

September 20, 2024

Dear Maplewood City Leaders,

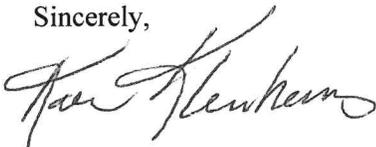
Thank you for your hard work and many efforts to serve the residents, businesses and community service organizations based in the city of Maplewood. We at Community Dental Care are one of those. Community Dental Care is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dental care provider serving people on public programs and the uninsured of all ages and backgrounds. Two of our six locations are in the city of Maplewood along Beam Avenue.

As an organization, we employ 275 people, with 140 working at our Maplewood locations. Our Maplewood clinic proudly serves 46,000 patient visits each year, many of whom face various challenges, including transportation. We believe that access to the proposed BRT Purple Line on White Bear Avenue would greatly benefit both our patients and some of our employees by providing reliable transportation to and from our Maplewood locations.

We understand that implementing the BRT Purple Line requires significant funding and that the construction will be disruptive to people and businesses in the area for a period of time. Nevertheless, building public transportation infrastructure is an investment in the future and is intended to support people and commerce. As the Twin Cities grows in population, it stands to reason that we would all benefit from the BRT Purple Line as a cleaner and more cost-effective alternative to thousands of gas powered vehicles.

Thank you again for your service in city leadership. We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this project.

Sincerely,



Karen Flanagan Kleinhans, CEO