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Homeowners want access to Skyline overlook restricted

By Brandon Stahl, Duluth News Tribune

[This article, which spawned 258 comments, is appended at bottom.]

Recent Comments

jackie s.

Duluth, MN 09/27/2009 2:25 PM

Didn't the City of Duluth just pay the Voyager Motel a lot of money for loss of 'air space'?? This new hideous (using Councilman Stauber's description) FENCE is obstructing 'air space' in my opinion. Living on Skyline Parkway for 10 years in an area with NO VIEW, I've come to expect the stray beer bottles and other trash. It comes with living here. Over 40 years ago, my driver's training instructor, Mr Hren, related a little story about a female Denfeld High School student of his commenting 'So this is what it looks like up here (Skyline) during the DAYTIME'. (He liked to have us practice our steering on 'horsehoe bend' coming up 40th Ave W). So, along with the beer parties, lover's lane, and just plain old sightseers, this scenic overlook has always been thus. It belongs to all the taxpayers of Duluth and should NOT be closed at anytime. Skyline is NOT one of the first roads plowed during the winter, that is true. It will be interesting to see if this remains the same.... Also, looking at all those huge bolders lined up on Skyline to protect the new house, I wonder how they got there and why they are so big. There are many places further east on Skyline with NO bolders (and much much smaller ones) to keep cars from going over but alas, I digress.....sigh jackie

P N.

Duluth, MN 09/26/2009 7:33 PM

MG J - the "mob mentality" is the only thing that will save Duluth from this request. Granted, generating disruptive behavior is disrespectful to say the least, but if people don't stand up in outrage over this it WILL pass through the city council. Remember the Hermantown guy that complained about his neighbor several acres away with the goat - it's a rural neighborhood - their council granted the OK for TWO goats if a Hermantown homeowner so chose. It is what needs to happen, especially in Duluth - or all the Beacon's Pointe condo owners will get their way too and OWN that piece of the Lakewalk.

G L.

Longwood, FL 09/26/2009 7:22 PM

256 comments on this so far! Unbelievable. All I can say is, "Life's tough. Its even tougher if you're stupid".

J C.

Duluth, MN 09/26/2009 2:39 PM

Hey Troy - they DO NOT own Skyline. When Duluth sells Skyline Parkway, and this couple actually BUYS Skyline parkway, THEN this couple may decide on who may or may not drive on this PUBLIC ROAD. Until then, Skyline remains a PUBLIC ROAD, on which taxpaying citizens may drive. It seems to me like this couple has an entitlement problem. They bought their own property. They may control what happens on their own property, which they have purchased. They may NOT control what happens in the vicinity of their property. If they see a crime being committed, it is their right and responsibility to report it, just like every other citizen in the area. It doesn't matter how much money one has, or whether they own property, but one may not dictate how everyone around them lives, and whether others may drive on their road. Should we allow those homeowners who live along Mesaba, or those who live along Arrowhead Road, to make their roads private, or restrict who may drive on them, and when?

Zacharia R.

Duluth, MN 09/26/2009 2:08 PM

People who are so callous as to build on the Skyline drive, a hideous fence right next to the road deserve the exact amount of consideration that they gave the citizens of Duluth. Absolutely nothing. Maybe if a plane flies by they will want the

airport moved. Generally roadways have a right of way substantially wider than the road. Could this fence be on public property?? I think I'll check. Mr. Cuneo will not receive another vote from me.

steven h.

Bellefonte, PA 09/26/2009 9:12 AM

Do they even realize that their whining just painted a huge target on their house....forever? Right or wrong (I vote for "right"), that eyesore is going to be a target for as long as it stands. They don't like noise, and headlights hit their windows and bother them? Really? Good luck stopping it. They think teens are a problem at the overlook right now? Wait until these teens start daring each other. "See that ugly house over there?" How stupid can two people be to think they can build a vandalism target, in easy range, and not get vandalized? Hell, I could probably nail it from a moving car, and I'm way past my teen years. I'm not saying I would do it, but....well....never mind. These homeowners will be getting housewarming gifts from passersby every night that their house stands. Kind of adds a little to the meaning of the word "owned". This was a stupid idea the minute the city decided to sell property there. Whose brain fart was that, and when are they up for reelection?

carolyn g.

Duluth, MN 09/26/2009 8:43 AM

Seeing that wall brought this to mind. A clean slate for some fine grafitti for vandals...it's everywhere in Duluth. This guy is just asking for everything he is getting

troy e.

Duluth, MN 09/26/2009 8:21 AM

i take it that all the negative comments are from people who dont own land !!! hope you all buy a house some day ,and then have the people of duluth tell you what you can and cant do with your own property shame on you all!!!!

