# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes:

## Summary of Comments Received

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
*Kathy Lantry, Director*

CITY OF SAINT PAUL
*Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor*

*1500 City Hall Annex*
*25 W. Fourth Street*
*Saint Paul, MN 55102-1660*

*Fax: 651-266-6222*

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Luke Hanson, Public Works, Capital and Transportation Planning

DATE: 6/2/2015

**SUBJECT: Summary of public comments received on the proposal to incorporate bicycle facilities into Ramsey County mill and overlay projects on Cleveland Avenue, Lexington Parkway, and Front Avenue.**

This memorandum presents a summary of the public comments received on the proposal to incorporate bicycle facilities into Ramsey County mill and overlay projects on Cleveland Avenue, Lexington Parkway, and Front Avenue. The full text of all written statements received is attached to the end of this memorandum.

Proposals to implement bicycle facilities on Cleveland Avenue, Lexington Parkway, and Front Avenue were released publically on April 17, 2015. Websites were created for each project, providing an overview of the planned improvements, data, project documents, visuals, timeline, and a project contact for questions and comments. Each project website was linked to on stpaul.gov/bikeprojects, a website providing a list of all bicycle projects throughout the city. City staff also sent an announcement to the approximately1800 subscribers of the city's Bicycling Saint Paul newsletter.

Notification was sent to the executive directors of the District Council's where the projects are proposed (District 10 – Como, District 14 – Macalester-Groveland, and District 15 – Highland Park), and an offer was extended for city staff to attend a district council meeting to present the proposed improvements.

Open Houses were held for all three of the County mill and overlay projects with bicycle facilities proposed. Residents and property owners within 250 feet of the proposed projects were sent notifications of the Open House via mail, along with an overview of the project details and impacts.

The following open houses were held to present information and collect feedback on the projects as proposed:

- Lexington Parkway Open House – Tuesday, April 28th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, Edgcumbe Recreation Center
- Cleveland Avenue Open House – Wednesday, April 29th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM, Nativity of our Lord School Library
- Front Avenue Open House – Tuesday, May 6th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM, North Dale Recreation Center

A total of 162 people were recorded on sign-in sheets for the open house events.

**Statements Received:**
City and County staff received a total of 356 written statements from individuals from the following sources:

- Comment forms from the open house events (63 statements)
- Emails received by or forwarded to City and County staff (109 statements)
- Statements received on Open Saint Paul (184 statements)

It should be noted that the total number of statements received includes multiple statements from some individuals, as well as some duplicate statements. Some individuals submitted multiple comments through more than one channel (e.g. an individual may have provided written feedback at an Open House, sent city and county staff an email, sent elected officials an email, and provided feedback online on Open Saint Paul).

**Next Steps:**
On Wednesday, June 17, 2015, the projects will be presented to the City Council. This will be a public hearing. The City Council will vote on whether to recommend that Ramsey County implement the proposed bicycle facilities on Cleveland Avenue, Lexington Parkway, and Front Avenue.

**Attachments:**
Original text or transcription of all written statements received by or forwarded to city staff.

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes:

# Transcribed Open House Statements

(Scanned copies of the original statements are provided in the attached **Appendix**)

Front Avenue Open House Comments

1. Ann Porwoll
   697 Front Avenue
   Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103

   I am a homeowner who has lived on Front Avenue for 25 years. I don't want to see the space in front of my home become a parking lot.

   The large number of people living in the high rise apartments, rental properties and those that attend the church(s) and business' on Front Avenue, need the south side for parking.

   Please consider indented parking on the south side (the cemetery side) of the street, like the parking on Victoria.

   I currently have friends that come to visit that cannot park in front of my house because of the over flow parking from the high rise apartments and rental properties.

   When I bought my home the seven homes on my block were all owned by the families living in them, the high rise apartments were for seniors only. Three of the homes are now rental property and the high rise has been open to anyone receiving government support. The expansion of business in the area has greatly increased the car, truck and semi-truck traffic on Front Avenue to the point that it is not affecting our homes. They are developing hair line cracks in the walls and even pictures in my own home hang cockeyed because of the vibrations. In the block and a half radius around my home, there are seven apartment complexes (which are section eighth housing), one residence home apartment complex and numerous rental properties, these also impact our neighborhood.

   Please consider the home owners on Front Avenue. We pay the taxes that support these projects and yet our home values are depreciating.

   If you put in bike lanes, please include indented parking on the south side of the street so there will be room for everyone.

2. Wayne Warnest
   963 Front Ave

   -I am against adding bike lane to Front Ave
   -I have lived on Front Ave for 36 years and have seen traffic volume increase greatly over time. The main issue seems to be the amount of big trucks that travel down Front Ave.
   -I think St. Paul and Ramsey County should be embarrassed on how the curbing looks on the south side between Dale and Lexington. I am glad that the street is being repaved, but it is my belief that a 2' overlay will not last long due to the heavy vehicle traffic on Front.
   -I have not seen that many bicycles using Front Ave. Thank you.

3. Anonymous Resident
   -I appreciate the city's efforts to provide safe and more bike paths. Understanding the concerns of several businesses along Front Ave + parking issues. Yes the Parking Counts Studies indicate minimal parking along Front Ave most of the time except in front of Upfront Styling + Halftime Rec. We live

on Oxford + often have people parking on our street when frequenting those businesses. We are happy to finally have resurfaced at long last.
-I support a 30' parking restriction from intersections. Visibility when turning on to Front is very difficult as in stands [??] at present.

4. Maria Czeck
   mczeck@gmail.com
   -I am against the bike lanes, I live 1 block off of Front + the traffic is awful! There is not enough parking as there is. To lose one node [??] of parking would be detrimental to our neighborhood.

5. Anonymous Resident
   -I am absolutely in favor of adding bike lanes to Front Ave. Connecting the bike facilities on Dale to the bike facilities on Lexington sure seems like a no brainer, especially since the loss of parking would be so minimal. That stretch is empty 99% of the time.
   -People need to be able to get in and around their city in a safe manor. This is a great piece in the bikability of St. Paul.

6. Anonymous Resident
   -I live one block off Front Ave and fully support provide bike lanes as part of the re-paving project. I would use these lanes on a regular basis to access bike lanes at both end of this project. Como Avenue and Lexington Avenue.
   -These lanes may remove some parking, but it will be worth providing an alternative form of transportation for a growing form of transport.
   -I'm also very happy to share the road via the use of "sharrows" to provide access for vehicles, bikes and allow some parking.
   -Another important note – this is an interim step until an off-street bike path (which is planned by the city) is implemented. Why not make this an interim step? Use sharrows where there is housing on both sides of Front. Bike lane along the cemetery.

7. Anonymous Resident
   -Front Ave needs to be redone. The old streetcar rails should be removed or this project will only be a band-aid. Add bike lanes.

8. Charles Tiller
   984 Oxford St. N.
   St. Paul, MN 55103
   charlietiller@hotmail.com

   -Generally I am glad to see the bike lanes being added. Living near Oxford + Front, I am a bit concerned about the additional Half-time Rec parking backing up on to Oxford. Really the bike lane will not affect my biggest parking concern, which is trying to turn onto Front with all the parked vehicles obstructing the view of oncoming traffic. I would support a 30-foot parking restriction from the intersection. I'm a bit disappointed the road project won't be more [??] than a mill-and-overlay. The potholes between Lexington and Oxford will return in a few years without reconstruction work in the road base. Final grade = B.

9. Anonymous Resident

-Not in favor of bike lane. Need more raingardens in front ☺ Parking already limited + massage school has requested building a site near Front + that will also cause congestion

10. Anonymous Resident
    -Please no bike trails on Front Ave
    -Please do the curbs
    -2 inch overlay won't last a year
    -Half Time rec will be parking a mile away or in people's backyards
    -Bikes don't pay taxes

11. Sandra Weber ["Send to Janice Rettman"]
    Sandraweber36@gmail.com
    -I am against the bike path on Front Ave. Please consider that winter is longer than summer months. It will be critical in winter months for parking especially when you have to move your car to be plowed there simply isn't enough parking available. The road is narrow enough in winter. There are not many bikers on Front Ave to begin with. It will also hurt our local businesses for parking. Please no bike path. This will be better for our Front Ave. No bike path. Consider us people that have to live here.

