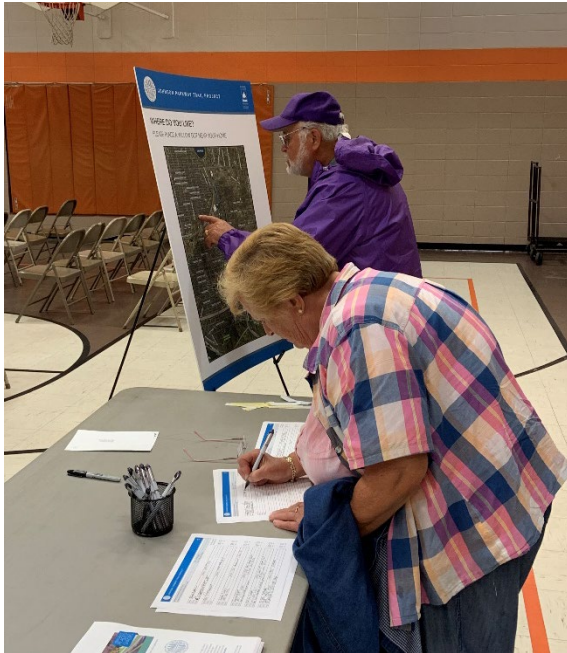
- I think it's probably kind of upsetting for the roads but good for working people and family bike rides
- I live on 5th Street on the west side of Johnson Pkwy. As a bike commuter to downtown St. Paul I am very excited about this project. However I was told our 5th Street would be closed to Johnson. I am disappointed to learn that this isn't so. 5th street is a busy and many young families with children live there. This needs to be considered.
- I appreciated the emphasis on safety and the need to accommodate all users. Johnson Parkway connects two regional parks and is likely the weakest link for safe walking and biking on the entire Grand Round. While the well-considered road closures may cause minor inconvenience for some residents they are the major improvement for safety. NOTE: Compare River Parkway on both sides of the Miss. River and



you'll see how much better Mpls has done completely separating their parkway from existing street grid. Johnson rebuild is a good stop in the right direction.

- It will keep bikers safe off the highway
- Feedback on Reaney and Frontier Road: Make Minnehaha to Reaney a one-way southbound make Reaney to Bush no parking (2-way street) Please!!
- Please close 5th Street along Johnson Parkway just like Margaret. Too much west traffic from 5th + cars drive too fast! I will try + get petition going to do so. Thank you.

### *Photos of Event*



## Johnson Parkway Trail Project



### *Attachments:*

Sign-in Sheets

Where Do You Live? Dot Exercise

Comment Cards



# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 2	Date: July 09, 2019
Location: Duluth & Case Recreation Center	Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project email updates?

Name: Anna Diekmann	Address: 1194 3 <sup>rd</sup> St E.
Phone: 651	
Email: A.DIEKMANN@ATT.NET	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Roy Diekmann	Address: 1194 3 <sup>rd</sup> St E.
Phone:	
Email:	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Kassim Busuri	Address: 861 Geranium Ave E
Phone: 651-703-3396	
Email:	

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name: Daniel Kent	Address: 1257 5th Street East
Phone: 507-995-7984	St. Paul MN 55106
Email: danielkent145@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Brian Sanders	Address: 1265 5th Street East
Phone: 651-235-6352	St. Paul, MN 55106
Email: briansavedbygrace@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Mike Dreyer	Address: 1351 Ames
Phone: 651-338-0701	
Email: MDREYER@CFEW1189.ORG	

☐ Yes ☐ No





## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 2	Date: July 09, 2019
Location: Duluth & Case Recreation Center	Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: Laura & Grow Toulh	Address: 454 Griffith St
Phone: 763-528-8089	
Email: gktoulh@yahoo.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Kartumu King	Address: 1281 Margaret Street
Phone: 651-214-9217	Saint. Paul, MN, 55106
Email: Kartumu@weqy.org	

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name: Libby Kautner	Address: 753 Fuller Ave
Phone: 612 8607823	St. Paul, MN 55104
Email: libbykautner28@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Linda Kautner	Address: 294 Dayton Ave
Phone: 651-485-4071	
Email: Kautn@comcast.net	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: RICHARD AREY	Address: 534 Laurel Av - #6
Phone: 651-290-0309	St Paul 55102
Email: AREY@VISI-com	

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name:	Address:
Phone:	
Email:	

☐ Yes ☐ No



## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



Meeting Description: Open House 2	Date: July 09, 2019
Location: Duluth & Case Recreation Center	Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Receive project  
email updates?

