From:

Aimee Fischer <aimeef@jamiconsulting.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, August 07, 2012 5:23 PM

To:

Keely, Jean

Subject:

Neighborhood meeting for Parking restrictions on 121st Avenue

**Categories:** 

Council/Admin

Jean, I will be at the meeting but I wanted to give you a heads up, there are several homeowners that would also like to know when Jefferson is going to be completed for connecting up to this subdivision. The homeowners were told it would be completed in 2 years and that was 5 years ago that we were told this and nothing has been done. It would be appreciated if you could also bring information on when this is going to be done as we believe that by not having this open it is causing more traffic going down 121<sup>st</sup> Avenue from the old neighborhood behind us and the cars drive down 121<sup>st</sup> Avenue way too fast – especially during the school year.

I realize the speed won't necessarily slow down by having this road opened but helping to divert some of the traffic that goes down this road by having 2 exits out of the subdivision (this does not include the exit going to the old neighborhood as this is part of the problem) would be helpful.

Thanks, Aimee

From:

Shewangizaw Worku <shewangizawwo@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, August 08, 2012 11:59 PM

To:

Keely, Jean

Subject:

Parking restriction on 121 st ave

Categories:

Council/Admin

This is in regards to our petition for parking restriction. we leave at 109 121st ave. It has been very hard to come in and out of our home during baseball season. With two cars parked in each side there is only space to pass a single car, there had been times we had to wait for 5 minutes or more to make it to our drive way, waiting for all the opposite site traffic to pass through. Not only the cars, the crowd of children and parents crossing the street adds to the crowded traffic. Because of the blind curve it is difficult for drivers to see all the upcoming traffic and all the children crossing to the park when cars are parked in both sides. The crossing to the park is not visible to drivers when cars are parked on both sides and it is extremely dangerous for the exited little kids. leaving at the spot we had witnessed several near misses. We can not imagine how fire trucks and ambulances will be able to pass through in case of emergency. It is the responsibility of the city counsel to protect life and property. Parking restriction is the first step in assuring safety for the community, for our children and for the kids and families who come to happy acers park. considering a stop sign at crossing will hopefully be the next step.

Thank you Shewangizaw Worku and family 109 121st ave ne

From:

Kari Stormoen <karistormoen@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Monday, August 20, 2012 11:59 AM

To:

Keely, Jean

Subject:

**Crescent Ponds** 

Jean,

I am writing to give you my input in lieu of the meeting being held tonight.

I would like to see parking restictions near the crosswalk that leads to the park. 121st may be designated as a "collector street," but when there are cars parked on both sides, only one car can pass through. The road *is* too narrow.(This is the same throughout the entire neighborhood.)

There is more importantly the issue of safety for the pedestians trying to use the crosswalk due to the low visibilty with all the cars in the area.

This is more a safetly issue for me as opposed to "congestion" and I think serious consideration should be taken to implement parking restictions.

Thanks for your time,

Kari Stormoen

From:

Fischer, Paul <pfische3@fairview.org>

Sent:

Monday, August 20, 2012 12:51 PM

To:

Keely, Jean

Subject:

Unable to attend meeting tonight

Ms. Keely,

I would like this to be read by you, at the meeting tonight if possible.

Due to a last minute family event I will be unable to attend the meeting tonight at city hall, regarding the parking restrictions on 121st Ave. I would like to voice my concern about the numerous "stand-offs" that I have had trying to navigate the street, travelling in either direction. I also would like to mention that there have been a number of occasions where supervised and unsupervised children, jumped out into the street from between cars, while I was approaching. I have seen one neighbor who had to pause while mowing his yard while cars nearly drove into his yard, while he was mowing so they could navigate the street. It adds much frustration on a daily basis throughout the summer months.

