

**From:** [Annette Swanson](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul>Contact-Council](#)  
**Subject:** Griggs/Scheffer Area Paving and Lighting, Phase II. File #19233  
**Date:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 6:27:24 PM

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To: Saint Paul City Council

We are residents potentially affected by the proposed project who reside at 1510 Edgumbe Road and are writing to express our concern for the project design and opposition to the current proposal.

The current design, as proposed by the city engineer, will degrade the scenic beauty of one of St Paul's most beautiful parkways. The proposal adds substantially more paved surfaces than are appropriate for the low traffic street with the associated loss of green space and mature trees. The additional unnecessary pavement and concrete will cause deleterious water runoff into regions previously protected by Capital Watershed District projects. Runoff abatement will add additional unnecessary cost to the project.

The project misses opportunities for integration of traffic calming designs that are necessary and appropriate for a boulevard with substantial recreational use by cyclists and runners.

The residents of the area, represented by the Edgumbe Preservation Group have, in partnership with a registered landscape architect, proposed several better designs for the boulevard which will preserve and enhance the scenic boulevard and potentially can be accomplished at a lower cost. These proposals have the strong support of the greater neighborhood represented by the Highland District Council transportation committee, which approved a resolution in favor of the improved design proposals.

Potentially, the City Engineer could protest that there isn't time to consider other designs because the construction season is upon us. If so, that is a problem of the Engineer Office's own creation as the residents have previously presented the alternatives for incorporation.

At a minimum, we believe the wisest action is to defer the project for one year to make a good faith consideration of alternative designs. Given the absence of pedestrian injuries in the area, there is clearly no urgent safety or emergency consideration that warrants proceeding at this time.

David and Annette Swanson