Name: Camolly Williams	Address: 1020 Duluth Street
Phone: 612 916 2141	St Paul MN 55106
Email: Camolly.williams@ci.stpaul.mn.us	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Ethan Osten	Address: 1238 Marion St
Phone: 504-432-1638	St. Paul, MN 55117
Email: ethan.osten@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Rich Holst	Address: 1284 Marion St.
Phone: 651-278-6420	STP, MN 55117
Email: holst046@gmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Bari Weston	Address: 1337 Keaney Ave
Phone: 651.226.0118	St Paul 55106
Email: barimay@hotmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: Sue Richter & Wally Waranka	Address: 248 Johnson Pkwy
Phone: 651.353.7452	
Email: susanrichter@hotmail.com	

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name: JEANETTE JOHNSON	Address: 1145 HUDSON RD APT 433
Phone:	
Email: abc/mnopjj@hotmail.com	

☐ Yes ☐ No



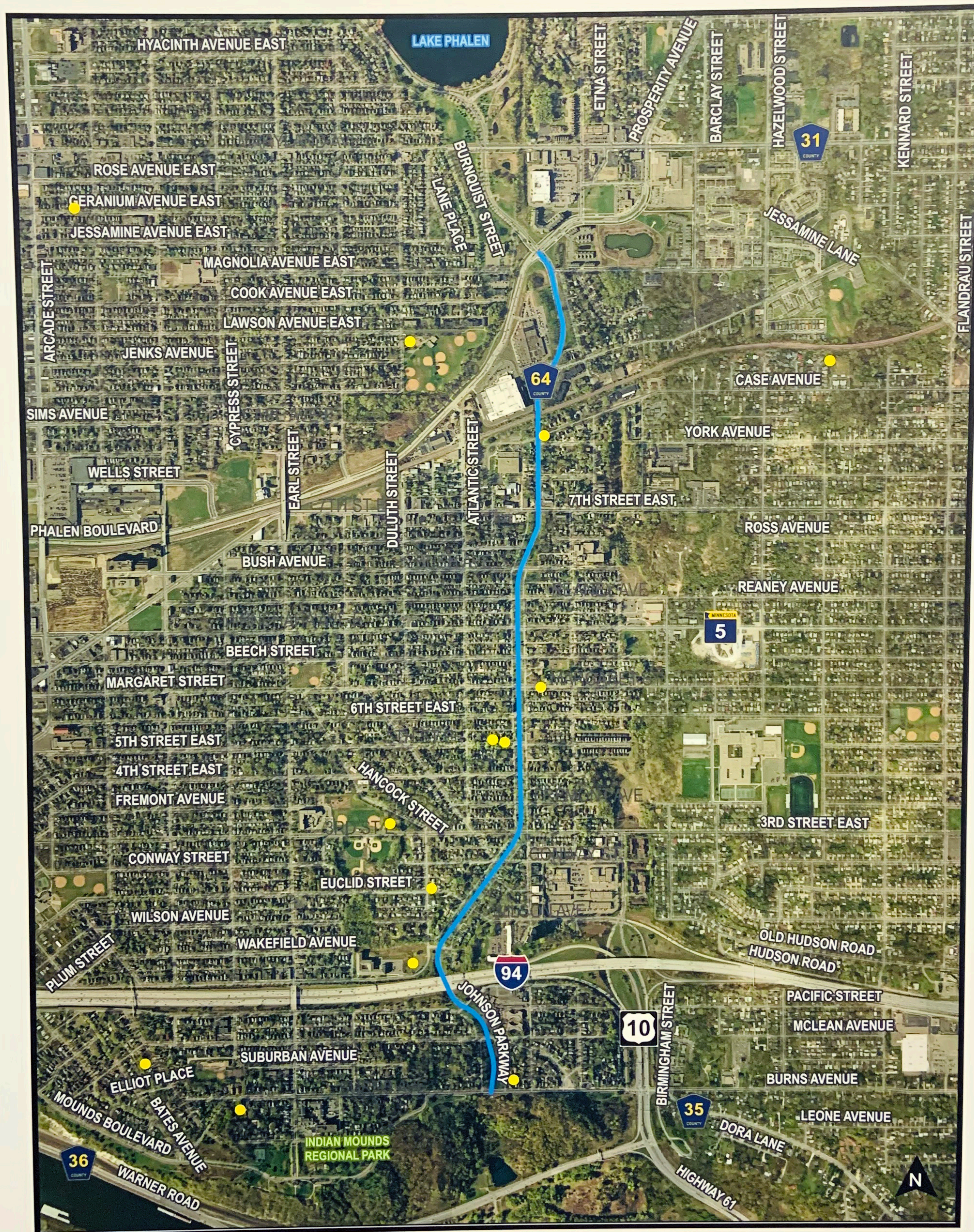


# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL PROJECT



## WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

PLEASE PLACE A YELLOW DOT NEAR YOUR HOME





# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Tiniya Paigen \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: ~~This~~ I think it is probably  
Be kind of upsetting for the  
Rough but good for working out  
and family bike rides

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)

# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Brillea \* PHONE 651-303-4749  
\* EMAIL ~~Brillea~~ Paige Brillea paige@loagmail.com  
\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

( \* Indicates optional )

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)

# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Daniel Kent \* PHONE 507-995-7984  
\* EMAIL danielkent145@gmail.com  
\* ADDRESS 1257 5th Street East, St. Paul MN 55106

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: I live on 5th Street on the west side of  
Johnson Pkwy. As a bike commuter to downtown  
St. Paul I am very excited about this project. However  
I was told our 5th street would be closed to Johnson.  
I am disappointed to learn that this isn't so. 5th street  
is a busy street and many young families with children live here.  
This needs to be considered.