12. Anonymous Resident
    -I support putting bike lanes on Front. It would connect Como bike lanes with Lexington and Chatsworth bikeways. It would be an important step in creating a continuous east-west bikeway from Como to the UMN Transitway. Also it would provide a potential "safe route" to schools.
    -Claims about parking are way over-blown. There is tons of parking on side-streets. I highly recommend doing a side-street parking study to prove this.

13. Michael Mason
    -Hello, As a resident on Avon St, I want to voice my support to adopt bike lanes on Front. My daughter attends ECFE at Crossroads Elementary and as a bicycle commuter, I use this East-West corridor often.
    -I know studies have been done showing minimal impacts to parking in the area. Please pay attention to the DATA instead of the emotion of those that would argue about parking loss. Thank you.

14. Anonymous Resident
    -Obviously going down to one side of street parking near the cemetery will have no impact on that stretch of Front. As for the Lexington to Chatsworth section that gets parked up a bit more but it can still handle going to one side.

15. Charles Hardy – Public Works
    Welding Shop
    891 N Dale Street
    651-266-9817
    -Bike lanes on Front won't work with the road surface as bad as it is and the increased truck traffic
    -Are the cyclists paying extra fees for special lanes like they charge the ATV's and snowmobiles?
    -The street car rails should be pulled out of the road base before repaving because that's where the asphalt is breaking up the worst – it was milled and overlayed approx. 8 years ago.

-Where the bus stops are located is where the asphalt pushes up to the cubs leaving big divots in the street.

16. Anonymous Resident
-I'm in favor of the bikes, removing parking on south side of Front. I would also suggest decreasing the frontage (lawn) in front of the cemetery on the south side of Front. Slow traffic speeds on Front.

17. Anonymous Resident

Using Data from the letter sent by the St. Paul Public Works.

Street width is a typical 40 feet…what is the actual width?

Your letter contends that the proposed changes are to make Front Street safer:
1. Safer for whom?
2. In what universe does narrowing the width of a traffic lane make it safer?
3. If that were true, why not reduce the width to 8 feet, the same as the parking lane, and make the street even safer?
4. Front Street is an avenue not a street

The width of a city bus is 8 feet, 9 inches…It cannot fit into an 8 foot parking width without extending into the west bound bike lane. The westbound bus will always have to cross over the bike lane for its stops. This will cause delays for passengers and create a more dangerous condition for the bicyclists.

The bus' lane is 27" wider than the bus width. The bicycle's lane is 34" to 38" wider than the bike's width. It appears that the vehicle actually providing a service is no match for a garage sale Schwinn!

Front Avenue is a snow emergency route. Reducing parking by 50% will make residential parking inconvenient and difficult.

Snow plows simply cannot cleanly plow all the way to the curb. This may cause vehicles to park extending into the bike lane.

We all know our winter lasts longer than 3 months, yet someone thinks we should create bike paths for those they anticipate riding around in a blizzard or a 50 below wind chill. Wouldn't the money be better spent creating a hospital ward to treat that condition?

It would be impossible for a police office to pull over a vehicle in the east bound lane without totally halting following traffic or forcing them into the west bound lane.

Wednesday May 6, 2015
6:00 to 7:30
North Dale Recreation Center
Across from Maternity of Mary's Church

1414 St. Albans St. N
Saint Paul, MN 55117

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes:

# Email Statements Received

**From:** Mary Ellen Porwoll
**To:** Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul)
**Subject:** Bike lanes on Front Avenue
**Date:** Monday, May 25, 2015 8:10:10 PM

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Dear Project Coordinators,

I am a homeowner who has lived on Front Avenue for 25 years. I do not want to see the space in front of my home become a parking lot.

The large number of people living in the high rise apartments, rental properties and those that attend the church(s) and business' on Front Avenue, need the south side for parking.

Please consider indented parking on the south side (the cemetery side) of the street, like the parking on Victoria.

I currently have friends that come to visit that cannot park in front of my house because of the over flow parking from the high rise apartments and rental properties.

When I bought my home the seven homes on my block were all owned by the families living in them, the high rise apartments were for seniors only. Three of the homes are now rental property and the high rise has been open to anyone receiving government support. The expansion of business in the area has greatly increased the car, truck and semi-truck traffic on Front Avenue to the point that it is affecting our homes. They are developing hair line cracks in the walls and even pictures in my own home hang cockeyed because of the vibrations. In the block and a half radius around my home, there are seven apartment complexes (which are section eighth housing), one residence home apartment complex and numerous rental properties, these also impact our neighborhood.

Please consider the home owners on Front Avenue. We pay the taxes that support these projects and yet our home values are depreciating.

If you put in bike lanes, please include indented parking on the south side of the street so there will be room for everyone.

Sincerely,

Ann Porwoll

697 Front Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
amporwoll@gmail.com

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | MICHAEL KUCHTA Owner |
| **To:** | Brendmoen, Amy (CI-StPaul); janice.rettman@ramsey.co.mn.us |
| **Cc:** | Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul) |
| **Subject:** | Cleveland and Front repaving/bicycle projects |
| **Date:** | Sunday, May 10, 2015 8:59:09 PM |

Dear Council Member Brendmoen and Commissioner Rettman,
Please support the inclusion of designated bike lanes as part of the repaving projects on Cleveland Ave. and Front Ave. Both create important connections, and are great first steps in beginning to build out the route network envisioned in the city's bike plan.
Below are comments in support that I have posed on Open St. Paul.
Thank you for your support.
Michael Kuchta
1522 N. Grotto
651-489-2395

Front
I support bike lanes along this section of Front as a great start to adding functional cycling options in our neighborhood. Once the street craters are repaved, this will become a more useful and more heavily used route. Designated lanes will make this route even safer.
Lanes will also provide a practical connection to the Como bike lanes on the east; to the Chatsworth and Lexington connections toward Como Park on the west; and to Energy Park Drive, which in turn can connect to the Raymond and Transitway routes even further west. In addition, a safe connection to Chatworth allows all cyclists to avoid the increasing number of trains on Como north of Jessamine, and allows less comfortable cyclists to avoid riding the “share the road” sections of Como south of the lake and east toward Dale.
The proposed elimination of parking on Front will have minimal impact for the vast majority of the route. There may be some issues of inconvenience near Half Time Rec and in the area near Dale. There also may be issues for residents about where cars go during snow emergencies. But reasonable accommodations can be made in all these situations if necessary. These localized concerns should not sabotage a very beneficial project.

Cleveland
As someone who bikes Cleveland regularly, I support the addition of bike lanes on this stretch of Cleveland (and farther north in the future). The city/county proposal is amazingly well thought out; based on counts, most of the "parking" being eliminated is rarely utilized, and most of the parking closest to key business intersections is preserved. The bike lane should enhance what is, after all, a residential neighborhood -- and make the street safer and more pleasant for both cyclists and pedestrians. It makes biking a more viable option for getting to the river, to Shepard Road, and to the Highland business district; that should help offset the growing parking and traffic congestion there. All these changes should be welcomed, not feared.

**From:** upfront22@juno.com
**To:** Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul)
**Subject:** front ave
**Date:** Saturday, May 09, 2015 9:06:19 AM

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City Staff,

My Name is Connie Scholtes.

As a Business owner of Up Front Styling & a person who lives on Front Ave.

Please Do Not make Front Ave into Bicycle lanes.

(We real do need the parking.) Not only for myself yet for all the small Business on Front Ave.

We lost parking because of the bus lane that was put in a few years ago.

This is not only for us business owners. If we loss more packing on Front ave. Cars that would be parked on front Ave.

Will then be forced to go back into the neighborhood. And in my opinion not leaving them safe to park in front of their homes at night.

To loss more parking would be a great loss for all of us. Any Help you can give me/us will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Connie Schlotes.