Jim V.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 11:41 PM

They created the abominable scar on the scenic hillside of our city. If activities in the area are disturbing to them they can always build bigger fences and if they don't like the neighborhood they can always move. Personally, I'm praying for a mudslide or maybe an avalanche.

nancy o.

Spooner, WI 09/25/2009 10:50 PM

They never should have been allowed to build such an eyesore. A parasite on skyline drive...

p m.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:11 PM

I'm not going to read all 200 comments but I'm just wondering-don't we have a curfew for teens to be in by 10pm? So, if it's teens they are concerned with, should we just have better enforcement of the curfew?

Scot J.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:06 PM

I don't think that special laws should be drawn up for this city street. Maybe the police should enforce the curfew laws. That would solve much of the problem. If they need more security for their property then they should pay for their own private security.

Sharon S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:00 PM

I believe they have a right to have their home where ever they want it, but I believe the city should keep the skyline as skyline. I have a home in the Gary area and I can't put out decorations at Christmas time because of the vandalism. I also have to pick up a lot of garbage before I mow the lawn. But I'm not trying to close the sidewalks down from 10 to 6. It everyone elses town too.

ken s.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:37 PM

What next? What are they going to do when the snow come's and they find out that skyline is one of the last roads to be plowed cry to the city council?

P T.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:57 PM

The 'golden rule'-- wealthy people influencing government to their advantage. How many neighborhoods in this town have thousands of people living on ruined streets, few streetlights, frequent vandalism & burglarism of their own. What of their view of the harbor? I call for a massive, earth moving program for all Duluthians who can not see the harbor properly. Over the next 20 years, we will raise every house on a gradient of 5-25 degrees-- depending on their location--so that every person in the city of Duluth will be able to clearly see everything happening on the Detroit-Edison dock. Vandals will be prosecuted in every neighborhood where they throw beer bottles or rotten apples near the best views of Pelican Island or the Bong Bridge. I call upon Tony Cuneo to raise this issue to the City Council immediately-- and together we will build a better Duluth.

J S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:56 PM

I drove by the eye sore tonight. Besides the ridiculous request to close the overlook, how about that barricade fence that was built only feet from Skyline Parkway? Isn't there a setback for such structures? I know there is on our West Duluth neighborhood. Hmm.... Money talks really loud.

j c.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:11 PM

HONK!

paul m.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:00 PM

You know I agree with this It is a great house and not to long ago had the windows smashed in with rocks so I agree with this being a home owner. I hope they only do this for the house to be finished . You really do not need to be in that area at the time they want it closed and you can still drive on skyline. There is no area for parking where this house is so I wish the home owners the best of luck and hope that the teens stop destroying this house... Hope some of you can see it ... You would understand a little more.

Carona C.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:46 PM

The homeowner gets NONE of my sympathy....only my contempt!!!! 1. Why did this CITY allow building on Skyline Blvd. anyway? Along with that house built & then a fenced wall to block the view. 2. I always thought that Skyline Blvd. aka the "scenic drive" was suppose to be for the citizens & tourists viewing pleasure, driving along it....NOT living on it. It's one of Duluth's main attractions! 3. How come the moron, arrogant homeowner didn't weigh all the pros & cons before building there. Oh that's right....they don't care about anything but themselves and MONEY TALKS, so they can do what ever they want. Like trying to have the city conform to their own rules now that they have a house there. Pure greedy people & self absorb. 4. What about this winter when they plow the boulevard? The snow is always pushed over the edge. It's going to be going up against their fenced wall....how long, with all the weight of that snow pressing against it, will it survive? Will they demand the city pay to fix it or replace it? Or will they come up with some other crazy type of demands regarding the snow plowing there? I guess we will find out soon enough, won't we! 5. As far as the resident below them having concerns about using the easements to hook up power, etc. with those big trucks, heavy equipment, etc. Ah...let get this straight right now.....below them there is a children's home.....all the property there has been made for the children's enjoyment.....walking paths, climbing walls, etc. etc. The kids there are doing things out there and yes, sometimes the kids will run, and you don't know what direction they will go, so the main concern was for the children's safety!!!

MG J.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:42 PM

I understand people being upset about this, but what is more upsetting is this mob mentality suggesting honking and whatever other form of expressing disapproval. The owners will probably not be there long because of this immature approach. The owners legally built on land that they own, it is sad that they probably will be forced to move because of such nonsense. Common sense should be mandated. Show some respect for others...and their property.

Mark J.