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)



# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

9 July 2019

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME RICHARD AREY \* PHONE 651-290-0309  
\* EMAIL AREY@VISI.COM (changing soon)  
\* ADDRESS 534 Laurel Av. #6 ST. Paul 55102

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: I appreciate the emphasis on safety  
and the need to accommodate all users.  
Johnson Parkway connects two regional parks  
and is likely the weakest link for safe  
walking and biking on the entire Grand Round.  
While the well considered road closures may cause minor inconvenience.

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)

For some residents they are the major improvement for →

Place  
stamp  
here

Attn: Luke Hanson  
25 West 4th Street  
800 City Hall Annex  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Safety. NOTE: Compare River parkways on both sides of  
the Miss. River and you'll see how much better  
Mpls has done in completely separating their parkway  
from the existing street grid. Johnson Rebuild is a good step in  
the right direction.

# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Imarie M. Montgomery \* PHONE 651-621-4402  
\* EMAIL orangeblast28@gmail.com  
\* ADDRESS 1158 Lane #1 east St. Paul

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: It will keep bikers safe off the highway

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)



# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Bari Weston \* PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\* EMAIL bavimay@hotmail.com

\* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: FEEDBACK ON REANEY FRONTAGE ROAD:

MAKE MINNEHANTA TO REANEY A ONE WAY SOUTHBOUND

MAKE REANEY TO BUSH NO PARKING (2 WAY STREET)

PLEASE!

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)



# JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

\* NAME Brian Sanders \* PHONE 651-235-6382  
\* EMAIL briansavedbygrace@gmail.com  
\* ADDRESS 1265 East 5th street St. Paul, MN 55106

(\* Indicates optional)

COMMENTS: Please close 5th street along Johnson Parkway  
just like Margaret. Too much west traffic from  
5th & cars drive too fast! I will try & get  
Petition going to do so. Thank You.

Please leave your feedback in the comment box tonight or mail in with this pre-addressed card. Comments may also be directed to Luke Hanson by email at [luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us) or by phone at (651) 266 - 6146. Your feedback will be shared with project staff and included in the project record. For more information on the project, go to [www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)



Original text or transcription of all written statements received by city staff via email



**From:** [Jenny Werness](#)  
**To:** [Hanson, Luke \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**Subject:** Johnson Parkway Trail - I'm excited!  
**Date:** Thursday, January 17, 2019 9:23:25 AM

---

Hi Luke,

I am not able to make the open house event tonight, but I wanted to contribute my strong support of this project. The overall Grand Round is a wonderful idea for Saint Paul, but this area in particular will benefit greatly. I bike on Johnson Parkway a couple of times a week, and I often have negative encounters with unsafe drivers, especially those turning from side streets onto Johnson. The Margaret street closure has been so great!

Are there plans to improve the bicycle infrastructure under the bridges along Johnson? They get particularly bad in winter (and even fall and spring). My only serious fall while bicycling was due to a huge ice dam that built up under the 94 bridge (see attached photo). The area under the railroad bridge is also pretty bad, as it has several sewer-cap potholes in the bike lane, and there's often ice build-up in the winter there too.

Thanks for all your work!  
Jenny



**From:** [Thomas Kottke](#)  
**To:** [Hanson, Luke \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Info BikeMN](#)  
**Subject:** Johnson Parkway project  
**Date:** Sunday, January 20, 2019 6:42:56 AM

---

Hi, Luke:

I'm sorry I had a conflict with the January 17 meeting where potential modifications to Johnson Parkway were discussed. I'm writing to strongly endorse the concept of reducing the number of cross streets that intersect the parkway.

I live just off the river in St. Paul on the city line north of Marshall, and I commute out to HealthPartners headquarters just south of MSP. My commuting and recreational riding amounts to about 3,300 miles per year on average. My wife also rides.

What we've learned over the years is that, if a person obeys the rules of the road, cross streets are among the greatest, if not the greatest, threats to cycling safety. This is particularly true if lights are used day and night.

At HealthPartners we understand that physical activity is critical for both health and well-being, and much of my time as Medical Director for Well-being is spent in the promotion of physical activity. I'm sure we both agree that the physical environment is a most significant determinant of whether individuals will meet their physical activity needs.

So, thanks again for entertaining the possibility of a Johnson Parkway with fewer cross streets. The evidence shows that the change would improve opportunity for health and well-being of both residents living nearby and cyclists who travel through the neighborhood.

