

From: [FLOWERS CHRISTI](#)
To: [CouncilHearing_English \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: Voice Mail (3 minutes and 19 seconds)
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 3:00:31 PM
Attachments: [audio.mp3](#)

Hi my name is Christine Christine last name, flowers, FLOWERS and the parcel ID number is all I have on this form. Here it says 352923 44003. I am calling in regards to my property that's located at 718 Concordia. Oops I forgot, no longer. Concordia Ave. Rundo Ave. St. Paul, MN 55104 I am calling to say no to your process of overlaying on the street here and now you're saying that you want to charge us? I am a senior citizen. I have been living on this property since 1988 and I have not had any problems until you people come along and try to tell us how and what you want to do to our property and why are we paying for street overlay 3615 dollars? The street is public access, so why are you asking us to pay for that? And you want to put in a bike lane? We don't need a bike lane here. We're fine without one, and you're also stating you. First of all, you came along and you changed our street number name without even giving us any idea that you were doing this and you come up with all these racist proposals and you also have your hidden agenda, which to me is unfair. You changed our address, now I gotta go change my license, change all of my credit cards, so forth and so on. And now someone like, you're trying to make our inner city street a suburb and you want us to pay for it, which makes no sense to me. The street is free access to all people that are driving up and down Concordia. So why do you want me to pay for it? I live on a fixed income and my agenda is not to be on your agenda. See, this is your agenda that you have set for us and it's unfair and it's unjust. You said that you were all trying to change our street because of something that happened 100 years ago. Well, to me, you're not making it any better. You're making it worse. I think you're really trying to change and do a lot of gentrification in this area and it's unfair and you're trying to use it under the name of we want to make this place better. Well, I don't think so, especially when you're charging us to fix things that it's not our fault and we should not have to pay for this overlay and any other thing that you keep trying to come up with. Again, my name is Christine Flowers, phone number 651-398-6138. None of these things that you're doing is going to help us out. I work on Wednesdays. You really need I work one day a week and I can't take two hours off of my job to leave early to come to one of your meetings because we got \$3000 payment here that we're due to pay for street that we do not own by.

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

From: [FLOWERS CHRISTI](#)
To: [CouncilHearing_English \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Subject: Voice Mail (3 minutes and 13 seconds)
Date: Monday, July 15, 2024 6:41:31 PM
Attachments: [audio.mp3](#)

Hi, my name is Christine Flower. Christine, last name FLOWERS. I currently live at 718 Concordia Ave. on Rondo Avenue. I left a message earlier, but I'm still not satisfied with, you know, I have to add some more things here. Also, I'm gonna give you my phone number 651-398-6138 e-mail address Christine Flowers 2004 at yahoo.com. I guess I'm really confused as to why do we have to pay my husband and I for a bike lane We're somewhat giving and I don't know for sure what's going on because I have not been able to make to any of the meetings I work on Wednesdays. And why are we giving up our parking spaces for a overlay for a bike lane that we are not using because we don't ride bicycles. So I'm trying to figure out who are the people that's going to be coming over here ride bike bikes. I'm assuming it's white people that because I already know that you're trying to bully us and harass us to move out of our homes. So white people or whoever can move in here, you don't want us here either. Just like 100 years ago or whatever you claim when Randall Ave. was changed. I don't think you guys even making any difference or doing anything better for us because it sounds like now you are trying to do the same thing that they did back when they tore down the houses over here on Concordia and put the freeway in. So what you're doing is no different. So we're paying for a bike lane and we don't have anywhere to park. I mean, to me this is so confusing. So our cars are not going to be able to be parked in front of our home, but we're going to have a bike lane there for some other people to use that don't even live over on this side of the street. And who knows where these people are coming from. I don't know if they live in this area or what when at the same time we can't park in front of our own house. But you're expecting us to pay for this overlay, for some of some other people to come and enjoy their lives riding their bikes on the street that we're responsible for paying for, but we can't park our car in front of the house? Come on, I'll make that make sense. Because it doesn't. According to the city of Saint Paul, currently anyone can park in front of my house. It is public parking and I don't own the street parking. So why are we asked to pay for this project, this bike riding project? I'm not paying for this nonsense. I'm a senior citizen again. I'm 65 years old. I see you sent out. I'm over 65. Something about a deferred payment. Why are you harassing and traumatizing us as black Americans, African Americans? We've already been traumatized enough, but it seems to me that you are. You got your own hidden agenda where you pretending like you're trying to help us when actually you're trying to traumatize us even more than we already are. Goodbye.

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

From: [Shontelle Flowers](#)
To: [*CI-StPaul_Contact-Council](#)
Cc: [christineflowers2004](#)
Subject: Official Written Statement and Objection of Public Improvement Construction on Rondo Avenue
Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 11:29:14 AM

Parcel id#35-29-23-44-0003

Dear St. Paul City Council,

My name is Christine Flowers and I am writing to express my strong disapproval of the proposed bike lane project on **Rondo Avenue** (formerly *Concordia Avenue*). As a resident of this neighborhood for over 35 years, I have witnessed firsthand the negative impact that this bike lane will have on our community.

As a taxpayer and resident of this city, I believe that this initiative is unfair and misguided. This bike lane project is highly triggering and reminiscent of a similar back in the 1960s where residents and businesses in the Rondo neighborhood were forced to evacuate and relocate for the I-94 highway with no consideration or public discussion that this would happen to them.

The splitting of the Rondo neighborhood was detrimental to the Black community and we are still trying to heal from that as a community. You recently renamed our street Rondo Avenue only to turn around and make those same residents pay for a bicycle lane they won't use. This is all too familiar and a passive aggressive form of gentrification and slowly but surely feels like an attempt to push the Black residents in this neighborhood out so that white cyclists can have the freedom to ride their bikes at our expense! This is re-traumatizing Black people all over again.

Firstly, the decision to charge residents for the bike lane is highly concerning. It is unacceptable for the city to impose additional financial burdens on its citizens, particularly during challenging economic times. Many residents are already struggling to make ends meet, My husband and I are senior citizens and this fee would only add to our financial strain.

Secondly, the bike lane will increase traffic congestion on our already busy streets. With the removal of parking spaces, cars will have to double-park or park illegally, narrowing the road and slowing down traffic flow. It will also reduce the number of parking spaces available on our streets, making it difficult for residents and visitors to find parking which will be a major inconvenience.

In addition, the bike lane project appears to prioritize the interests of a small group of cyclists over the broader community. While I understand the importance of promoting

alternative transportation, it is essential to consider the needs of all residents. The bike lane will disrupt traffic flow, making it more difficult for motorists and public transportation users to navigate the city

Furthermore, I am concerned about the lack of transparency and public consultation surrounding this project. Residents have not been adequately informed or given the opportunity to provide input. It is essential for the city council to engage in meaningful dialogue with the community before implementing such significant changes.

I urge you to reconsider the bike lane project, the associated resident fees and explore alternative options that will better serve the needs of our community. Instead, the city should focus on addressing more pressing issues such as homelessness and lowering our property taxes.

I urge you to reconsider the proposed bike lane and explore alternative options that will better serve the needs of our community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jasper and Christine Flowers

Parcel id#35-29-23-44-0003

718 Rondo Avenue

St. Paul, MN 55104