The most concerning issue is that police and fire vehicles would not be able to get down the street. There has been one house on my street, 7<sup>th</sup> street, which had a fire which resulted in a complete teardown and rebuild, two years ago. I feel that based on the evidence from the police reports filed (ICR-12-139435 and ICR-12-151703), that fire and rescue vehicles would not be able to navigate this impasse caused by the parking on both sides of the streets. I do not want my family, or any other family in the neighborhood, having their lives or property jeopardized by this parking situation. I would like to have this issue addressed and the signs posted before next spring.

Sincerely, Paul Fischer

Paul Fischer
Pharmacist in Charge
Fairview Specialty Services Pharmacy
711 Kasota Ave SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612-672-5178 office
763-227-6693 cell

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed resolution to create parking restrictions on the north side of 121<sup>st</sup> Avenue between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

I do not support the proposed parking restrictions and am concerned about the reduced traffic safety and the precedent that will occur if it is approved. I would also ask for your consideration of modifying the restriction, if it is to be approved.

#### **Traffic Safety Concern**

Please don't remove the traffic calming tool we have in our neighborhood.

121<sup>st</sup> Ave. NE is a collector street that was designed to accommodate parking on both sides of the street. Eventually this street will connect to Main Street, which may increase the amount of traffic. In general, 2-5 vehicles consistently park on 121<sup>st</sup> Ave. with most of them being on the north side. During the spring and summer months the number of vehicles increases for a variety of reasons. During the little league season, the number of cars parked on 121<sup>st</sup> Ave. increases between 9-21 vehicles. When there are cars parked on both sides of street, the drivers in the vehicles are forced to slow down and become more vigilant. Creating safer driving conditions and a safer neighborhood.

#### **Precedent**

I am concerned by the precedent you will be creating by approving the petition creating parking restrictions on the north side of 121<sup>st</sup> Ave. between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Street when it is <u>not</u> warranted.

As stated in the staff report "The Engineering and Police Departments have monitored this area for a year and have not observed a safety problem with the street parking. . . . . at no time has staff observed where emergency vehicles could not proceed through the street." The street is designed to accommodate parking on both sides. I have also monitored the area since I moved there in 2007 and have not observed street parking to be a safety problem, but have observed how it controls driving behavior.

As a little league parent, who is visiting many of the parks throughout the city, I find myself utilizing on street parking near some of the parks. My neighborhood is no different.

## If Approved - Request

If you decide to create parking restrictions on the north side of 121<sup>st</sup> Avenue I would like to request two changes to the resolution.

#### 1. Location:

The location should be reduced. During the neighborhood meeting, it was stated that there are concerns of reduced visibility with cars parked on both sides of the street combined with the curvature of the street in the east bound direction.

I suggest that the restriction only occur on the north side of the street at the curvature and extend 1 residence on each side of the curve. Therefore the resolution would read:

"Parking restrictions are hereby authorized to be installed on the north side of 121<sup>st</sup> Avenue between 63 121<sup>st</sup> Ave. – 109 121<sup>st</sup> Avenue"

This would improve the sightline of those traveling in the street, maintain the traffic calming measures and allow for easy access to the park facility. You should note that not all residents on the north side signed the petition.

# 2. Timeframe:

The timeframe of the restriction should be reduced. The use of Happy Acres Park drops dramatically after the July little league tournament. The parking pressure is not evident in August.

I suggest that the restriction only occur May 1 to July 31, except for legal holidays.

This would allow residents on 121<sup>st</sup> Ave. to have more availability to parking at their residence during the summer. As stated earlier, there are currently 2-5 vehicles normally parked on 121<sup>st</sup> Ave. These vehicles are usually parked in front of their residence on the north side of the street. I feel they should be allowed to park in front of their residence for a majority of the time parking is allowed on city streets.

Again, I do not support the proposed parking restrictions and am concerned about the precedent that will occur if it is approved. However, if it is approved the location and timeframe of the restriction should be modified.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kimberly J. Therres 36 121<sup>st</sup> Ave. NE

Blaine, MN

763-786-9624