

From: Ryan Franke [mailto:ryfranke13@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 9:28 AM
To: Joel Sipress; Council
Subject: Re: Superior Street For All

Joel and other Duluth City Council Members,

Firstly, from my understanding parking is an issue that can be reconciled with ease (various parking ramp and lot opportunities exist). People might have to walk a few more blocks to get to their desired building on Superior Street. Well, on average people should be moving their body more.

Secondly, your constituents who are showing up to the council meetings are advocating for protected bike lanes, not wide sidewalks. Protected bike lanes are a matter of health and wellbeing. Wide sidewalks are a matter of aesthetic. Why have wide sidewalks if people cannot access them safely (bike safety, carbon pedal-print)?

Thirdly, I understand that the Greater Downtown Council provided 10,000 for a professional investigation of feasibility for protected bike lanes on Michigan Street. It would not be fair to give such a consideration of Michigan street without doing the same for Superior Street~ I'd like to keep money out of our local politics. It sounds to me like there exist some overly-privileged business owners who don't believe extended periods of walking is an external cost of doing business. It's time we stop placing profit margins over the wellbeing of our communities and integrity of our democracy.

Please act for the future and not for the past. Lets get the pedals of change cycling.

Ryan