Best wishes,

Tom Kottke

Thomas E. Kottke, MD

**From:** [Andy Leitz](#)  
**To:** [Hanson, Luke \(CI-StPaul\); #CI-StPaul\\_Ward7](#)  
**Subject:** Johnson Parkway Trail Open House 1/17/19  
**Date:** Monday, January 21, 2019 3:19:37 PM

---

Hi Luke,

I was not able to attend the open house last week, but I wanted to voice my support for the bike and pedestrian improvements to Johnson. I bike through the area every day for my commute and would love to see continued safety improvements. I currently use Atlantic to access the Bruce Vento from Margaret because I have had too many close calls while using the Johnson bike lane. The cars travel at high speed and do not give enough room especially under the bridge. In the future, I would love to take Johnson to access from Margaret.

Thanks for your help on this project. I am looking forward to safer streets in the future.

Best regards,  
Andy Leitz  
[leitz.andy@gmail.com](mailto:leitz.andy@gmail.com)



**From:** [JULIE KAUFMANN](#)  
**To:** [Hanson, Luke \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**Subject:** Johnson Trail  
**Date:** Monday, January 21, 2019 4:33:20 PM

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Hi,

I could not make the meeting last week. I was wondering if the city was going to do something about the intersection of Johnson Pkwy and 6th street? You really need to address that intersection before you go any farther. Somebody will be killed. I for one do not want to see that happen. But it will. Either by Car or bike or just walking. Too many accidents or near misses at this intersection. Now you are adding to it by closing Margaret and many more intersections to put stress on this intersection. Please consider to add this to your updates for Johnson Parkway.

Thank you,

Julie Kaufmann

St. Paul, MN

**From:** [Robin Telzrow](#)  
**To:** [Hanson, Luke \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Johnson Parkway Regional Trail project  
**Date:** Sunday, June 23, 2019 10:21:49 AM

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**Think Before You Click:** This email originated **outside** our organization.

Hello Mr. Hanson,

I am writing in response to the July Open House invite I received yesterday... and, I am replying to my previous November 2018 email to you (just so you know Johnson Parkway is something I am very familiar with).

I plan to attend the July Open House, however, I have a couple of questions that can't wait. On the invite there is a map; the map shows the closure of English Street at Third Street E. (this I am happy about). But, I wonder why you aren't also closing off the access road north of Third Street E. - I feel that it would be a mistake not to close that off as well. Many people use that spot to avoid the traffic light at Johnson Parkway & Third (they make left and right hand turns).

The map also shows the closure of Conway at Johnson Parkway to be closed off on the west side. Is this right? I would be so happy if it is! I wonder though if this is a mistake because the test road closure was on the east side of Conway at Johnson.

There is a loop that people take to avoid the traffic light at Johnson and Third. If they are traveling east, they turn onto Gotzian - cross Johnson Parkway - make a left at the access road, traveling up to where it meets Third - then making a right onto Third (or even crossing Third continuing north on the access road). All to avoid the traffic light. I have also seen cars go west doing the same thing.

I apologize for this wordy email. I care about this area because I live here. I am hopeful your efforts will reduce some of the traffic on Johnson Parkway and the speed that they are driving.

Thank you,  
Robin Telzrow

On Mon, Nov 26, 2018 at 4:38 PM Hanson, Luke (CI-StPaul) <[luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us)> wrote:

Hello Robin,

Thank you for your message about the Johnson Parkway trail project and for your observations as a nearby resident who regularly observes traffic here. Your observations are particularly helpful as we continue to study how the closure at Conway impacts surrounding traffic.



The scope of the 2020 regional trail project along Johnson only includes intersection closures along the east side of Johnson Parkway. That said, there still exists a long-term vision for potential intersection closures on the west side as well, though this work isn't currently programed with a specific project.

Thanks again for your observations, and please feel free to reach out by email or by phone should you have any additional questions or items you'd like to discuss.

Thank you,

-Luke

## **Luke Hanson**

### **Transportation Planner**

City of Saint Paul | Public Works | Transportation Planning and Safety Division

City Hall Annex, Suite 800

25 4th St West, Saint Paul, MN 55102

Direct: 651-266-6146

[luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:luke.hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

**From:** Robin Telzrow [mailto:[rtelzrow@gmail.com](mailto:rtelzrow@gmail.com)]

**Sent:** Monday, November 26, 2018 10:27 AM

**To:** Hanson, Luke (CI-StPaul)

**Subject:** Johnson Parkway Regional Trail project

I am glad this project is beginning to proceed... I have just a few comments about this project. I live near Johnson Parkway and Third St. E - I am pleased with the road closures on the east side of Johnson Parkway as hopefully it will help reduce and slow down the traffic around here. Perhaps I am wrong but weren't streets supposed to be closed on the west side of Johnson Parkway as well? I thought they were and was happy about that. People drive too fast around here.