Minneapolis, MN 09/25/2009 6:41 PM

My wife and I were raised in Duluth, my grandparents lived what is now just down the hill from this house. I love the views from Skyline and understand that the people that built the house probably love it too. I think they could very easily know what they were getting into before they built the house. I had a similar situation when building a house, looking at a lot along an railroad track, my wife and I took lawn chairs and sat in the middle of the lot for 1 night and looked at each other and said WHAT THE HECK ARE WE THINKING. This couple should have thought before they built. On the other hand I do think, signs or not that Skyline Drive and the look-outs could be much better maintained and controlled by the city.

Brittney J.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:31 PM

They should have moved a little bit more west, the public and popular and not to say historic landmark they decided to build their house next to happens to be like that and has been for any years

Brittney J.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:27 PM

Really us as the tax payers of this city should be able to vote on this situation. Who do these people think they are. This is still our city and we are not going to just give it up to some people that built a house on the flippen hill. Wow I bet these guys are going to want us to give up our trails next. I can't imagine that the city will allow this and hope not or wow we are starting to lose track of what is right here and what is not. I drive that route to get to work everyday and love the view. I drink my coffee and listen to my music and just knowing these guys are asking so much out of the city makes me wanna vomit.. The royalty these guys must be.. Must we pay a toll fee when passing their house since we will be seeing their view of Duluth.

Chris S.

Two Harbors, MN 09/25/2009 6:17 PM
HONK, HONK, HONK.

Tedrick S.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:00 PM
Tony DFL Kontio what an joke!

Thea T.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 5:39 PM
what a joke, what are they going to ask to close off skyline next?? If they were from this town they would have known what has been going on at the over look for years....really. and I do agree if they wanted privacy they shouldn't of built a house in the middle of the hillside. I hate to see if that house ever weathers badly what the city will say for the upkeep of it. ANd as for the comments of the parks closing from 10-6 am, that is soo not true. two parks are directly behind my house and there are constant people parking partying and animals. and the cops do nothing about it. the council doesn't care no matter how much you complain. they have made it quite clear.

Terry D.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 4:50 PM
The true vandalism on Skyline, in my opinion, was building that house there. If the city council wants to pass a resolution, it should be one that requires that house to be demolished and the area restored to its original condition.

Kenneth K.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 4:27 PM
What? This must be a ruse! How long has that overlook been there? And now we want to close it at a time when the most beautiful views of Duluth can be enjoyed. They should have considered all of their potential complaints before construction began. The overlook was there and should remain open; it belongs to the citizens of Duluth, not homeowners!

Margaret W.
Prescott, WI 09/25/2009 4:19 PM
I cannot believe this...why do some folks think they can change things to suit them, especially those that can afford anything they think they should have, inspite of what is a tourist attraction for others. Yes, the skyline should be patrolled often but others enjoy that view, including older folks at night. When I get to go back to Duluth I am one of those older folks who wants to have the right to overlook the city lights at night. I have never encountered any problems during those times. Wake up, home-builders, does everyone owe you the right to close Skyline Drive????

Thomas V. K.
Two Harbors, MN 09/25/2009 4:08 PM
If you build a home near an airport, knowing full well that it is there, you can not complain about airplane noise. If you build a home next to a popular public scenic drive or overlook, you can not complain about the traffic or the use of the overlook.

carol w.
Esko, MN 09/25/2009 3:58 PM
The lookout was there before the owners built their house. They should have thought about the consequences before they

built. People who live next to the stadiums don't like the traffic and light pollution, but they knew it was there when they bought their houses - deal with it.

Linda K.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 3:33 PM

Why would they even build their home on Skyline.....They should have known it would upset people.

R B.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 3:31 PM

The people who build the house want a good view? I have a solution. Take the house down. They will have a great view for them and everyone else plus it solves the problem of vandalism. Everyone in the city knows skyline is frequented by young teenagers who are looking for a party. They didn't know this? Pull your head out of your butt.

King L.

09/25/2009 3:10 PM

Whatever.

Anne T.

Barnum, MN 09/25/2009 3:08 PM

On one hand I'm incredibly envious of the homeowners view of the lake and appalled by the vandalism done to their house and completely understand their request because while I've found that in general people are incredibly polite and considerate of others, I'm finding more and more that people don't care about the mess they leave behind, be it noise or tangible pollution. But on the other hand the overlook shouldn't be closed down, the view at night rivals the daytime view and all should be able to enjoy it. We all need to use our brains here - homeowners and overlook users alike.