Old School Yearbook Pics
View Class Yearbooks Online Free. Search by School & Year. Look Now!
http://thirdpartyoffers.juno.com/TGL3141/554e143cc6b73143c4ae8st01vuc

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|---|---|
| **From:** | kelly randall |
| **To:** | Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul); lucas.lortie@co.ramsey.mn.us |
| **Subject:** | Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes |
| **Date:** | Wednesday, May 06, 2015 9:20:24 PM |

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Firstly, thanks to you both for providing a forum for the neighbors along Front Avenue (an beyond) to express their ideas about this project. I am glad the City and County take the time to listen.

FYI: I have posted the following on the "Open Saint Paul" website. I am also sending it to you as the contact for this project and as a confirmation that my comments are be included in this process.

I FULLY support the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County adding, in some form, a bike connection along Front Avenue between Lexington and Como/Dale. As a resident of this neighborhood (I live one block off Front nearer to Dale) I use my bicycle as a frequent way of commuting to work, and often as transportation and recreation at other times. Having a way to easily and safely access existing bike paths and bike lanes is key for me and for others who regularly bike. Making this connection would make an important east-west link.

Because I live in this neighborhood I also see the need for parking along Front Avenue for my neighbors who live here. Therefore an alternative at the eastern and western sides of this project should be considered. Alternatives such as "sharrows" and "share the road" signage are worth further investigation.

Another consideration that should not be overlooked it traffic calming. Ideas such as lane striping or bump outs could be an added benefit to the neighborhood, making Front Avenue friendlier for everyone.

I DO NOT support a decision that completely abandons a bike connection along this corridor. Biking is legitimate form of transportation and ever growing amenity of our metropolitan area. It is part of what attracts people to live here and stay here. It keeps us healthy. It should be something the City, County, and residents work on together to make happen.

To reiterate, as a resident of this neighborhood I FULLY support including a bike connection along Front Avenue between Lexington and Como/Dale.

Thank you!
Kelly Randall

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|---|---|
| **From:** | Michael Mason |
| **To:** | Brendmoen, Amy (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul_Ward1; Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul); janice.rettman@co.ramsey.mn.us |
| **Subject:** | Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes |
| **Date:** | Thursday, May 07, 2015 12:55:39 PM |

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Hello,

I hope this finds you all well.

As a resident in the Como Park neighborhood, I wanted to write you all to lend my voice to support of the Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes.

I attended the Open House last night as a bicycle commute year-round, as well as an individual with a family in the neighborhood. My kids have attended Crossroads Elementary, and living on Avon Street this corridor provides a great opportunity for me to get too and from the school by bicycle. In addition, bicycle lanes will help to reduce traffic speeds and make the neighborhood more appealing for both walkers and bicyclist, as well as us homeowners. I have one car in my family because the neighborhood allows for me to do this, but there are challenges in the infrastructure that I'm happy to see being addressed in this proposal.

I was disappointed with many of those in opposition to the bicycle lanes at last night's meeting. I do not feel that belligerent swearing is appropriate in most contexts, but especially in a public meeting. My kudos to Reuben Collins and Public Works staff in attendance for handling this disruptive behavior professionally and allowing for input on a one-to-one basis. I did try to speak with representatives from the City, County, and Public Works.

This proposal has strong data showing minimal impacts to parking on the south side of Front Avenue, and my own experience has been that the south side has minimal parking even in winter. I know emotions run high with parking, however, I'd be much happier walking a half-block to my car and have safe corridors to move through the neighborhood.

PLEASE... as a family living in the area, know that I voice the concerns of many who agree with me from the neighborhood, but cannot attend these meetings. Look to the DATA, as well as my testimony, and please provide leadership to make our City and County become the vision for the rest of the State for providing a great place for my family to continue to call home.

Thank you for your time, and I'd be happy to speak with you personally if you wish to reach me.

Michael Mason
Avon Street

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|---|---|
| **From:** | Sharon Smith |
| **To:** | Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul); lucas.lortie@co.ramsey.mn.us |
| **Subject:** | Front Avenue R |
| **Date:** | Friday, May 08, 2015 2:55:51 PM |

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Mr. Collins and Mr. Lortie,

My name is Sharon Smith. I own a home on Front Avenue, St. Paul MN specifically 671 Front Avenue. I am a Real Estate Broker licensed with the state of MN and have owned my own just under 20 years. I attended the Open House meeting held recently regarding possible changes to Front Avenue.

My reasons for writing today are many. Primarily I would like a good answer as to why Front Avenue is the designated truck route going East and West. There is entirely too much truck traffic on Front Avenue. Why are trucks banned from Como Avenue? Front Avenue is a residential street not a commercial thoroughfare. The truck noise and pollution have become unbearable. Many residents who have lived here for 40 plus years are moving.

Secondly, why wasn't Front Avenue resurfaced last year? It is an absolute mess, a horror to drive on. As for the bicycle lane, I don't know. I used to ride bicycle but stopped because it was so dangerous. A bicycle lane sounds good but where are all the cars that usually park on the south side of the street going to park in the winter especially during snow emergencies. My block has two large apartment buildings in the cul de sac by the entrance to my alley. It is already difficult for them to find parking. I live in the last block before Dale.

Sincerely
Sharon Smith

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Susan Ward |
| **To:** | Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul) |
| **Cc:** | Ann Porwoll; janice.rettman@co.ramsey.mn.us; lucas.lortie@co.ramsey.mn.us |
| **Subject:** | Fwd: Bike lanes on Front Avenue |
| **Date:** | Thursday, May 21, 2015 5:27:11 PM |

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Hello Reuben,
I just wanted to make sure you received my email from before the community meeting that took place on May 6th. I still hope that we do NOT have the parking removed on the south side of Front Avenue to make way for the painting of a bike lane. This morning I saw so MANY vehicles from the hi rise that were parked on the south side and even some on the north side of the road. The city does street sweeping on Thurs.'s so those parked on the north side may have received tickets. Anyway, I really envision too many cars parked in front of our homes from the hi rise residents and when their lot has so many open spaces (18). Something MUST be done about that before you people decide to put in or paint bike lanes. I was very discouraged and somewhat -- (I don't want to say depressed), but quite disturbed that night when I went home. That meeting was not a good experience. We did not get to hear what other people had to say. Someone should have stopped the lady who kept talking and the man who started swearing about this and that. You guys all stood up front and no one really took the lead. Anyway, I even had difficulty sleeping that night. I feel we are at your mercy -- the city seems to do what they please anyway and do not consider the homeowners who have to pay the high taxes.

Luke shared with me that the traffic count to Lexington was approximately 7800 daily and approximately 9000 to Dale daily. That's a lot of traffic! You should put a stop sign at the corner of Grotto & Front, to slow some of the traffic. I have not heard anything about what transpired from the meeting so I thought I would get a few more comments to you. Thanks.

--Sue (wardx011)

Susan Ward, Admin Assistant
University of Minnesota / FM U Construction
Room 130 Food Operations Building
2904 Fairmount Street SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414
Telephone: 612-624-5758
Cell Phone: 612-328-4946
FAX: 612-625-4133
E-mail: wardx011@umn.edu

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Susan Ward** <wardx011@umn.edu>
Date: Mon, May 4, 2015 at 5:20 PM
Subject: Re: Bike lanes on Front Avenue
To: Ann Porwoll <amporwoll@gmail.com>
Cc: janice.rettman@co.ramsey.mn.us, lucas.lortie@co.ramsey.mn.us, reuben.collins@ci.st.paul.mn.us, district10@district10comopark.org

Project Coordinators,

I live at 685 Front Avenue and completely agree with Ann Porwoll's email letter. I have lived in my home for 23 years and I have seen the traffic increase with all the cars, huge trucks, semis, Cemstone trucks as an example. They use this 1 mile stretch with no stop signs from Lexington Ave to Dale St. at speeds of over 40-50 mph.

I understand that we need more bike lanes in the City, but I do not think Front Avenue is wide enough to provide the safety with the current and constant traffic levels, the businesses and homeowners that need parking on both sides of Front Ave. Planting more trees along the cemetery side to provide a canopy could slow traffic, but that would take years.