Here are some of my observations from living at Johnson Parkway and Third St. E for over

30 years:

People drive too fast on Johnson and the service roads

People run red lights constantly at the intersection (but I know that happens everywhere).

Years ago service roads were blocked on the west side of Johnson (on Third St. E) but I have always wondered why they were not blocked on the west side.

I realized that on the west side of Johnson on Third (the south street is English) but north of Third is that English or a service road? If it is a service road I think it should be blocked off.

What I noticed after Conway was blocked on the east side of Johnson... cars drove very fast along the service road and at times many were backed up waiting to make a left hand turn. I wonder if left hand turns at English and Third should be banned.

Another problem is at the bus stop (Third and Johnson). Often people do not cross at the crosswalk... instead they cross at English (where there is no crosswalk) many times I have seen people crossing between cars that are stopped for a red light and cars making left hand turns from the opposite direction have to make a sudden stop as they don't see them until they are turning.

One more thing (sorry this is longer than I thought it would be). Also after Conway was blocked. Many cars waiting at Third and English drove north across Third (onto the service road or English). I see this as the same problem as people not crossing at the crosswalk. Cars darting across Third at this spot sometimes with people crossing there too cannot see cars traveling south on Johnson making left hand turns.

Also, as far as people biking or walking along Johnson Parkway & Third... many more people are out biking and walking during the warmer months, but during the past few years I see many people riding their bikes to work early and home late year round. People walk, run and sometime ski along the parkway.



Okay that's it. Hope all of this makes sense to you.

Robin Telzrow

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TTT

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TTT

**From:** [Carol Cronier](#)  
**To:** [Hanson, Luke \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**Subject:** Johnson Parkway Trail  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 3, 2019 2:29:16 PM

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Think Before You Click: This email originated outside our organization.

A couple of questions. Will the alley between Fremont and Fourth St be always accessible? It is a dead end alley and both recycle and trash trucks must back into it.

We were notified by the city that it is a challenging alley in the winter. With the amount of school buses that use Fremont will there be back up on English? There are times now that traffic can be hard with park cars and traffic traveling both north and south on English to get to the alley or leave the alley. Will the alley become a thru alley in the future?

Thank you in advance for your information.

Sincerely,  
Carol Cronier

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Emily](#)  
**To:** [Hanson, Luke \(CI-StPaul\)](#)  
**Subject:** Johnson Parkway Trail Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 16, 2019 9:58:38 AM

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**Think Before You Click:** This email originated **outside** our organization.

Hello Luke,

I wasn't able to attend the recent open house - I'm really excited about the project next year; it's going to be a fantastic amenity for the area! I live at XXXXXX and am wondering if the planned sidewalks on the outer edge of the ROW are part of the 2020 construction project? If not, is there a potential timeline for their installation?

Thanks and have a great day!  
Emily Shively



The Most  
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## JOHNSON PARKWAY REGIONAL TRAIL

### PROJECT DETAILS

In 2020, the City of Saint Paul will be constructing a trail along the east side of Johnson Parkway from Burns Avenue to Phalen Boulevard.

The trail will be constructed between the parkway and east frontage road, and is a planned segment of the 27-mile long Saint Paul Grand Round. This project will substantially improve the safety and comfort of biking and walking along Johnson Parkway. Implementing this project includes several initial steps to understand the impacts of potential improvements in the area.

#### STEP 1 Understanding How the Parkway Functions Today

We will be counting motor vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians within the next couple of weeks to have an understanding of how the parkway functions today. You may see traffic counting equipment and staff observing traffic during this time.

#### STEP 2 Understanding How the Parkway Functions with Modifications

Starting November 14th, some intersections will be temporarily modified to simulate how future trail improvements would impact traffic. These modifications will temporarily close some intersections and may require travelers to use alternate routes to and from Johnson Parkway.

The intersections that will be temporarily closed are identified on the map on the reverse of this document.

The temporary modifications will be removed by December 6th after the counting is completed. All intersections will be open between November 21st and November 25th to accommodate the Thanksgiving holiday.

#### STEP 3 Comparison of Before and After

The traffic information we gather before and after the temporary modifications will be analyzed to understand impacts to the street network. The results of this study will be posted to the project webpage listed at the bottom of this page.

#### STEP 4 Opportunities to Learn More and Provide Input

We will plan public meetings to discuss the project. Meetings are anticipated to occur in December. Meeting announcements and additional information will be posted to the project website and sent by mail.