Kathleen W.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 3:04 PM

In my opinion, I'd rather look at that house than all the garbage at all those lovely overlooks. Have you ever gone up there with out of town guests in the early morning to show them our view? There's more filth up there than anywhere else in the city. Remains of fast food bags, cans, bottles, broken glass, graffiti, old tires, household trash need I say more. Yeh, the house is not in a very good location, but the homeowner has a point. I'd love to have a home on the hill myself not that particular location mind you.

Thomas S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 3:01 PM

p.s, to my previous comment..... To: Brandon S. What are the City regulations regarding this wall? I will looking for you answer on your blog.

Thomas S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 2:56 PM

There are already laws on the books to deal with any problem these residents may have. Councilman Cueno needs to take this ridiculous proposal off the table and send the problem to the Police Department as they are in the position to help them. If this overlook is posted "no use " after 10:00 PM then do all the others follow?

s p.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 2:46 PM

One more thing...said homeowner seems to spend a lot of time night-peeping at the teenagers in their cars....maybe the police should be watching him.

Adam S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 2:46 PM

How dare you say to close off a public place because you chose to build your dreamhouse next to a public overlook. TOO BAD!

Ron O.

Two Harbors, MN 09/25/2009 2:30 PM

I think it's poor planning on the home owners part in building their house there in the first place. Why should all pay for their poor planning. They should not by their "status" require others to not have access to a public place regardless of whether or not there is garbage there. If they can afford to build a home like that then they should be able to afford to install an adequate security system or hire a private security company such as Midwest Patrol. The City Councillors are obligated to make a decision in the interests of the general public and not those of a couple individuals who may have not done their homework. I hope you make the right decision, don't be bullied by someone with deep pockets. Ron

Leah S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 2:26 PM

First of all, I am amazed at how many comments there are...out of all the articles I have ever seen in DNT, this seems to attract the most... With that said, I want to say that although I have nothing against these home owners personally and that NO ONE has the right to vandalize anyone's property or to litter AT ALL, I do want to say that I think the homeowners are going a little too far. Without stepping on the public's toes, they can invest in options to protect their home and surrounding property. If they can afford such an elaborate home, they can afford high-end, top of the line security system, they can invest in a watchdog (the barking alone will scare away would-be intruders) and they can invest in signs that can be viewed by the public as a way to state their rights on their property (no littering, don't block the driveway, private property, do not trespass, etc...) And folks, if we want these homeowners to respect our rights, let's also respect theirs. It's as simple as that.

s p.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 2:25 PM

I will gladly and frequently honk. These homeowners are ludicrous.

Kenneth N.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 2:24 PM

Forget the overlook; drive by their 'home.'" They have erected a wall right next to the path along Skyline Drive, behind and below which they built their 'home.'" The City probably will not do anything with their request but turn it down but how could anyone in City Hall allowed this project to get started.

dawn w.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 2:19 PM

I wonder if Frank Lloyd Wright had to go through all of this?

Agnes C.

Oak Park, IL 09/25/2009 2:17 PM

If you build a home next to Wrigley Field someone's going to piss on your lawn! If you build a starter castle off a main tourist attraction you're going to have problems! Having said that, perhaps a curfew restricting hours of parking for kissie face, beer drinking, mary jane teen age mutant ninja's ain't such an unreasonable request.

Jim P.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 2:08 PM

I agree a public place should not be closed to accomodate one family and this issue should of been worked out with the Duluth Police Department. This family deserves privacy as the rest of us and if they can afford a house like this good for them. For those of you with envy, go get a job instead of reading the paper all day. If someone wanted to preserve the property they should of purchased the land themselves!!!!

Landon D.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 2:05 PM

This Agenter is a silly man. If he didn't like the area, then he shouldn't have massacred it to build his home. Mr. Agenter and Ms. Martichuski, if you read this, Duluth does not belong to you. Unfortunately someone sold you land that, in many peoples' opinions, has hurt Duluth's image. To ask any more of this city is outrageous! Here's to your remarkable citizenship. Geez!

Gloria T.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:56 PM

Shame on those who sold the land to these shameful people. Shame on the city for giving them the right to build. And further shame on the city for even taking up any time dealing with this. The fence should come down. They (homeowners) are blocking MY view.

Tony S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:56 PM

Wait a minute they build a house on the beautiful hillside changing my view and now they want us to stay away also...

bucky b.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:51 PM

WAAAAAAAAA!

Mike L.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:40 PM

Wahhhh I bought land to build on and no I don't like it... sell it and move someplace else, like Arizona. Then you won't have snow to bother you either. Or maybe you can get the police to build a \$20 million Police Station there to keep the teenagers in line. Skyline Parkway was designed to be the scenic road showing the beauty of Duluth. The parkways were established so people don't have block traffic. Yeah, at times they have become gang turf and people do things they ought not do there. But to close it is not possible unless you have patrols enforcing it. If patrols are going by, why close it? They should be able to coral a few wild teenagers.