The 7 homes east of the hi-rise all share driveways; our guests cannot block the drive for our neighbor, therefore the need for a spot to park in front of our homes. If the parking is removed on the south side, hi-rise tenants will likely encroach parking in front of our homes taking away parking from homeowners. I understand that the high-rise tenants must provide car insurance in order to park in their lot. I would then assume those on the street are guests or do not have insurance. In doing a few spot checks, both times there were 18 open spots--just a bit of information.

The indented parking would be attractive and may also help to slow traffic. Both sides of the street could be used as "enhanced shared lanes" for the bikes like Como Avenue. Thank you.

--Sue (wardx011)

Susan Ward, Admin Assistant
University of Minnesota / FM U Construction
Room 130 Food Operations Building
2904 Fairmount Street SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414
Telephone: 612-624-5758
Cell Phone: 612-328-4946
FAX: 612-625-4133
E-mail: wardx011@umn.edu

On Thu, Apr 30, 2015 at 8:44 PM, Ann Porwoll <amporwoll@gmail.com> wrote:

> Dear Project Coordinators,
>
> I am a homeowner who has lived on Front Avenue for 25 years. I do not want to see the space in front of my home become a parking lot.
>
> The large number of people living in the high rise apartments, rental properties and those that attend the church(s) and business' on Front Avenue, need the south side for parking.
>
> Please consider indented parking on the south side (the cemetery side) of the street, like the parking on Victoria.
>
> I currently have friends that come to visit that cannot park in front of my house because of the over flow parking from the high rise apartments and rental properties.

When I bought my home the seven homes on my block were all owned by the families living in them, the high rise apartments were for seniors only. Three of the homes are now rental property and the high rise has been open to anyone receiving government support. The expansion of business in the area has greatly increased the car, truck and semi-truck traffic on Front Avenue to the point that it is affecting our homes. They are developing hair line cracks in the walls and even pictures in my own home hang cockeyed because of the vibrations. In the block and a half radius around my home, there are seven apartment complexes (which are section eighth housing), one residence home apartment complex and numerous rental properties, these also impact our neighborhood.

Please consider the home owners on Front Avenue. We pay the taxes that support these projects and yet our home values are depreciating.

If you put in bike lanes, please include indented parking on the south side of the street so there will be room for everyone.

Sincerely,

Ann Porwoll

697 Front Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
amporwoll@gmail.com

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | David Rudolph |
| **To:** | Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul_Ward3; Rafael.E.Ortega@co.ramsey.mn.us; #CI-StPaul_Ward5; #CI-StPaul_Ward1; janice.rettman@co.ramsey.mn.us |
| **Subject:** | Lex, Cleveland and Front bikeways |
| **Date:** | Saturday, April 25, 2015 4:03:13 PM |

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I wanted to tell you that I fully support the proposed plans for the new bike lanes that St. Paul and Ramsey and proposing. I am a Hamline Midway resident, but me and my family regularly use our bikes to get around St. Paul. These new lanes will allow us to bike more frequently and feel safer. Thank you very much for moving forward with this initiative!

David

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Andy Singer |
| **To:** | Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul); #CI-StPaul_Ward5; janice.rettman@co.ramsey.mn.us |
| **Cc:** | Toni.Carter@co.ramsey.mn.us |
| **Subject:** | Proposed bike lanes on Front Avenue |
| **Date:** | Sunday, May 10, 2015 6:09:32 PM |

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Dear Mr. Collins, Council Member Brendmoen and Commissioners Rettman and Carter,

I support putting bike lanes on Front Avenue between Lexington Parkway and Dale Street as described at-- http://stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=5692

These bike lanes would connect existing bikeways on Lexington and Chatsworth with the existing bikeway on Como Avenue. They are part of the Saint Paul Bikeways Plan and would eventually be part of an east-west bicycle connection along Front Avenue and Energy Park Drive between Como Avenue and the UMN Transitway. They could also help provide a safe route for kids to get to Crossroads Elementary School, just east of Como Avenue.

The project would require removal of parking on one side of Front Avenue but parking studies for the project show that on-street parking is barely used, so taking away parking on one side will not have a significant impact. See--
http://stpaul.gov/DocumentCenter/View/78421

The only exception is the one block between Oxford and Argyle, near Halftime Rec-- a sports bar. It is not unreasonable, however, to ask patrons of this bar to walk an extra block to their parked cars. It might actually sober them up and reduce drunk driving accidents. Besides, there is a significant number of parking spaces on side streets.

Have Minnesotans become so weak that they can't walk an extra block to their parked cars? I urge all of you to support striping these bike lanes, if only because they will encourage folks to walk and bike more.

Sincerely,

Andy Singer
(former chair of the Saint Paul Bicycle Coalition)
2103 Berkeley Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55105
651-917-3417
andy@andysinger.com

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Amy Schwarz |
| **To:** | #CI-StPaul_Ward4; #CI-StPaul_Ward3; Coleman, Chris (CI-StPaul); Rafael.E.Ortega@co.ramsey.mn.us; Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul); Toni.Carter@co.ramsey.mn.us; #CI-StPaul_Ward5 |
| **Subject:** | Support of Cleveland Avenue Bike Lanes |
| **Date:** | Thursday, May 14, 2015 5:10:24 PM |

Good Afternoon,

I am writing in support of the bike lanes, as proposed, on Cleveland, Lexington and Front Avenues. I believe these are essential steps in creating a safe and connected bike network in St. Paul. The current plans are good, but should allow space for protected bikeways. Though building out a full protected bikeway is likely outside the scope of these repaving projects, this is an opportunity now to get the space that would be needed for a future protected lane.

Because I live right off Cleveland Avenue (south of where the lanes are proposed) and attended the public meeting on this project, I want to address Cleveland specifically. While I understand the concerns of business owners on Cleveland, I believe the consequences from the loss of parking are being greatly exaggerated. For example, the owners of Luci and Luci Ancora already have a parking lot and many of their customers use the parking lot at Accolades Salon after hours for parking. Yet, at the public meeting, the owner compared claimed that losing parking would impact job. I strongly doubt this is accurate.

Unfortunately it seems that some individuals in Highland Park and Mac Groveland oppose any change to our neighborhoods, regardless of the benefit to the community and to future generations. I encourage you to show leadership and move this project forward instead of listening to the loudest complainers. There is a quiet majority who supports the project and is often overshadowed by the noise that the opposition generates. I am in my 30's and plan to live and vote in St. Paul far into the future. I have been disappointed by the opposition to change, especially to change that makes our roads, which are public space, more safe and multi-modal. We live in a city that will only grow more dense and parking directly in front of your location should not be expected or protected for the few loudest complainers.

Thank you for your time and leadership. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Amy Schwarz, J.D.
(651) 699-6796,

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Gary Fifield |
| **To:** | Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul); Tolbert, Chris (CI-StPaul) |
| **Subject:** | Support street improvements for cycling |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, May 12, 2015 4:32:43 PM |

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Gentlemen,

I want to express my strong support for the addition of cycling designations and facilities for street improvements on Cleveland, Lexington and Front St.

Thank you for your work.

Gary Fifield

| | |
|---|---|
| **From:** | Christenson, Jeff |
| **To:** | Collins, Reuben (CI-StPaul) |
| **Cc:** | #CI-StPaul_Ward1; "Toni.Carter@co.ramsey.mn.us" |
| **Subject:** | Writing in Support of the Three Planned Bikeways |
| **Date:** | Monday, May 04, 2015 2:51:19 PM |

Good afternoon, Messrs. Collins and Thao and Mrs. Carter,

I am writing to show my support for the three potential bikeway projects on Cleveland, Lexington, and Front Avenues.

The first reason I am supportive of these proposed projects is that I am a resident of Lex-Ham, living on Marshall Ave., and I use the Marshall Ave. bike lane every weekday to commute into downtown Minneapolis (and often on weekends, too). Although a line of paint doesn't physically separate me from car traffic, it does set an expectation that drivers and cyclists are supposed to share the road. I feel more confident riding in the bike lane than on the right side of a car lane (although frankly I have no issues riding in the car lane either). More lanes like these would encourage more people to get out and ride, and that is undoubtedly a positive thing for the city of St. Paul.

