



ST. PAUL Smart Trips

55 E 5TH ST. SUITE 202
ST. PAUL, MN 55101

March 24, 2015

Capital Improvement Budget Committee
c/o John McCarthy, Senior Budget Analyst
City of Saint Paul – Office of Financial Services
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Subject: CIB Proposal for a Rice Street Traffic Study

To the Capital Improvement Budget Committee:

I'm writing on behalf of St. Paul Smart Trips to express our support for CIB funding for undertaking a multi-modal traffic study of Rice Street as proposed by the District 6 Planning Council. St. Paul Smart Trips is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that improves access and mobility for those who travel in and around St. Paul. This project is also endorsed by St. Paul Walks, an initiative of St. Paul Smart Trips focusing on getting drivers to slow down for pedestrians, specifically at intersections, whether they are marked or unmarked.

Last October, a young boy was hit and severely injured on Rice Street in St. Paul walking to school. These tragic incidents are far too common and can be avoided. Implementing traffic calming measures through changes to design and signage is imperative to preventing future pedestrian crashes.

A traffic study will guide plans for how to improve the conditions for people walking to and from school, for recreation and to local businesses. Incorporating the needs of people who ride the bus, bike and walk into any future plans for Rice Street can only improve the safety, economy and vitality of the street.

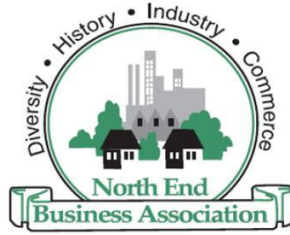
We feel that, combined with the City's Complete Streets Policy and recently adopted Bicycle Plan, a traffic study of Rice Street will lay the groundwork for improving the conditions for all users of the road in the short-term and well into the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Treat".

Jessica Treat
Executive Director
St. Paul Smart Trips



March 5, 2015

CIB Task Force
Streets and Utilities

Dear Mr. Lallier

The North End Business Association (NEBA) is gravely concerned about pedestrian safety on Rice Street. This year's tragic accident involving the Washington Technology Magnet School student brought to light the significant hazards pedestrians face every time they attempt to cross this very busy thoroughfare.

Business owners, customers, residents and students typically experience great difficulty safely crossing Rice during normal business and school hours.

NEBA strongly supports the District 6 Planning Council recommendations for improving pedestrian safety on Rice well as implementation of the Rice Street Parking Study recommendations.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Byron Toole, President
651-252-5087