Duane R.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:38 PM

I don't think Snively had the skyline parkway on his mind to be a residential area. Only to go along and enjoy the beauty of the view.

korey h.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:36 PM

Would you please close the road that my house is on so nobody throws a beer can on my property? Come on people! Build your home in the woods if you don't want anyone around it. Shame on you Duluth City Council (again) if you even entertain the idea of honoring this request.

Megan E.

Wrenshall, MN 09/25/2009 1:35 PM

This is just plain nuts. I am just amazed this issue was even heard.

April G.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:34 PM

I'm with Todd L. Great idea!

Helen G.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:22 PM

I, like so many of you, couldn't believe this house was built along the Skyline Parkway. Did the future homeowners not drive by the area in question when they were looking to buy property? It seems their first clue should have been the lack of NEIGHBORS...I always thought Skyline Parkway and the areas around it were bought as park land?? I agree..I will give them the Duluth howdy just like I always do the lovers!! Honk Honk

Kelly C.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:14 PM

I heard, now this is mainly hearsay but from a rather reputable source who has ties to the council, that these homeowners were really upset because where they built their home in relation to the road makes all traffic headlights shine directly into their windows. So it sounds like they had to come up with some nonsense like "teenagers partying and fighting" to restrict traffic flow so they don't have headlights shining into their beautiful "eyesore" at night. Really? I mean this seems like common sense to me?

G L.

Longwood, FL 09/25/2009 1:14 PM

Unbelievable: 172 responses to this post. Todd L. How old are you? Pretty juvenile of a suggestion I'd say.

Mary F.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:13 PM

People who build extraordinarily ostentatious houses in a way that ruins the neighborhood are surprised when vandalism then ensues? They're unhappy about people in public places blocks away that disturb them? Gee... let's see if I can wring up some sympathy..... Nope. Nuthin'.

B G.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:13 PM

This is like people who build their homes near airports, gun ranges, stinky farms, etc. They relocate to a KNOWN "problem" and then try to alter the environment to suit their personal wants. Sorry, but it shouldn't work that way. You made your bed, now sleep in it. If you have a problem with home security spend your money on some upgrades. If it takes a private security patrol guard, so be it. The scenic overlook was there before you were.

Sean D.

Tiffin, OH 09/25/2009 1:13 PM

The rights of the many should always outweigh the rights of the few. The overlook is spectacular at all hours of the day and I hope the council votes this down.

j k.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:09 PM

I think everyone should go to the overlook tonight!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Yes I don't think anyone should leave garbage.....bottles or fast food wrappers! Or certainly not ruin someone's property. BUT I think these 'homeowners' are going to wish this was brought out to the public! And I believe that a citizen should be able to bring an item up for discussion. BUT if any restrictions are put in place---oh I don't think the 'homeowners' or the city will be happy. By the way, doesn't Duluth have a curfew? Anyone that is of age to drink and carry on probably isn't there. I like the idea of the 'honking overlook' I like the idea of the 'honking overlook'

kathy p.

09/25/2009 1:09 PM

Hideous is a mild word for that fence. We now live in Rice Lake, Wisconsin and a few weeks ago I brought visitors to Duluth. Lovely day seeing the Glensheen and decided to take them for the normal visitors ride on the boulevard. I was appalled when I saw the fence and the larger rocks. Anyone knows that is a scenic drive for visitors and residence to enjoy. Yes you can build a house there - especially with 13 acres. Right next to the road may not have been the wisest plan. Kathy P., Rice Lake, WI

Laura B.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 1:09 PM

Why was that land even for sale? Dumb. The house is an eyesore and has ruined a perfectly good view of the hill

Zaba S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:01 PM

1. the architecture of the house is ugly 2. It is a blight on the hillside of Duluth just as much as that house on the hill in Grand Marais is when you look up from the Harbor 3. They are complaining about something 3 blocks away? 4. I guess they have the right to ask- but the council giving in would be setting a mighty big precedent for others who want things changed 3 blocks from their home.

nicole h.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:00 PM

I'm with you Todd, I'll honk every time I pass, I'll go tonight!!!! Late!!!

Dave E.

Sauk Rapids, MN 09/25/2009 12:59 PM

"their home has been vandalized numerous times, including having all its windows smashed out." That's terrible, but do you wonder why? I'm for the honking house idea, welcome home.