The second and more important reason I am supportive of these proposed bikeways is that I just bought my wife a bike and she is less confident riding in car lanes than I am, so I have to be more conscious of choosing routes with bike lanes and paths when we ride together. I also have three children, ages 5, 4, and 1, and am hopeful that with the full implementation of the St. Paul Bike Plan, they will be able to confidently navigate throughout our city without having to worry about riding amongst fast-traveling cars on roads designed to move vehicles at speeds of 30+ miles per hour. One of the reasons we like living in the city, versus in a suburb, is that we have the ability to walk and bike to places rather than pile into a car for every trip. We're planning on moving soon, and will be 1 to 1.5 miles from my daughters' schools (and son's school when he's old enough). Once they're older, I would like them to be able to feel safe riding their bikes to school. You may be aware, but there are studies showing that physical activity before school increases students' ability to focus and improves test scores.

I am hopeful that you, likewise, are supportive of these proposed bikeways. Thank you for your consideration and please let me know if there is anything I can do to help with their implementation.

Best,

Jeff Christenson
1204 Marshall Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55104

Using Data from the letter sent by the St. Paul Public Works.

Street width is a typical 40 feet...what is the actual width?

Your letter contends that the proposed changes are to make Front Street safer:

1. Safer for whom?
2. In what universe does narrowing the width of a traffic lane make it safer?
3. If that were true, why not reduce the width to 8 feet, the same as the parking lane, and make the street even safer?
4. Front Street is an avenue not a street.

The width of a city bus is 8 feet, 9 inches...It cannot fit into an 8 foot parking width without extending into the west bound bike lane. The westbound bus will always have to cross over the bike lane for its stops. This will cause delays for passengers and create a more dangerous condition for the bicyclists.

The bus' lane is 27" wider than the bus width. The bicycle's lane is 34" to 38" wider than the bike's width. It appears that the vehicle actually providing a service is no match for a garage sale Schwinn!

Front Avenue is a snow emergency route. Reducing parking by 50% will make residential parking inconvenient and difficult.

Snow plows simply cannot cleanly plow all the way to the curb. This may cause vehicles to park extending into the bike lane.

We all know our winter lasts longer than 3 months, yet someone thinks we should create bike paths for those they anticipate riding around in a blizzard or a 50 below wind chill. Wouldn't the money be better spent creating a hospital ward to treat that condition?

It would be impossible for a police officer to pull over a vehicle in the east bound lane without totally halting following traffic or forcing them into the west bound lane.

Wednesday May 6, 2015
6:00 to 7:30
North Dale Recreation Center
Across from Maternity of Mary's Church

1414 St. Albans St. N
Saint Paul, MN 55117

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes:

# Open Saint Paul Statements Received

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes

*Please share your thoughts about the Front Avenue resurfacing project.*

All On Forum Statements sorted chronologically

As of June  2, 2015,  1:21 PM

*As with any public comment process, participation in Open Saint Paul is voluntary.  The statements in this record are not necessarily representative of the whole population, nor do they reflect the opinions of any government agency or elected officials.*

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes

*Please share your thoughts about the Front Avenue resurfacing project.*

As of June 2, 2015, 1:21 PM, this forum had:

| | |
|---|---|
| Attendees: | 95 |
| On Forum Statements: | 19 |
| All Statements: | 27 |
| Hours of Public Comment: | 1.4 |

This topic started on April 28, 2015, 3:18 PM.

All On Forum Statements sorted chronologically

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes

Please share your thoughts about the Front Avenue resurfacing project.

Keith Goetzman inside Ward 2 June 1, 2015, 10:49 AM

I support the construction of bike lanes on Front Avenue. This street is near my children's school and is used by many children and families as a travel route. The south side of Front is seldom used for parking, so the loss of parking should have little impact on neighborhood residents. I just passed this stretch the other day in mid-afternoon. There were no cars parked in the proposed bike lane area, but there was a commuter cyclist on the road.

1 Supporter

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Kathy Raine inside Ward 1 May 28, 2015, 10:45 PM

No bike lanes, too narrow!

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Dan Wagner inside Ward 5 May 28, 2015, 7:58 PM

Why do they need to put them on busy streets? Conflict with cars is the biggest deterrant to biking activity. Safety should be paramount. Charles Avenue type would be preferred. A side street with less traffic would be best in my view.

1 Supporter

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Becky Minehart inside Ward 4 May 28, 2015, 7:14 PM

I ride to work on Front everyday. It is currently dangerous. I would love bike lanes on Front!

1 Supporter

---

Dan Sagisser inside Ward 5 May 28, 2015, 6:42 PM

I'd love bike lanes, but I'd be way more interested in the off street path that is planned for Front.

http://www.stpaul.gov/DocumentCenter/View/75290

That would be my first choice! As long as the bike lanes don't somehow delay, or eliminate the installation of that path, then I'd be supportive.

1 Supporter

---

Teri Alberico inside Ward 5 May 28, 2015, 4:03 PM

Bike lanes would be great. Front street is my commuter cycling habitrail because there are no rail crossings.

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes

Please share your thoughts about the Front Avenue resurfacing project.

There is a lot of us bank traffic during prime bike commuting hours along Front. Lanes would help keep drivers aware of cyclists' space.  Can Front be widenwd towards calvary cemetery at all?

1 Supporter

---

Danielle Ricard inside Ward 1 May 28, 2015,  3:07 PM

I am a homeowner near Front Ave just east of Lexington.  The section of Front Ave near Half Time Rec (between Lexington and Chatsworth) often has many cars parked quite densely in the evening, as is shown by your parking study, which found parking exceeding expected levels.  Removing parking on one side of the street will push parking for the bar onto residential side streets, with a lot of negative consequences for neighbors. Please consider alternatives to taking away parking on this section of Front Ave.  Perhaps the bike route could go down a residential street (for these few blocks only - between Lexington and Chatsworth) without making changes other than some signage.  Additionally, Front Ave in general could use some traffic calming features - people exceed the speed limit often, and it can be difficult and dangerous to cross Front Ave as a pedestrian.

1 Supporter

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Roger Meyer inside Ward 4 May 26, 2015,  9:54 PM

I support adding bike lanes to Front Avenue.  St. Paul needs to fulfill it's obligation to implement the recently passed bikeways plan to provide the type of infrastructure that cities will need to attract and retain residents now and in the future.

1 Supporter

---

Lisa Austin inside Ward 3 May 15, 2015,  1:22 PM

I frequently use Front to commute between Minneapolis to downtown St. Paul. I work near the capitol and have afternoon meetings in Minneapolis. I use my lunch hour to ride to those meetings.  If I take the Como bike lanes to Front. Then Energy Park Drive to the U of M Transitway and the Dinkytown Greenway and the bridge under I-35 and the bike lanes on 2nd Ave in Mpls I can get to my destination on a pretty safe and convenient route. Right now there are not lanes striped and the cars are all over the road. If bike lanes were striped there everyone would know where to be. I don't see very many cars parked on Front and the traffic is very low especially compared to Como. The only thing I would change is to design them more like protected bikeways and put the bikes next the the curb on the side where the parking is. The good thing this is just paint. The road is very wide on Front and over built. I think this would be a good use of the space to paint the bike lanes. The good thing is it is just paint. If it does not work, it can always go back the way it was.

3 Supporters

---

Wayne Warnest inside Ward 5 May 15, 2015, 12:49 AM

I have lived on Front Avenue now for 36 years and have seen the traffic volume increase greatly in this time.

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes

Please share your thoughts about the Front Avenue resurfacing project.

Seems like a recipe for disaster to narrow the driving lanes which already carry a lot of large vehicles.The City of St. Paul Public Works and Cemstone Concrete are two that come to mind when I see big rigs going east and west on Front Avenue. You want to ride a bike down the street just a few feet from this? Will the City start enforcing the speed limit on Front Avenue?. There is already a Bike Route on Pierce Butler Rte. which runs east to west(same direction as Front Ave.) and is a wider street than Front Avenue. And finally to restrict parking is showing no regard for the businesses  that are on Front Avenue. A bad idea in my book!

