



**UNION PARK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

161 Snelling Avenue North, Saint Paul, MN 55104  
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December 7, 2017

Kathy Lantry, *Department of Public Works*  
Jonathan Sage-Martinson, *Department of Planning and Economic Development*  
City of St. Paul  
25 West 4th Street  
St. Paul, MN 55102

Mark Nelson, *North Area Manager*  
Mark Lindeberg, *North Area Engineer*  
Minnesota Department of Transportation  
1500 County Road B2 West  
Roseville, MN 55113

**Dear all:**

**On December 6, 2017, the Union Park District Council board unanimously endorsed the following resolution:**

WHEREAS, our community values pedestrian safety and access.

WHEREAS, our community has invested substantially in transit improvements, including the A-Line Bus Rapid Transit. The A-Line station locations on Snelling Avenue at Spruce Tree Drive allow pedestrians to access other high-frequency transit routes and local businesses.

WHEREAS, the Snelling Station Area is zoned for traditional neighborhood development at a high density. New development in the area, and at Spruce Tree Drive and Snelling specifically, will increase pedestrian demand at that intersection.

WHEREAS, the current plans include the relocation of the traffic signal from Spruce Tree Drive to Shields Avenue and the installation of a median on Snelling through the Spruce Tree Drive intersection with a fence prohibiting pedestrian from crossing Snelling at Spruce Tree except on soccer game days.

WHEREAS, a fence prohibiting pedestrians from crossing at this location is inconsistent with the high-density pedestrian-oriented streetscape envisioned by the Snelling Station Area Plan and the Snelling Midway Redevelopment Site Master Plan.

WHEREAS, there are several unsignalized pedestrian crossings with refuge medians in the immediate area on Snelling, including at Carroll, Charles, Sherburne and at Dayton, where there is also an A-Line station.

THEREFORE, we request that the City of St. Paul and MnDOT reconsider the plans for this

section of Snelling that prohibit pedestrian crossing of Snelling at Spruce Tree, and consider facilitating pedestrian crossing access at that intersection, not limited to game days.

Specifically, we request that the City and MnDOT study the impact of a well-marked, unsignalized pedestrian crossing with a refuge median on Snelling at Spruce Tree.

We ask the City and MnDOT to report the results of the study to the Union Park District Council, and to gather community feedback on the results of this study.

Finally, we request that no infrastructure changes be implemented at the Snelling and Spruce Tree intersection until the study, reporting, and opportunity to gather community feedback is complete.

**Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information from me. We look forward to your response on this matter.**

Sincerely,



Julie Reiter, Executive Director  
Union Park District Council

cc: Russ Stark, St. Paul City Councilmember, Ward 4  
Dai Thao, St. Paul City Councilmember, Ward 1  
John Maczko, City of St. Paul Public Works  
Josh Williams, City of St. Paul Planning and Economic Development