Kristin W.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:56 PM

See what you can do when you throw a little cash around! These whiners should be ashamed, they have no business having their house where they do. Shame on the fools who let them build there in the first place. For them to expect the city to bow down to them, just shows how egotistical they are. I would not be surprised if they did it for them, not one bit!!

Summer E.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:51 PM

I think most of you have forgotten that the home owner owns the land that he built the house on. It has been in his name for years and he should be able to do what he wants with it. I've personally seen the inside/outside of the home and it is gorgeous. Maybe if we had more homes like this in Duluth, it would be more of a draw to those that would work hard at owning a home like that one. And, the house isn't an eye sore, it fits in well. I feel sorry for those that have vandalized the house though. Mr. Agenter has 24 hour surveillance on the home which is coming from your pockets. It's still his land. If he doesn't want people peeking in his windows at night.. he should have that respect. You'd want the same if you were in his position.

Chad S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:47 PM

They're clearly from out of town. Any local knows what goes on there. It's their own fault for poorly researching their location. No one else would be able to prohibit parking near their home on public streets, and these folks are no better than we are.

Mike B.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 12:43 PM

This is the CHANGE most of you voted for!

Mike B.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 12:42 PM

Wow! The NIMBYs are out in force today! You'd think that these people had ruined the entire skyline parkway! To those of you complaining about where they built where do you think they should have built? Sooner or later there will be more homes up there, then what'll you do?

Steven W.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:41 PM

This whole thing from the city planners to the owners is a monument to lack of planning and cluelessness. Whaaa. you build a house that screams for attention and kids vandalize it while under construction, who would have thought. Whaaaaaaa... Teenagers hang out at a scenic lookout at night? say that ain't so. Doesn't anyone get the ironies that those that built a monumental eyesore to aesthetics of area are complaining that their aesthetics and senses are being assaulted by a monument to

the cities beauty by claiming is a public eyesore? I'm surprised that there wasn't the predictable contingent of "Duluthians" hollering over drug deals and pointing out that teenagers do all the vandalism blah, blah, blah and then holler that we need to run them all out of town....LMAO

J T.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:40 PM

Kathy D - I send the most ludicrous email I could, asking for things like my own lane on the freeway, that all shipping cease so I am not late for work, etc. You had a good idea!

Chris S.

Two Harbors, MN 09/25/2009 12:38 PM

Honk'n House, it's got a nice sound to it.

Dan C.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:36 PM

I think it is a good idea. The PD has better things to do than deal with the losers who degrade the overlooks with tons of garbage each year and out of control behavior. Would you want your teen on pot driving up there at night or worst would you like your family to meet a teen on pot on that road. when your sight seeing after 10 pm. The public losing freedom when the wasted abuse their's.

Larry H.

Cloquet, MN 09/25/2009 12:35 PM

Wealthy people wanting special treatment-that never happens. Parking with your sweetheart along the Skyline in the lookouts has been a right of passage in our area since it was built. That requires darkness and a romantic view. I have friends who were conceived on the Skyline. Let's not stop love in bloom. Doesn't anyone remember that exciting time of your life?

Chris S.

Two Harbors, MN 09/25/2009 12:34 PM

I just built a new house on Airport Lane. Sure is noisy from all the airplanes flying around the sky. City officials, please shut down the airport.

Elizabeth D.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:32 PM

The city allowed the permit to build. Perhaps one house built on the Boulevard serves to open the door for another Beacon Point project, with homes along the Boulevard and restricted use of the roadway. What other plans does the city have for development and taking away what has been the rights of citizens for so many years?

Vicki H.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:26 PM

Todd L. Great idea, the honking house.

Melissa H.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:20 PM

Todd L... I'm not with you because I'm an adult, they aren't harming me in any way, there REALLY is drug dealing taking place and garbage all over at the look out, AND their house was VANDALIZED! Do you live up there?? Anyone who lives near there knows this is a constant occurrence!

Brad W.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:18 PM

Kids have been spending time "partying" or what ever on various parts of skyline for decades. The city used to provide trash barrels at the over looks but with budget cuts there are no parks and rec people to empty them. If you build or buy a house by a school with a stadium, and stadiums with people make noise, does the school have to cease activities? No. If you build a house near an overlook parking spot where people park and yes sometimes party and litter like they have for decades, should activites cease because you were stupid enough to build near there? No. This an elitist attitude and just because people don't adhere to your living standards, they shouldn't have to chage theirs to suit your needs. Call the police and have them deal with it or move.

Jill B.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:14 PM

These people obviously built their house to get noticed, well now they're getting noticed. I believe the scenic overlook was there LONG before they built their ridiculous house. People come to Duluth for the beautiful view and now we have some arrogant home owners taking that away from tourists spending their money in our great city as well as local people who love Duluth for the view.