### PROJECT WEBSITE

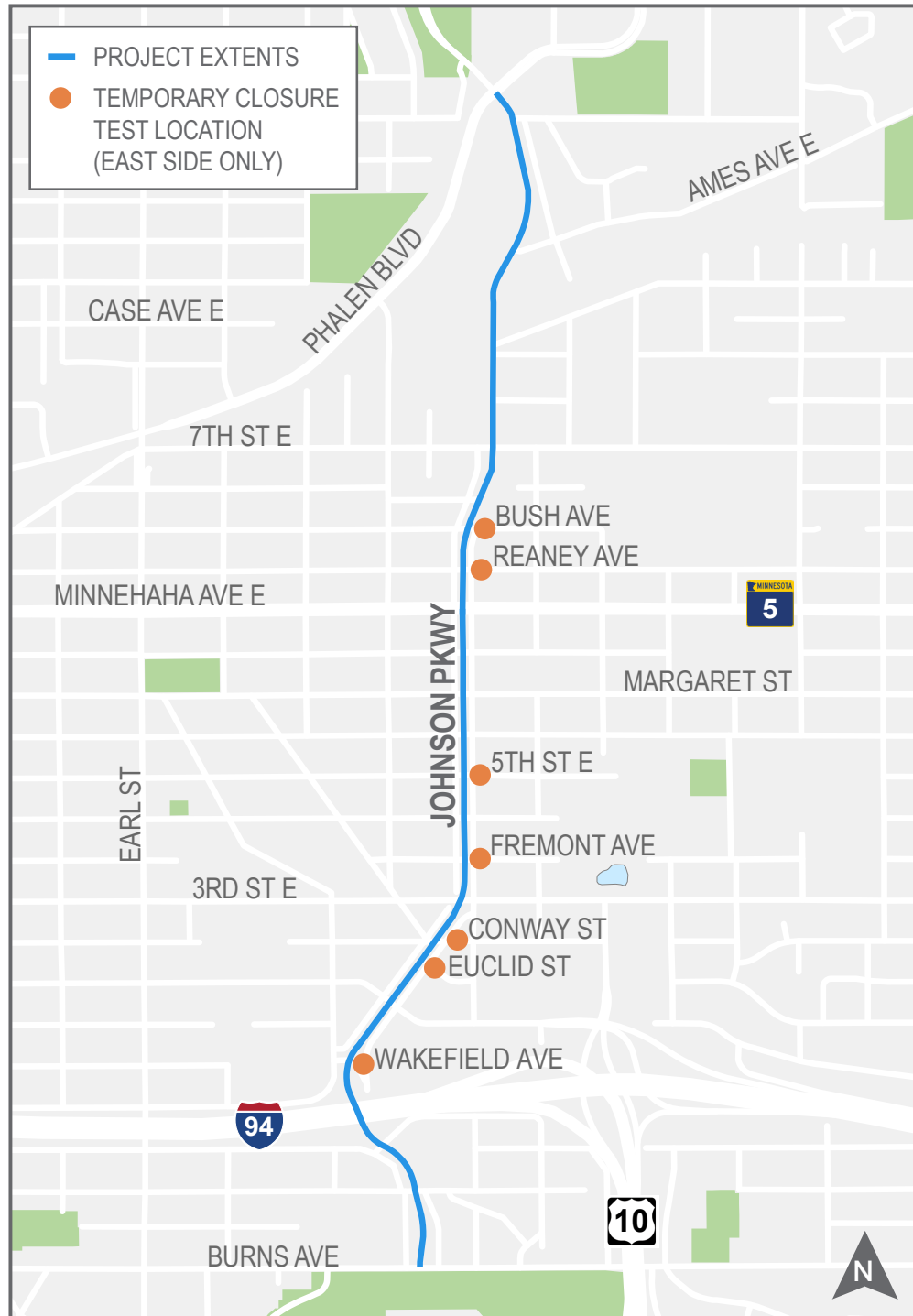
[www.stpaul.gov/construction](http://www.stpaul.gov/construction)

### PROJECT CONTACT

**Luke Hanson, Department of Public Works**  
[Luke.Hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Luke.Hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us)  
(651) 266-6146



## JOHNSON PARKWAY REGIONAL TRAIL TEMPORARY CLOSURE TEST LOCATIONS



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# OPEN HOUSE

## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2019, 5-7 P.M.

DULUTH & CASE RECREATION CENTER

1020 Duluth Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106

The City of Saint Paul invites you to an informational open house to learn about the Johnson Parkway Trail. This project is proposed for construction in 2020 on the east side of Johnson Parkway between Burns Avenue and Phalen Boulevard, and will improve the safety and comfort of walking and biking in the area. It will also complete a key segment of the Saint Paul Grand Round, a 27-mile scenic bike and parkway that connects parks and neighborhoods across Saint Paul.



### PROJECT CONTACT

Luke Hanson, Department of Public Works  
Luke.Hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us  
(651) 266-6146

### PROJECT WEBSITE

[www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/JohnsonTrail)



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City of Saint Paul  
25 West 4th Street  
800 City Hall Annex  
Saint Paul, MN 55102



OPEN HOUSE  
JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

January 17, 2019  
5:00-7:00 P.M.  
Duluth & Case Recreation Center  
(1020 Duluth Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106)

Join us for a public open house to  
learn about the Johnson Parkway  
Trail, a planned segment of the Saint  
Paul Grand Round.



