

From: [Jeffrey Arnold](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)
Subject: Hamline Ave Bicycle Lane Project, RES PH 21-34
Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 4:29:25 PM

Dear St Paul Council Members,

I live at 1376 Hartford Ave. As someone that drives that section of Hamline on a near daily basis I write to offer partial support and 1 objection to the addition of bicycle lanes to the Hamline Ave resurfacing project. I would favor adding the bicycle lane if the proposed route is changed.

I strongly object to removing street parking on the East side of Hamline between Randolph and Niles. The parking utilization study done by the City in 2019 clearly shows that those 2 blocks are much more highly utilized for parking than everything to the South. Removing the parking spaces from the alley just south of the Nook to Niles is not reasonable nor fair to the existing businesses and residents. If this is done it will create conflict later when a new business wishing to go into one of those spaces will need a parking variance due to the City's action of removing available street parking. Is this City prepared to offer those variances as long as the bike lane exists? What about to the businesses North of Randolph if this bike lane is extended?

The Summary of Engineering Recommendations makes mention of a future plan to connect this bike lane further north. I fully support connecting our bike lanes in a long term plan. However, there are alternatives that seem more attractive after looking at the Saint Paul Bikeways interactive map, <https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/public-works/transportation-and-transit/bike-saint-paul/bicycle-maps>

I'm assuming that this proposed bike lane would connect with the existing lane on Highland Parkway that currently ends at Hamline. Why not extend that lane East along Highland Pkwy and use Edgumbe Rd going North to connect with the existing lane on Jefferson? This is a much more scenic route and street parking on that section of Edgumbe is nearly non-existent. There is also room for a bike trail to be installed in the existing median space which would add a forest park feel to the bike trail. It also makes the Edgumbe Playground at Jefferson & Edgumbe more of a hub to the existing bike lanes.

Another plan would be to still use Hamline and take one of the residential streets going East to connect to Edgumbe. If this was done at Niles there could be a bike rack placed at that intersection for people that want to get a beer at the Nook and not disrupt the existing parking need.

I urge you to reconsider.
Thank you,

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