Adam L.

09/25/2009 12:13 PM

haha great idea todd L!!!!!!!!!!

Jim D.

09/25/2009 12:11 PM

To add to my post, what are they going to do the first time a car slides on ice, or just misses the corner and ends up hitting their fence or worse ends up in their living room? what kind of ordinance are they going to try and buy then?

Jim D.

09/25/2009 12:09 PM

Robert M I agree with you 100% I live in Lincoln Park also and with all the kids in the neighborhood the people that speed up and down our avenue and across the street below us is rediculous. I've contacted our district rep and the police cheif along with the traffic department and because there is not a bunch of accidents there they wont do anything about it. frustrating part is i've seen a kid get whacked at our intersection while on a bike and numerous accidents in the past there. I felt like what I was saying also fell on deaf ears.

Todd L.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:05 PM

now that the honking tree is gone - how about we call this the HONKING HOUSE, every time you drive by - hammer on the horn - who is with me?

Kathy D.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:03 PM

I just hope that everyone taking the time to say that they think this is as crazy as I do are also writing to every council member at the same time! Lets swamp them with emails also to let every one of them know not to allow these people to control our public area! This will email all of them - council@duluthmn.gov

M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:02 PM

I'm not jealous and I don't want to vandalize someone's property. I just want to take pictures (sometimes after 10 or before 6) and I don't want to get a citation for trespassing. That's all.

Matthew L.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 11:56 AM

The behavior has been going on at that spot forever. You shouldn't build a home without analyzing all aspects of the location. They should have known what skyline and the lookout would offer. I can't feel sorry for this homeowner.

Tricia S.

Andover, MN 09/25/2009 11:54 AM

This kind of reminds me of a situation a few years back in Hugo Minnesota where people were building on land that was previously farm land and then started whining because of the smell of farm animals on land nearby. They wanted to build out further to get away from the big city. I just can't understand people who think the world revolves around them. If they chose to and were allowed to build there, then they should have to accept the consequences of their choices. Why should everyone else have to be inconvenienced because of them? What will they try to take away from the people next?

Ted C.

09/25/2009 11:41 AM

This is a request by one Duluth homeowner to block the rights of thousands. It would seem that the homeowner could clear all this up by offering to pay to install an internet camera solution like OxBlue at the overlook. This would record any of the illegal activity and quickly make the overlook a poor place to break the law. If you have the money to build a house of that scale, you can come up with a few bucks to keep it safe. You know you will pay more in legal fees and headaches if you continue on this course.

ben b.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 11:40 AM

The people who built this house should be ashamed. Billman's, I'm looking at you. You failed to say "no" to ruining the view of the hill by erecting that monstrosity, and I hope people know it. I honestly hope that the homeowners fully realize what a stupid decision they've made, eventually vacate the house, the city buys the land back, razes the place, and they plant trees there. This mistake needs to never happen again. I sure hope that, ten years from now, all the "poor" people of West Duluth and Lincoln Park aren't forced to look up from their squalor at a bunch of mansions dotting the once-pristine hill. Our beautiful, serene Skyline Drive has been ruined, and the people should hold the culprits accountable not with vandalism, but with their voices and wallets.

Adam L.

09/25/2009 11:40 AM

I can pretty much guarantee you that if this passes and they DO shut down the overlook from 10-6, the backlash from angry citizens will cause more trouble for these folks than they already have from the darn kids partying THREE BLOCKS

AWAY...And if these kids were vandalizing their property before, what do you think they will do now?!?!

David S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 11:29 AM

Sounds like a lot of jealous people to me. Take a ride up and see what that outlook looks like, nothing but an area full of garbage. I'm sure the tourists are impressed with that. After the school district tore down a ton of houses and took that property off of the tax rolls it's a good thing someone wants to build and at least pay some of the lost taxes.

Paul P.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 11:29 AM

Maybe the homeowners should have considered the potential drawbacks of building where they did in advance. Sometimes my neighbors play their music too loud. Sometimes cars go faster than I would like in front of my home. Their are "consequences" to living in any particular location, and this case is no exception.

Bob B.

09/25/2009 11:27 AM

The new homeowners should grab a 6 pack and head up to the overlook to get to know their new neighbors. Stop wasting city councils valuable time with your whining. You chose to live there, the city did not force you to build your home on skyline parkway. P.S. lose the fence, I don't believe it's in line with Duluths building code

J C.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 11:24 AM

The comments on here are awful and negative. No, they should not have the right to close a viewing area, but they should also have a right to not have their home burglarized. East Skyline Avenue is full of homes that take up views and now because development is moving west, people suddenly have a problem.

