



December 10, 2008

City of Edina

Dear Fellow SAC Members and Cornelia Area Residents-

On the evening of Thursday January 8, 2009 we will meet for what I hope will be our final SAC Meeting. The past month has had the consultants and staff busy responding to questions raised in our last meeting. We have some news that I feel will be received favorably, and other that may be more non eventful in nature.

As I have discussed this situation with the various stakeholders, it has become clear to me that there are some things that may be able to be implemented immediately which will help, and others that may make sense to wait to implement until Crosstown is completed and the impacts of the 76<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge reopening can be assessed.

Along these lines, you are going to hear me offer for discussion the concept of a "phased implementation". I believe it unrealistic to leave people with the impression that a comprehensive redesign can be implemented all at one time. There are pieces of the puzzle whose impact needs to be gauged once they are implemented. That said, it is important to act and move forward in the areas that can be done so easily, quickly and inexpensively.

However funding will likely be an issue as it relates to certain aspects of a proposed plan, particularly if roundabouts are part of the long term overall solution. There has been unanimous desire from the neighborhood for change, but no willingness conveyed to pay for it.

I think it is important to focus on getting to a recommendation that can be forwarded to the City Council for their review and evaluation. I am confident that there will be much discussion and debate once it reaches the Council. We have the information we need to make a recommendation, and we have a clear understanding of how the immediate residents in the area feel about the situation.

It is also important to remember that there is a broader city aspect to this discussion that is important to keep in mind. Clearly, West 70<sup>th</sup> directly affects those residents who live in the immediate area, but it also a conduit for residents west of Highway 100 who use it as a is also a way to access Edina's commercial and retail area at Southdale and Centennial Lakes.

I want to thank you in advance for volunteering your time to help find a thoughtful solution. While I know that not everyone will be satisfied with any recommendation, I hope that we can find a solution that can improve the situation for all parties involved.

See you on the evening of Thursday January 8.

Stephen Brown  
Chair  
Greater Cornelia/70<sup>th</sup> Street SAC