---

Philip Moody inside Ward 5 May 12, 2015,  9:51 PM

I strongly support adding a bike lane to Front Avenue.  I bike this street regularly to and from Metro State Midway campus and have noticed very few parked cars on this avenue.  With this said, I do not believe this dramatically effect the parking in the neighborhood.  If anything I think bike lanes will only enhance this underrated neighborhood.

4 Supporters

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Daniel Choma inside Ward 6 May 11, 2015,  9:41 PM

I fully support the implementation of bike lanes on Front during this summer's resurfacing project.  Given that in this very Ward a young pedestrian was put into a coma by an automobile earlier this spring, it should be very apparent to city planners that we need better pedestrian infrastructure to both connect pedestrians to where they want to go and protect them from automobile traffic.  A bike lane on Front would be a good step in the direction of traffic calming to make sure that our youngest residents are safe.  Children are the future of our city, and it is essential that we create safe streets in order to invest in the safety of our future.  I am perfectly fine with a few residents losing a tiny amount of parking if it means that four year olds aren't struck by cars and put into comas.

http://www.twincities.com/crime/ci_27722167/st-paul-boy-struck-by-vehicle-friday-remains

3 Supporters

---

joan pasiuk inside Ward 3 May 11, 2015,  7:15 PM

Thank you to SP for moving forward with a vision of a city more attuned to sustainable and healthy transportation. Bicycling will become more realized as transportation for more SP residents when a safe network is completed. Important routes for motorists are also important routes for bicyclists. These segments of Cleveland, Front and Lexington provide access to many destinations and should be completed as part of the SP bike plan.

I call attention to several facts:
• Cleveland, Lexington, and Front are all collector streets; residents on many collectors do not have parking on at least one side of the street.
• There are more transportation options than ever, creating opportunity to reduce reliance on a private vehicle

for multiple trips/day. There is expanded transit service, Zipcar, more HourCars. The segments of Cleveland and Front involved in this discussion are both served by one or more bus routes. Residents of Lexington south of Randolph expressed much resistance to service of new route 83 on their street, so access to transit for this segment of the city will not be as robust as it might have been.
• There is no right to free parking in front of any residence.
The proposal for parking bays submitted by SP Bicycle Coalition and Women on Bikes is a good way to address parking concerns of businesses at Randolph and Cleveland. There may be similar strategies for other businesses.

Anger will dissipate. Most people will adapt and adjust. There is much anecdotal evidence of this from projects in Minneapolis, other US cities, and around the world. And there is opportunity. For example, research has shown that life transition is the time people are most amenable to incorporating other lifestyle changes. Could the city and Metro Transit establish a partnership -- when parking is removed on a street, residents can enroll in a 3-mo reduced rate transit pass?

1 Supporter

---

Michael Kuchta inside Ward 5 May 10, 2015, 8:33 PM

I support bike lanes along this section of Front as a great start to adding functional cycling options in our neighborhood. Once the street craters are repaved, this will become a more useful and more heavily used route. Designated lanes will make this route even safer.
Lanes will also provide a practical connection to the Como bike lanes on the east; to the Chatsworth and Lexington connections toward Como Park on the west; and to Energy Park Drive, which in turn can connect to the Raymond and Transitway routes even further west. In addition, a safe connection to Chatworth allows all cyclists to avoid the increasing number of trains on Como north of Jessamine, and allows less comfortable cyclists to avoid riding the “share the road” sections of Como south of the lake and east toward Dale.
The proposed elimination of parking on Front will have minimal impact for the vast majority of the route. There may be some issues of inconvenience near Half Time Rec and in the area near Dale. There also may be issues for residents about where cars go during snow emergencies. But reasonable accommodations can be made in all these situations if necessary. These localized concerns should not sabotage a very beneficial project.

3 Supporters

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Rachel Wiken inside Ward 4 May 7, 2015, 11:45 AM

As a resident of Midway, I use Front Ave as a bike connection to the East Side and the North End. I fully support this project and would ask the city to please extend the bike lane all the way to Rice Street.

The section of the street from Dale to Rice is very rough and parking is barely utilized. Because there aren't many parked cars and no striping, this section feels like a 20+ ft lane and cars drive way above the speed limit. A bike lane would have a great calming affect on this street and make bike connections to other neighborhoods far more pleasant and safe. My experiences on this road have been negative, speeding cars and rough pavement, but its my best option for getting to appointments, shopping, and trails east of 35E (using Jackson and Arlington to connect)

Thank you.

2 Supporters

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Greg B. inside Ward 5 May 7, 2015, 6:38 AM

I live at the western end of Front Avenue. While bike lanes would be nice, the streets in the vicinity of Half Time Rec are parked solid on many nights, and for whole days during certain festivals as far away as Como Park. Eliminating parking on the south side of Front would make the parking problem for residents much worse, you may even need to consider permit parking in this area to make the plan work.

1 Supporter

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Kelly Randall inside Ward 5 May 6, 2015, 8:58 PM

I FULLY support the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County adding, in some form, a bike connection along Front Avenue between Lexington and Como/Dale. As a resident of this neighborhood (I live one block off Front nearer to Dale) I use my bicycle as a frequent way of commuting to work, and often as transportation and recreation at other times. Having a way to easily and safely access existing bike paths and bike lanes is key for me and for others who regularly bike. Making this connection would make an important east-west link.

Because I live in this neighborhood I also see the need for parking along Front Avenue for my neighbors who live here. Therefore an alternative at the eastern and western sides of this project should be considered. Alternatives such as “sharrows” and “share the road” signage are worth further investigation.

Another consideration that should not be overlooked it traffic calming. Ideas such as lane striping or bump outs could be an added benefit to the neighborhood, making Front Avenue friendlier for everyone.

I DO NOT support a decision that completely abandons a bike connection along this corridor. Biking is legitimate form of transportation and ever growing amenity of our metropolitan area. It is part of what attracts people to live here and stay here. It keeps us healthy. It should be something the City, County, and residents work on together to make happen.

To reiterate, as a resident of this neighborhood I FULLY support including a bike connection along Front Avenue between Lexington and Como/Dale.

Thank you!

1 Supporter

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Amanda Rohrer inside Ward 5 May 6, 2015, 3:56 PM

I live north of this section of Front, and often travel here. The street desperately needs to be more pedestrian

friendly, and this is a good start. I particularly think having a bike lane along the south side is a good idea - there is no sidewalk by the cemetery and bus passengers often have no choice but to walk in the street in the winter when snow drifts are deep, so the bike lane would help protect both cyclists and pedestrians.

I do think that the intersection with Dale will need better signage and maybe other solutions to keep people using the bike lanes safe. I've seen near misses as drivers from two of the other 5 approaches to that intersection try to turn on Front - you don't want a driver to veer into the bike lane to avoid hitting another car, only to hit a bike. If the lane ends at that intersection there needs to be a safe place for cyclists to go, and I'm not sure the Front/Como/Dale intersection is safe for anyone.

2 Supporters

---

Eric Saathoff inside Ward 6 May 6, 2015, 3:32 PM

I strongly encourage this to go forward. There is an elementary school just east of Dale Street, and this would serve as a safe route to school for students to ride their bikes to Crossroads Elementary, not to mention that I bike it daily as an adult. Since this is mostly next to a cemetery there is little reason to preserve on street parking when it could help connect the city's bikeways. In addition, I don't see any reason why this shouldn't also be a protected bike way. The bike lane on the south side could be between the curb and the parked cars, and the bike lane on the north side could be separated at least by plastic bollards if not something more substantial. This would dramatically increase the usefulness of these bike lanes for people of young and old ages.

3 Supporters

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# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes

*Please share your thoughts about the Front Avenue resurfacing project.*

All Off Forum Statements sorted chronologically

As of June  2, 2015,  3:58 PM

*As with any public comment process, participation in Open Saint Paul is voluntary.  The statements in this record are not necessarily representative of the whole population, nor do they reflect the opinions of any government agency or elected officials.*

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes

*Please share your thoughts about the Front Avenue resurfacing project.*

As of June 2, 2015, 3:58 PM, this forum had:

| | |
|---|---|
| Attendees: | 96 |
| Off Forum Statements: | 8 |
| All Statements: | 27 |
| Hours of Public Comment: | 1.4 |

This topic started on April 28, 2015, 3:18 PM.

