Charles Avenue Project Public Comment

July 25th, 2012 Open House

These comments have been submitted since the public hearing draft was released on July 25th.

Total attendance: 65

Total comment cards: 42

- Support the project: 12
- Support the project *and* Support with concerns: 5
- Support with concerns: 7

Total support or support with concerns: 24

- Oppose the project *and* Support with concerns: 2
- Oppose the project: 14

Total Oppose or oppose/support with concerns: 16

- No boxes checked: 1
- Not opposed to project: 1

Likes

- the project in totality: 8
- safer streets for bicyclists and pedestrians:4
- traffic circles: 3
- the pedestrian islands: 2
- medians: 2
- connection to other bikeways: 1
- thoughtful execution of the plan: 1
- meaningful public involvement: 1
- the fact that 800 people have supported this project over the past two years: 1

Concerns

- access to businesses: 8
- emergency vehicles: 1
- parking: 4
- chicanes: 2
- restricting turns at Snelling/Charles: 1
- traffic circles don't actually work/stop sign removal: 6
- snow removal at traffic circles and intersections: 2
- not enough traffic circles: 1
- not enough space to accommodate traffic circles: 1
- not enough traffic analysis, especially after LRT is done / more traffic on other streets: 6
- Less safe for pedestrians and kids: 2

- the median should be continuous from University to Thomas, NOT open at Edmund:1

Other

- Not enough communication about meetings with businesses and residents: 2
- Unnecessary use of public funds: 4
- Too many bike paths: 1

Would like to see

- speedbumps: 1
- bike lanes closer University: 1
- traffic circles of different sizes/design, to keep drivers alert: 1
- North/south improvements at Hamline: 1
- Rain gardens: 1
- Brickwork at key intersections: 1
- Bike bridge at Snelling: 1
- Wayfinding to local businesses: 1

Charles Avenue Project Public Comment

Emails, online comments, and phone calls as of 2 pm on August 7, 2012

These comments have been submitted since the public hearing draft was released on July 25th.

Total emails: 21

Total phone calls: 6

Total online comments: 5

- Support the project: 19
- Oppose the project: 4
- Oppose certain elements of the project: 9

Likes

- Traffic circles: 2
- Medians: 3
- Signage/wayfinding: 1
- An east/west alternative to University: 3
- Better choices/connectivity for biking: 6
- More livable city/neighborhood: 3
- Safety improvements/fewer accidents: 6
- Opening Sherburne to address business access concerns: 1
- Neighborhood-led community process: 6
- Providing safe routes for youth & underserved communities: 3

Concerns

- Too much signage & paint: 1
- Initial Cost/maintenance costs: 2
- Snow removal/maneuvering of plows: 3
- Business/apartment complex access impact at Snelling/Charles: 2
- Opposed to a median at Snelling/Charles (reason not given): 5
- Traffic on Thomas: 1
- Should be a traffic circle at Charles and Albert: 1
- Opening Sherburne at Snelling will cause new problems: 1
- Traffic on University Avenue not considered/understood: 1
- Traffic on Sherburne: 1
- Kids shouldn’t cross at Snelling: 1
- Would make rental properties less attractive: 1

Other

- Waste of taxpayer resources: 1
- Bicyclists don’t follow the rules: 2
- Project not needed: 2

Would like to see

- Use Sherburne for commercial parking and bike lanes: 1
- Use University Avenue for bikes:1
- Use Minnehaha or Thomas for bikes: 3
- Better training/education for bicyclists: 1
- Snelling left open at Charles: 2
- Project implemented in its entirety, ensuring a continuous safe route: 1
- Do not want to see Charles closed

Preliminary Charles Avenue Project Public Comment

Comments received at July 17th Public Meeting

These comments were submitted at the July 17th meeting, and were used by staff to revise the design and to create a public hearing draft.

Total attendance: 80+

Total comment cards: 28

Total online comments: 8

Total emails: 1

Likes project as is: 11
Likes project, has some concerns: 18
Opposed to project: 4
Comments not related to the project: 3

General support, no suggestions or concerns/opposition to other comments: 7

Snelling Median

- Think funeral home needs should be addressed: 4
- Would like to compromise w/funeral home by crossing at Edmund: 5
- Want the median, no compromise: 3
- No median, no compromise: 1
- How would delivery trucks/emergency vehicles get through?: 2

Stop Signs vs. Traffic Circles

- Would like to keep stop sign: 6
- Keep stop sign but include bumpouts: 1
- Likes traffic circles: 5
- Would like to be part of the traffic circle design process/ok with them, but wants it to look good: 4

Traffic Calming

- Likes Speedbumps: 1
- Likes flashing lights: 3

Maintenance

- Concerns about winter and summer maintenance: 3

Other

- Feels that a bike blvd means that you can’t drive down your own street: 1
- Bicyclists should follow the rules: 1

- Too much loitering/money should be spent on police: 2
- Would like to see public art: 1
- Would like to see rain gradens: 1
- Need better north/south bike routes, too: 1