



Rice Park Association

November 7, 2019

Mayor Melvin Carter
Saint Paul City Hall
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55102

Council Member Rebecca Noecker
Saint Paul City Hall
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear Mayor Carter and Council Member Noecker,

The Rice Park Association is dedicated to the enhancement of the Rice Park Area, in partnership with the City of St. Paul. Our purpose is to raise funds, finance projects and conduct activities to promote the improvement and beautification of Rice Park. The Rice Park Association played an instrumental role in the recent Rice Park Revitalization project, providing leadership to raise the \$1.3 million that was invested in the park. We are very pleased with the result of the revitalization project and hope that you are proud of the results of this unique public-private partnership.

At its September 25 meeting, the Rice Park Association passed the following resolution regarding the plans for the Capital City Bikeway.

WHEREAS, St. Peter Street is a primary entertainment district in downtown Saint Paul that draws drivers from across the metro who do not come downtown regularly; and

WHEREAS, St. Peter Street is nearly fully developed with street-level retail whose businesses would be harmed by the installation of a major bikeway on the street; and

WHEREAS, there are other streets nearby, including Wabasha Street, with more existing development and potential development opportunities that could benefit from a major bikeway;

RESOLVED, that the Rice Park Association opposes locating a bikeway on St. Peter Street; and

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT, the Rice Park Association encourages the City of Saint Paul to pursue an alternative route for a major bikeway in the western portion of downtown Saint Paul.

Rice Park Association's action is based on over a year's worth of discussions regarding the bikeway and the potential impact on the businesses on St. Peter Street and the activities within the Rice Park area. We encourage the City to consider the neighborhood sentiment as it finalizes plans for the bikeway and consider other options for placement of the bikeway rather than St. Peter Street.

Should you wish, we are available for a discussion on this issue. Please contact Amy at 651-292-3285 (amino@landmarkcenter.org) to schedule a time.

Sincerely,

Amy Mino
Chair, Rice Park Association
Executive Director, Landmark Center

c: Russ Stark, Mayor's Office
Kathy Lantry, Public Works Director

Megan Voelke
Secretary, Rice Park Association
Executive Assistant, The Saint Paul Hotel

Enclosures: Rice Park Association membership roster

Rice Park Association c/o The Saint Paul Hotel 350 Market Street St. Paul, MN 55102