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**Public Works**

350 S 5th St, #203

Minneapolis, MN 55415

**www.minneapolismn.gov**

 December 7, 2021

Dear Resident and/or Property Owner,

In summer of 2022, the City of Minneapolis Public Works Department and City of Brooklyn Center plan to resurface 1.2 miles of 53rd Avenue N from Penn Avenue N to Lyndale Avenue N. The resurfacing project provides an opportunity to implement a connector bikeway on this segment of 53rd Avenue N, as identified in the All Ages and Abilities Network in the City’s 10-year Transportation Action Plan. The purpose of this letter is to inform you about this project.

The goals of this bikeway project are to:

* Enhance comfort and improve predictability for all users, especially people bicycling;
* Support existing and future bicycle demand;
* Improve bicycle network connectivity and access to destinations by connecting the Shingle Creek Parkway and the North Mississippi River Regional Park;
* Reduce vehicular travel speeds.

Public Works explored numerous design options to balance the goals of the project while maintaining transit stops. The accompanying layout includes the following elements:

* Reorganization of the street to include dedicated on-street bicycle lanes.
* Implementation of the new cross-section will eliminate on-street parking for most of 53rd Avenue N, including:
	+ Between Penn Avenue N and James Avenue N on the south side of 53rd Avenue N; and from Humboldt Avenue N to 4th Avenue N;
	+ On the north side – between Knox Avenue N and Humboldt Avenue N.
* Parking will remain on the north side of 53rd Avenue N between Logan Avenue N and Knox Avenue N, as well as between Humboldt Avenue N and Fremont Avenue N;
* All transit stops will remain in their current location, except for Route 22, Stop Number 52681 at 53rd Avenue N and Bryant Avenue N. This stop is being moved around the corner to Bryant Avenue N as shown in the accompanied layout.
* Zebra crosswalk markings will be restriped at Humboldt Avenue N and new crossings will be installed at both legs of Lyndale Avenue N to increase visibility and safety for people crossing the street.
* A bike box at Humboldt Avenue North will be installed to facilitate the transition from a two-way bikeway facility on the south side of 53rd Avenue N to directional bike lanes west of Humboldt Avenue N to increase visibility of people bicycling.
	+ This transition is necessary due to a two-way bikeway conflict with existing transit stops between Humboldt Avenue N and Logan Avenue N. Humboldt Avenue N is also where the jurisdictional maintenance agreement splits between Brooklyn Center and Minneapolis.

This information along with the project schedule is also available in the informational handout attached to this letter, as well as on the project website: <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/projects/53rd-ave-n/>

Please contact us directly if you have specific questions about this project as it moves forward. We look forward to the work beginning in summer of 2022.

Sincerely,



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