From: Steve LaFlamme [mailto:SLaFlamme@oneidarealty.com]
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 10:20 AM
To: Council
Subject: Downtown Superior Street Plan Meeting

Dear Councilors,

I am Steve LaFlamme, President of Oneida Realty Company, a locally owned company in Duluth for over 100 years.

I have been with Oneida Realty Company for almost 37 years and have been on the Parking Commission and many other downtown groups over those many years.

We own or manage 36 buildings in the downtown Duluth and the Canal Park area representing over 1,500,000 square feet of space in these areas.

While we need to represent our owners and tenants we always try to look at the bigger picture and take into consideration of what is best for the community as a whole.

For that reason our team spent an enormous amount of time attending all the meetings relating to the Superior Street Design.

The redesign was very difficult because of the width of Superior Street which limited the options that would work.

The process included numerous meetings which took almost two years to complete during which time all interested parties were given an opportunity to give their input as to what was important to them. These meetings took a great deal of work on many folks part and a lot of issues were discussed and resolved to some degree and, as in all plans, no one gets everything they want but a consensus is built.

We at Oneida Realty Company would hope that the City Council follows the recommendations put forth specifically regarding the bike lanes.

I would be happy to discuss any specific area of concern you may have relating to this issue rather than trying to outline in detail in an email.

Thanks you for your time and support for this critical issue.

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