



Journeys Secondary School

Independent School District 625

• 90 S Western Avenue • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102-2917

Office: (651) 744-1900 • Fax: (651) 744-1901 • www.spps.org

March 6, 2013

To: CIB Street and Utilities Task Force
From: Theresa Neal, Principal Journeys Secondary School

This letter is in support of the Little Bohemia Neighborhood Association request for bike path and green space enhancement along I-35E from Grand to St. Clair Ave.

Improving the bicycle and walking path along I-35E between Grand Ave. and St Clair will increase the usability and safety of the path, and will better connect different parts of the neighborhood, including the United Hospital and Children's hospital campus, the West 7th Community Center and the residences, businesses and organizations in between. This bike path is part of Saint Paul's bicycle network and provides a safe alternative to riding a bicycle on West 7th street. The proposed improvement will attract more users, and support healthy lifestyle choices, as well as building the social connections that increase community health and vitality.

The bike path and green space enhancements proposed by the Little Bohemia Neighborhood Association will provide a benefit to the West 7th community, beyond the immediate neighborhood. Journeys Secondary School is located at 90 South Western Avenue directly across the street from one portion of the bike trail. Our school is strongly linked to the Little Bohemia Neighborhood Association. Area businesses have provided in kind donations to our family groups and to the funeral reception for one of our students. In addition, our students work at several area businesses, including De Gidio's Restaurant, Claddagh Coffee, West Seventh Community Center, and St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store through the city of St. Paul Youth Job Corps program. Having a strong and vital neighborhood for our school further enhances the community/school partnership that St. Paul Public Schools values.

Journey's School strongly supports the grant proposal submitted by LBNA to enhance the bike path and green space.

Sincerely,

Theresa Neal, Principal
Journeys Secondary School