City of Saint Paul  
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# OPEN HOUSE

## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019

DULUTH & CASE RECREATION CENTER

1020 Duluth Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106

5:00 - 7:00 PM (*Presentation begins at 5:15 pm*)

### PROJECT CONTACT

**Luke Hanson,**  
Public Works Dept.

[Luke.Hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Luke.Hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us)  
(651) 266-6146



The City of Saint Paul invites you to an informational open house to learn about the proposed Johnson Parkway Trail. This project will be constructed in 2020 on the east side of Johnson Parkway between Burns Avenue and Phalen Boulevard, and will improve the safety and complete a key segment of the Grand Round, a 27-mile scenic parkway that connects parks and neighborhoods across Saint Paul.

To improve safety along the corridor, permanent closures are proposed that will change how vehicles access Johnson Parkway (see closure locations to the right). Detailed drawings will be available at the open house and posted online after the meeting on the project website:

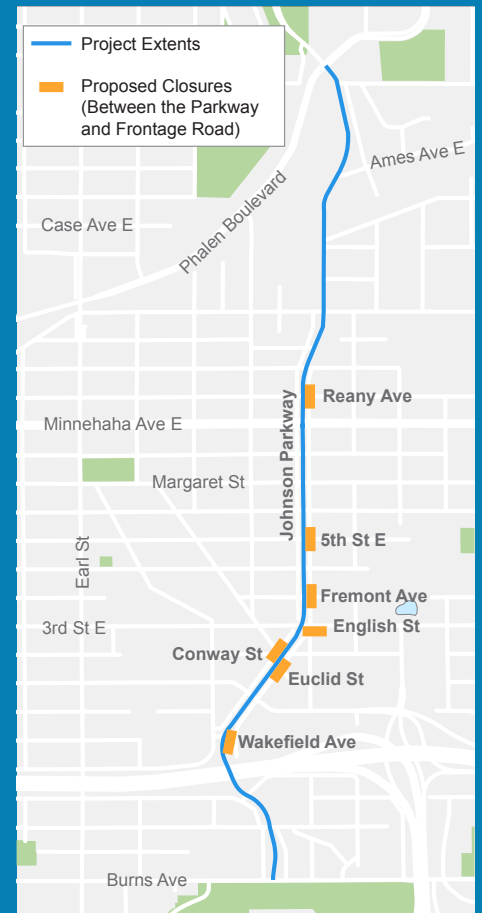
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# OPEN HOUSE

## JOHNSON PARKWAY TRAIL

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2019

DULUTH & CASE RECREATION CENTER

1020 Duluth Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106

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Public Works Dept.

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(651) 266-6146



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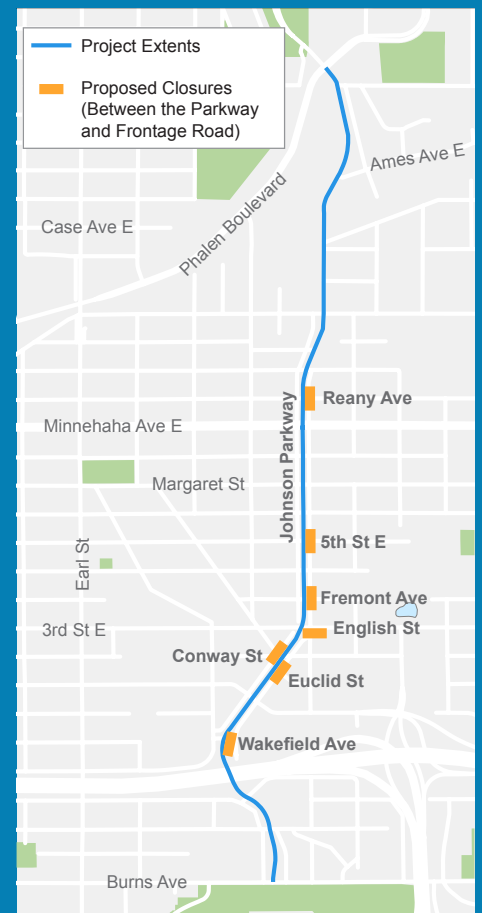
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## City of Saint Paul

25 West 4th Street  
800 City Hall Annex  
Saint Paul, MN 55102



Please join us for an  
**Open House for the  
Johnson Parkway Trail**



July 9, 2019

5:00-7:00 pm

Duluth & Case Recreation Center

(1020 Duluth Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106)



## City of Saint Paul

25 West 4th Street  
800 City Hall Annex  
Saint Paul, MN 55102



Please join us for an  
**Open House for the  
Johnson Parkway Trail**



July 9, 2019

5:00-7:00 pm

Duluth & Case Recreation Center

(1020 Duluth Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106)



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Melvin W. Carter, Mayor

1500 City Hall Annex

Fax: 651-266-6222

25 W. Fourth Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55102-1660

September 23, 2019

Dear Saint Paul Resident / Property Owner:

In 2020, The City of Saint Paul will be constructing an off-street trail for walking and biking along the east side of Johnson Parkway from Burns Avenue to Phalen boulevard. The trail will be constructed between the parkway and the east frontage road, and is a planned segment of the 27-mile long Saint Paul Grand Round.