All Off Forum Statements sorted chronologically

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes

Please share your thoughts about the Front Avenue resurfacing project.

Name not available (unclaimed) May 29, 2015, 1:11 PM

I fully support the installation of bike lanes on Front Avenue. This section of Front is near my children's school and is an important east-west route for many students and their families. The lanes will enhance safety for riders and drivers alike by clearly separating bikes and cars. I see very few cars parked on the south cemetery side, so the loss of parking should have little impact for neighbors.

---

Joan Westmoreland inside Ward 5 (unverified) May 29, 2015, 10:37 AM

Ludicrous idea to add bike lanes. It'll greatly impact the businesses on Front who utilize the parking lanes for customers (i.e. Half Time Rec.). I'm so tired of the Twin Cities cow-towing to bicyclists. I live near Como park on Lexington and am appalled at the number of bicyclists who don't obey common traffic laws. If you're not going to obey the laws, then why make a special lane for you on the road???

---

Name not available (unclaimed) May 29, 2015, 8:18 AM

I support this project and look forward to the improvements!

---

Name not available (unclaimed) May 29, 2015, 7:48 AM

Yes, bike lanes would be good but why not add a sidewalk on the south side of the street and make it wide enough for a bike lane? It would be safer for everyone. Sadly, there are foolish people who drag race along Front even during the daytime. Please dig out the old trolley tracks, it is silly to resurface the street without dealing with the root cause of the break up of the surface. Thanks for having this opportunity to respond.

---

Name not available (unclaimed) May 9, 2015, 10:53 AM

I live off Front Ave. and use it to commute to work. With the addition of the bicycle lanes, please do not reduce Front Ave. to only one lane where it intersects with Dale and Como. If that is not an option, please consider making this a longer traffic light to avoid traffic backups on Front Ave. This intersection is complicated and as others have commented, improved signage will be needed to help keep cyclists safe.

---

Name not available (unclaimed) May 7, 2015, 2:31 PM

I think that bike lanes would be a great idea along Front Avenue. I live and work in the neighborhood and would like safer routes to get to and from work.

---

Name not available (unclaimed) May 5, 2015, 9:32 AM

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes

Please share your thoughts about the Front Avenue resurfacing project.

I would use the Lexington Avenue protected bike lane, and I think a lot of people would benefit from it since it connects Como with the Midway, Frogtown, and Highland Park. It's a main artery to a great, multi-purpose destination.

---

Name not available (unclaimed) May 2, 2015, 9:25 PM

Two thumbs up!

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# APPENDIX:

(Scanned copies of the original open house statements and sign-in sheets)

# Sign-In Sheet
# Front Avenue Open House

| Name | Address | Email |
|---|---|---|
| JONATHAN GRANLUND | 1017 FRONT. | grahLUND20@gmail.com |
| Susan Taylor | 1017 Front Ave | sjtaylor.front@gmail.com |
| | | |
| Sharon Smith | 671 Front Ave | sharonlesmith@mail.com |
| Vesta Lach | 986 No. Avon St | n/n. |
| Jack Kane | 563 Front Ave | — |
| [illegible] | 682 West IOWA Ave | |
| Harold Rufledt | 672 Front Ave | |
| CHARLES HARDY | 983 N. ONTARIO | hardycatpaw@yahoo.com |
| MICHAEL KUCHTA | 1522 GROTTO | |
| Andrew S. Johnson | 1070 Front Ave | Andrewstevenjohnson@gmail.com |
| Luke James | 1371 Asbury Street | |
| Sandra Weber | 927 Front Ave | Sandra Weber 36@gmail.com |
| Nick Doney | 999 Como Pl. | |
| Ann Porwoll | 697 Front Ave | amporwoll@gmail.com |
| Sue Ward | 685 Front Ave | wardx011@umn.edu |
| Betty Conley | 628 Jessamine Ave West | blconley@Q.com |
| Ann White Eagle | 1008 Argyle St | awhiteeagle@gmail.com |
| Andrew B. Singer | 2103 BERKELEY AVE | andy@andysinger.com |
| Michael Mason | 1262 Avon STN | mike.masonstp@yahoo.com |
| MIKE SONN | 1458 WELLESLEY | SONN.MICHAEL@GMAIL |
| Steven Bergman | 844 Idaho Ave W | jamesmtbkr@gmail.com |
| Kelly Randall | 1014 Jameson St | hikellyrandall@gmail.com |
| Denice Pope | 991 Front | popeismymechanic@gmail.com |
| Luanna Leslie | 983 FRONT | Lel2215@Gmail |
| Ed Leslie | 913 Front | 65devilsatplay@comcast.net |
| MARIA Czech | 985 STINSON | mczech@gmail.com |
| WAYNE WARNEST | 963 FRONT | WWARNEST@MSN.COM |
| Kathy Hintze | 957 Front | Kas@SBS-MN.com |
| Kathy Hintze | 977 Oxford | |
| Eric Saathoff | 691 Wells | ericsaathoff@gmail.com |
| Connie Scholtes | 1039 Front Ave | upfront22@Juno.com |
| Kristi Peliquin | 985 Kilburn | |
| Rich Frikken | 1055 FRONT AVE | richfrikken@comcast.net |
| Keith Goetzman | 1171 Century Ave. S. | keith.goetzman@gmail.com |
| Charles Tiller | 984 Oxford So. N. | charlietiller@hotmail.com |
| Anna Tiller | " " " | amtsunflower984@hotmail.com |

# Sign-In Sheet
# Front Avenue Open House

5/6/2015

North Dale Recreation Center
1414 St. Albans St. N
Saint Paul, MN 55117

| Name | Address | Email |
|---|---|---|
| Geoff Jones | 1051 Front Av. | geoffchreese@yahoo.com |
| Drew Johnson | 1633 Alameda St | gopherdrew@hotmail.com |
| Anita McMurtry | 658 Front Ave | mcmur002@umn.edu |
| | | |
| | | |
| | |

I am a homeowner who has lived on Front Avenue for 25 years. I do not want to see the space in front of my home become a parking lot.

The large number of people living in the high rise apartments, rental properties and those that attend the church(s) and business' on Front Avenue, need the south side for parking.

Please consider indented parking on the south side (the cemetery side) of the street, like the parking on Victoria.

I currently have friends that come to visit that cannot park in front of my house because of the over flow parking from the high rise apartments and rental properties.

When I bought my home the seven homes on my block were all owned by the families living in them, the high rise apartments were for seniors only. Three of the homes are now rental property and the high rise has been open to anyone receiving government support. The expansion of business in the area has greatly increased the car, truck and semi-truck traffic on Front Avenue to the point that it is affecting our homes. They are developing hair line cracks in the walls and even pictures in my own home hang cockeyed because of the vibrations. In the block and a half radius around my home, there are seven apartment complexes (which are section eighth housing), one residence home apartment complex and numerous rental properties, these also impact our neighborhood.

Please consider the home owners on Front Avenue. We pay the taxes that support these projects and yet our home values are depreciating.

If you put in bike lanes, please include indented parking on the south side of the street so there will be room for everyone.

Sincerely,

Ann Porwoll

697 Front Avenue
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes
# Comment Form

Ramsey County is planning a street resurfacing on Front Avenue between Lexington Parkway and Dale Street during the summer of 2015. The City is proposing to implement bicycle lanes as a component of this project.

**Please provide written feedback on the proposed plans for Front Avenue by doing one of the following:**

- Leave a comment on Open Saint Paul (stpaul.gov/open)
- Send an email to city staff (reuben.collins@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
- Write comments below

**Comments:**

I AM AGAINST ADDING BIKE LANE TO FRONT AVE.

