

THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

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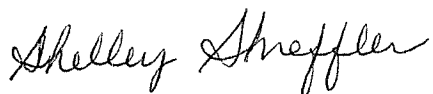
Dear Colleague:

Lake Street is one of the most important commercial and cultural centers of Minneapolis. How we undertake its redesign and reconstruction will influence the neighborhoods through which it passes and the city for the next fifty years. The community vision articulated in the *Lake Street-Midtown Greenway Corridor Framework Plan* provided a compelling picture of a vibrant commercial street, connecting neighborhoods and creating places.

In an effort to help implement the *Framework Plan*, The McKnight Foundation asked Project for Public Spaces to review the Lake Street design in terms of how well the proposals supported community development goals. Project for Public Spaces is a nonprofit organization that works to create and sustain public spaces that build communities and has extensive experience with the design of urban streets. Even though the report was not ready for distribution while the design and planning process moved forward, many of the ideas in the report informed discussions between the county, city and Project Advisory Committee.

We are pleased to share with you *Lake Street Reconstruction: A Review and a Look to the Future for Street Design in Minneapolis*. We hope this report will be useful to elected officials, city and county staff, business owners, residents, and other interested individuals as the designs for the remaining two sections of Lake Street are finalized and as reconstruction projects are started on other important city streets.

Sincerely,



Shelley Shreffler
Environment Program Officer