As a component of this project, the City is proposing to change vehicle access at some locations with intersection closures. These closures will improve the safety and comfort for all users of Johnson Parkway, and will require vehicles to re-route no more than one-block at all locations. The following locations are proposed to be modified with partial intersection closures (**see map on back**):

- Reaney Ave, east of Johnson Pkwy
- 5<sup>th</sup> St E, east of Johnson Pkwy
- Fremont Ave, east of Johnson Pkwy
- English St, south of 3<sup>rd</sup> St E
- Conway St, west of Johnson Pkwy
- Euclid St, east of Johnson Pkwy
- Wakefield Ave, east of Johnson Pkwy

To keep the Johnson Parkway frontage roads open and accessible, on-street parking is proposed for removal on the east (boulevard) side of the western frontage road, and the west (boulevard) side of the eastern frontage road. Parking surveys performed by Public Works recorded no vehicles parked on the boulevard side of either frontage road.

This project will be presented to the Saint Paul City Council on Wednesday, October 16. **This will be a public hearing, and there will be an opportunity for public comment.** The City Council will be asked to approve a resolution authorizing Public Works to implement intersection safety improvements, including partial intersections closures, along Johnson Parkway with the trail project.

This hearing will be held at:

5:30 PM, Wednesday,  
October 16, 2019

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



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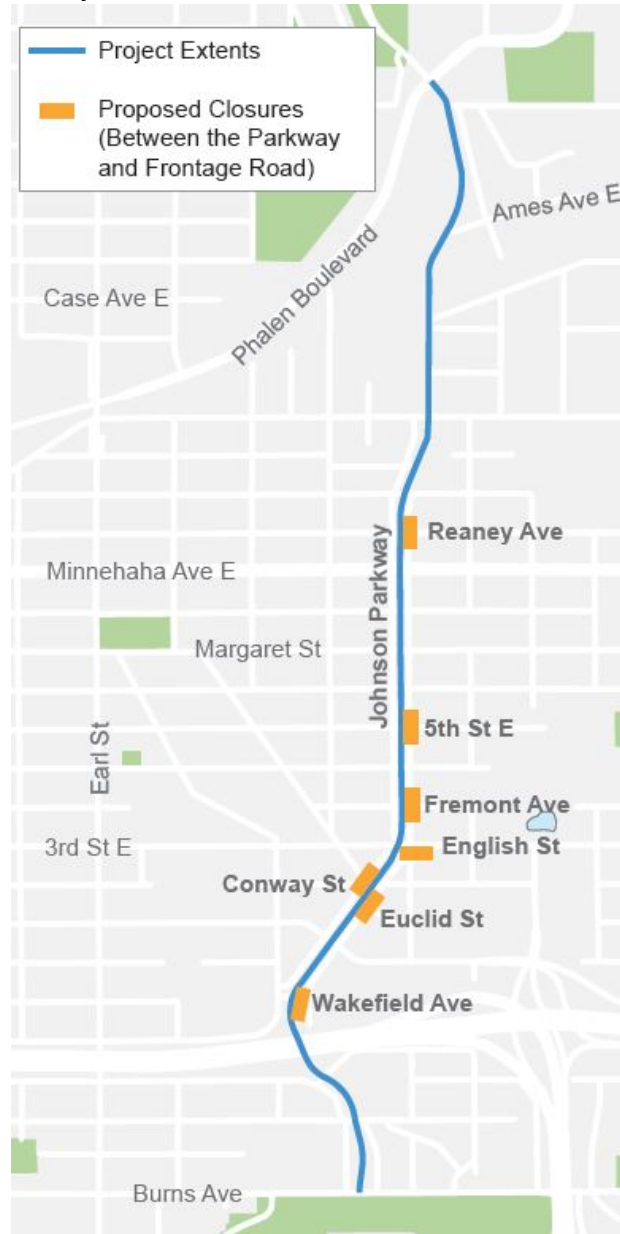
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### Project Updates:

In 2018, intersections along Johnson Parkway were temporarily closed to study the impacts on traffic. In 2019, community meetings were held in January and July to present information and receive feedback on the project. If you have not submitted a comment already or cannot attend the public hearing, you may email project staff or your Councilmember to have your comments entered into the public record. To review the proposed project in more detail, please visit the project website at: [www.stpaul.gov/johnsontrail](http://www.stpaul.gov/johnsontrail)

### Proposed Closures



### Project Contact:

Luke Hanson, Transportation Planner  
Saint Paul Public Works  
Phone: 651-266-6146  
Email: [Luke.Hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Luke.Hanson@ci.stpaul.mn.us)