

January 4 2013

To Whom It May Concern;

We are the Smith's and live at 724 - 6th Street. We have lived here since 1991 and have been to various meetings over the years about how best to improve the traffic flow and parking on Sixth Street. We realize that we live in an urban community and that traffic comes within those means. Our hope is that Metro State also feels a need to make traffic on Sixth Street safer for everyone, students, staff and the neighborhood that they are a part of in St. Paul.

We would welcome a way to make Sixth Street safer and more appealing for the community at large. While there are many possibilities, from the preliminary plans that we have heard at recent community meetings, the opportunity to make the part of Sixth Street between Mounds Blvd and Maria a pedestrian mall could be an improvement to the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood. This would mean traffic would not be allowed on that portion of the now existing road but instead be turned into a pedestrian walkway with green space. The problem then becomes where would traffic flow so that Metro State, local businesses (and from our perspective, the community and neighbors who live either on Sixth Street and nearby residents) be satisfied for the common good. There should be some arrangement that can be struck so that all parties can be satisfied with the end results.

While Metro State is a big player in our community, it is our hope that they realize that besides being a state institution of higher education, that they are also a neighbor in an urban community that is also a historic district. Their opinions and beliefs about being a good neighbor and good community member does have responsibility beyond serving their student body. It is our hope that they are willing neighbors who want to partner with the Dayton's Bluff community.

John Smith