

From: Kevin Roche
To: [Edina Mail](#)
Subject: Highway 169 project
Date: Thursday, January 05, 2017 7:54:30 AM

I have written to all of the city council at least twice about the impending disaster for at least the west side of Edina when 169 is closed next week for road work. The nature of this closure will inevitably force thousands of cars into residential neighbors looking for alternatives around the relatively short stretch of 169 being closed adjacent to Edina. These residential areas already are burdened with frustrated drivers during the afternoon rush hour, and these drivers frequently ignore stop signs and engage in other dangerous practices. As you all must know, 62 East is gridlocked in the afternoon, so adding even more traffic to it to get to 100 as the detour is simply not feasible. And the police are never around these areas to address the traffic problems already present.

The DOT's approach to this repair is literally insane and I do not understand why you as the city's representatives have not more strongly protested against it. Closing both sides of the highway ensures maximum disruption. At a minimum you should insist that the bridges not actually be torn down until the road has been closed for a week, because once people see how bad the traffic is, you are going to be bombarded with demands to fix it, and DOT may be forced to use a different, more sensible approach to the repair.

At a minimum I would expect that the city should have directed the police department to have several vehicles available for traffic control on the west side and you should hire additional traffic control personnel. Gleason and Valley View in particular will be unusable.

I hope you all appreciate that these traffic issues take a very personal toll on people's lives. People are late to work, are late picking kids up at school or from day care, people spending a lot of extra time frustrated in their cars when they want to be at home with their families. And there is greatly enhanced danger of accidents.

The city council and mayor have collectively done a terrible job, as far as I can tell, in preparing for this event. You should be doing everything you can now to minimize the damage to come.

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Kevin Roche
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see my website at www.healthy-skeptic.com

From: Jennifer Janovy
To: [Edina Mail](#)
Cc: [Mark K. Nolan](#); [Tom LaForce](#)
Subject: Fwd: Quarterly ETC Meetings no longer Televised/Video Recorded
Date: Friday, January 06, 2017 11:10:21 AM

Dear Council members,

Regarding the decision to discontinue video recording quarterly ETC meetings and annual board/commission meetings due to low viewership, here is the viewership of four recent Council, Planning Commission, Park Board, and ETC meetings, and annual meetings of other board/commission meetings, as shown on YouTube. If low viewership is a reason to discontinue video recording meetings, then perhaps that standard should be applied uniformly. The last four ETC meetings had higher combined viewership than the last four Planning Commission or Park Board meetings.

Meetings are a core function of city government. The ETC has used quarterly meetings as a way to schedule presenters on topics that the ETC believes will be of interest to the public. We have scheduled key policy discussions for the video recorded meetings—all with the goal of using our time on camera to inform the public on matters that we believe will be of interest to them. It's a goal the council should support.

Perhaps you sought input from boards and commissions on this decision and I just missed it.

Please reconsider this decision—reinstate quarterly ETC meetings and annual meetings of other boards and commissions, and ask Communications to provide a plan for promoting these meetings to the public. Do they, for example, get promoted on Facebook?

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Janovy

The below is a snapshot. I understand there is other data (Granicus, for example), but I don't have access to that data.

Edina City Council
December 20 — 34 views
December 6 — 16 views
November 15 — 30 views
November 1 — 228 views

Planning Commission
November 10 — 18 views
October 13 — 18 views
September 28 — 7 views
August 24 — 9 views

Park Board
September 13 — 14 views
November 7 — 16 views
May 10 — 16 views

January 9 — 6 views

Transportation Commission

October 27 — 46 views

October 23 — 14 views

July 16 — 15 views

January 15 — 7 views

Arts and Culture — 3 views

Community Health — 9 views

HRRC — 18 views

HPB — 20 views

EEC — 13 views

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mark K. Nolan" <MNolan@EdinaMN.gov>
Subject: Quarterly ETC Meetings no longer Televised/Video Recorded
Date: January 5, 2017 at 2:13:32 PM CST
Cc: Sharon Allison <SAllison@EdinaMN.gov>

Commissioners,

At a City Council work session last night, Council decided to cancel the videotaping of quarterly and annual board/commission meetings, due to low viewership cf. staff resources. All City Council and Planning Commission meetings will continue to be videotaped, as will Park Board meetings from January through June. As a viewership test, following the June Park Board meeting, staff will bring the viewership numbers back to Council to determine the future of videotaping.

Starting with this month's meeting (Jan 19), the ETC will be meeting in the Community Room for all meetings, unless notified otherwise.

Thanks,
Mark



Mark Nolan, AICP, Transportation Planner

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