I HAVE LIVED ON FRONT AVE FOR 36 YEARS AND HAVE SEEN TRAFFIC VOLUME INCREASE GREATLY OVER TIME. THE MAIN ISSUE SEEMS TO BE THE AMOUNT OF BIG TRUCKS THAT TRAVEL DOWN FRONT AVE.

I THINK ST. PAUL AND RAMSEY COUNTY SHOULD BE EMBARRESD ON HOW THE CURBING LOOKS ON THE SOUTH SIDE BETWEEN DALE AND LEXINGTON. I AM GLAD THAT THE STREET IS BEING REPAVED, BUT IT IS MY BELIEF THAT A 2" OVERLAY WILL NOT LAST LONG DUE TO THE HEAVY VEHICLE TRAFFIC ON FRONT.

I HAVE NOT SEEN THAT MANY BICYCLES USING FRONT AVE.

THANK YOU

WAYNE WARNEST
963 FRONT AVE

# Front Avenue Bicycle Lanes
# Comment Form

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- Write comments below

**Comments:**

I appreciate the city's efforts to provide safe and overall bike routes. Understanding the concerns of several businesses along Front Ave & parking issues, yet the Parking Counts Studies indicate minimal parking along Front Ave most of the time, except in front of up Front Styling & Hall Time Rec. We live on Oxford & often have people parking on our street when frequenting those businesses. We are happy to finally have Front re-surfaced; it's long past.

I support a 30 foot parking restriction from intersections - visibility when turning on to Front is very difficult as it stands at present.

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**Comments:**

I am against the bike lanes, I live 1 ~~Bl~~ block off of Front & the traffic is awful! There is not enough parking as there is. To lose 1 side of parking would be detrimental to our neighborhood.

MARIA Czeck
mczeck@gmail.com

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**Comments:**

I am absolutly in favor of adding bike lanes to Front Ave. Connecting the bike facilities on Dale to the bike facilities on Lexington sure seems like a no brainer, especialy since the loss of parking would be so minimal. That stretch is ~~so~~ ~~[illegible]~~ empty 99% of the time.

People need to be able to get in and around their city in a safe manor. This is a great piece in the bikability of St Paul.

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**Comments:**

I live one block off Front Avenue and fully support provide bike lanes as part of the re-paving project. I would use these lanes on a regular basis to access bike lanes at both end of this project. Como Avenue and Lexington Avenue.

These lanes may remove some parking, but it will be worth providing an alternative form of transportation for ~~[illegible]~~, a growing form of transport.

I'm also very happy to share the road via the use of "sharrows" to provide access for vehicles, bikes, and allow some parking

Another important note - this is an interim step until an off-street ~~[illegible]~~ bike path (which is planned by the city) is implemented. Why not make this an interim step. Use sharrows where there is housing on both sides of Front. Bike lane along the cemetery.

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**Comments:**

Front AVE. needs to be redone. The old streetcar rails should be removed or this project will only be a band-aid. Add bike lanes.

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**Comments:**

Generally I am glad to see the bike lanes being added. Living near Oxford + Front, I am a bit concerned about additional Half-Time Rec parking backing up on to Oxford. Really the bike lane will not affect my biggest parking concern, which is trying to turn onto Front with all the parked vehicles obscuring the view of oncoming traffic. I would support a 30-foot parking restriction from the intersection. I'm a bit disappointed the road project won't be more modular than a mill-and-overlay. The potholes between Lexington and Oxford will return in a very few years without some structural work in the road base. Final grade = B.

Charles Tiller
984 Oxford St. N.
St. Paul, MN 55103
charlietiller@hotmail.com.

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**Comments:**

Not in favor of bikelane
Need more raingardens on front :)
Parking already limited + massage
school has requested building a
site near front + that will also
~~cause~~ cause congestion.

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**Comments:**

PLEASE NO BIKE TRAILS ON FRONT AVE

PLEASE DO THE CURBS

2 INCH DOWN WOUNT LAST A YEAR

TAKE TRACKS OUT

HALF TIME REC WILL BE PARKING A MILE AWAY OR IN PEOPLES BACK YARDS

BIKES DONT PAY TAXES

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**Comments:**

I am against the bike path on Front Ave. Please consider that winter is longer than summer months. It will be critical in winter months for parking especially when you have to move your car to be plowed there simply isn't enough parking available. The road is narrow enough in winter. There are not many bikers on Front Ave to begin with. It will also hurt our local biznesses for parking. Please NO Bike Path.

This will be better for our Front Ave. No Bike Path.

Consider us People that have to live here.

Sandra Weber 36@Gmail.com

Send to
JANICE RETTMAN

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**Comments:**

I SUPPORT PUTTING BIKE LANES ON FRONT.
IT WOULD CONNECT COMO BIKE LANES WITH LEXINGTON AND CHATSWORTH BIKEWAYS, IT WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT STEP IN CREATING A CONTINUOUS EAST-WEST BIKEWAY FROM COMO TO THE UMN TRANSITWAY. ALSO IT WOULD PROVIDE A POTENTIAL "SAFE ROUTE" TO SCHOOLS.

CLAIMS ABOUT PARKING ARE WAY OVER-BLOWN. THERE IS TONS OF PARKING ON SIDE-STREETS. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND DOING A SIDE-STREET PARKING STUDY TO PROVE THIS.

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**Comments:**

Hello,

As a resident on Avon ST, I want to voice my support to adopt bike lanes on Front. My daughter attends ECFE at Crossroads Elementary and as a bicycle commuter, I use this East/West corridor often

I know studies have been done showing minimal impacts to parking in the area. Please pay attention to the DATA instead of the emotion of those that would argue about parking loss.

Thank you,

Michael Mason

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**Comments:**

Obviously going down to one side of street parking near the cemetary will have no impact on that stretch of Front. As for the Lexington to chatsworth section that gets packed up a bit more but it can still handle going to one side

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**Comments:**

- Bike lanes on Front won't work with the road surface as bad as it is and the increased truck traffic -
- Are the cyclists paying extra fees for their special lanes like they charge the ATV's & SNOWMOBILES
- the street car rails should be pulled out of the road base before repaving because thats where the asphalt is breaking up the worst - it was milled & overlayed approx 8 yrs ago.
- where the bus stops are located is where the asphalt pushes up to the curbs leaving big divots in the street

C. HARDY - PUBLIC WORKS
891 N. DALE ST.
651-266-9817 WELDING SHOP

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**Comments:**

I'm in favor of the bikes, removing parking on south side of Front. I would also suggest decreasing the frontage (lawn) in front of the cemetary on the south side of front. Slow traffic speeds on Front.

Using Data from the letter sent by the St. Paul Public Works.

Street width is a typical 40 feet...what is the actual width?

Your letter contends that the proposed changes are to make Front Street safer:

1. Safer for whom?
2. In what universe does narrowing the width of a traffic lane make it safer?
3. If that were true, why not reduce the width to 8 feet, the same as the parking lane, and make the street even safer?
4. Front Street is an avenue not a street.

The width of a city bus is 8 feet, 9 inches...It cannot fit into an 8 foot parking width without extending into the west bound bike lane. The westbound bus will always have to cross over the bike lane for its stops. This will cause delays for passengers and create a more dangerous condition for the bicyclists.

The bus' lane is 27" wider than the bus width. The bicycle's lane is 34" to 38" wider than the bike's width. It appears that the vehicle actually providing a service is no match for a garage sale Schwinn!

Front Avenue is a snow emergency route. Reducing parking by 50% will make residential parking inconvenient and difficult.

Snow plows simply cannot cleanly plow all the way to the curb. This may cause vehicles to park extending into the bike lane.

We all know our winter lasts longer than 3 months, yet someone thinks we should create bike paths for those they anticipate riding around in a blizzard or a 50 below wind chill. Wouldn't the money be better spent creating a hospital ward to treat that condition?

It would be impossible for a police officer to pull over a vehicle in the east bound lane without totally halting following traffic or forcing them into the west bound lane.

Wednesday May 6, 2015
6:00 to 7:30
North Dale Recreation Center
Across from Maternity of Mary's Church

1414 St. Albans St. N
Saint Paul, MN 55117