B A.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 11:19 AM

Welcome to Duluth whoever you people are! They built a home as an eye soar to west/Duluth, looking up at the hill it looks ridiculous! The city coucil should have denied the building permit for this home! Right smack in the middle of beautiful trees and land? The only thing anyone can come up with is "money does talk", no one builds a home in the middle like they did. I will get on my horn also when driving by, maybe they have enough money to relocate the home and I hope the city council makes these people pay for the trees to be replanted and the landscaping, that we did love, to be returned at their cost! These people are the sad case of money and ignorance, but odviously want all to know your moving in.... Welcome!

kerry s.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 11:15 AM

I am so glad I moved out of Duluth, where money talks so LOUD and there are no jobs either. when i visit back that city I will make it a point to honk even bring a nice loud AIR HORN to blow when i drive by this MONEY TALKS HOUSE.....

Sandy N.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 11:10 AM

What a shame it is to have that house built into to hillside like it is. I'm sure people see it from down below and think "What the hell is that? What idiot would build a house there?" It's what I think everytime I see it. How dare they even ASK that the

overlook be closed at night!!! Who do you people think you are? And if I requested that no one park within 3 blocks of my property, I would be laughed out of the city. I am not at all surprised that they have been vandalized. I suspect that they will be over and over, because of where they built that house. But I must add that I do hope the vandals are caught and prosecuted.

Robert M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 11:04 AM

Huh, another Duluth council member with an agenda that includes smooching the booty of the upper tax bracket for future considerations. I have contacted the police department and other city officials in regards to the excessive speeds of traffic on 24th ave west. to no avail. Someone is going to die on this road, the speeds are unbelievable. Unfortunately, I live in Lincoln Park, so I am virtually forgotten by the City, and I have nothing to offer any of our city councilors, so I am already two strikes in the hole.

Stuart R.

Minneapolis, MN 09/25/2009 11:02 AM

Time for a public gathering there at midnight, bring your drums and horns. I'll come up for it.

Jessie P.

Wrenshall, MN 09/25/2009 10:59 AM

Those homeowners will just have to deal with it; it's the price they have to pay for not doing their homework before moving there. It's bad enough that they ruined the nice view of Skyline by putting that eyesore there, and now they want to take away other peoples' right to enjoy it anyway? Forget it, they have done enough!

william s.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:56 AM

Mr. Ness: TEAR DOWN THAT FENCE!

Melissa H.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:55 AM

The people that built the house did not commit a crime, but to the dealers that use that spot to do their "business", and the punks that hang out and trash the entire parkway, NIGHT AND DAY...I'd find a new place.

T T.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:52 AM

What the hell. Not only did they already ruin the beauty of the hillside but now they want to wave their money a little more because of so called vandals damaging their property and limit the scenary for everyone else. B@@@ S@@@. I agree with Tom K. Maybe a honk every time i drive by will let them know how i really feel. They should have NEVER been allowed to build there to begin with. My guess, and i haven't read all the comments, is that they are NOT from Duluth originally.

DR Z.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:51 AM

Just look at all the nasty comments from the usual suspects who accuse others of making nasty comments. Good job!

Julie B.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:45 AM

Mike S, and all others siding with this homeowner, I for one, (per my post at 1:55 a.m.) had NO problem with them building up there, more power to them, BUT, they should have known this has always been a SCENIC DRIVE, non-stop traffic, joggers etc... IF they weren't okay with ALL the traffic issues, then DON'T build there! Now, because of all their whining, they have just attracted more problems for themselves...not a very wise decision on their part, but by the looks and sounds of it, they didn't think ANY of this through. As I stated in my previous post, they should have kept their mouths shut and installed a kick A** security system and get some really HUGE out door dogs and keep their yaps shut, now they have to deal with a WHOLE lot more!

julie p.

09/25/2009 10:39 AM

Perhaps these people should just buy Duluth for their own viewing pleasure and erect a big gate on the highway to keep everyone else out.

J s.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:35 AM

I hope these people don't want sympathy from the citizens of Duluth who considered Skyline Parkway as by and for the people of Duluth as one of our city treasures and these people came along and scarred the area forever for their pleasure and now they want us to turn it over to their control. If I had a rock.....

Dan H.

09/25/2009 10:24 AM

Councilor Cuneo needs to develop a sense of discretion and perspective before he considers bringing another proposal to the council. And why is it on the consent agenda in the first place? Did Cuneo really think nobody would notice or that it wouldn't be controversial enough to garner a few speakers at Monday's council meeting? Trying to slip a quick one past everyone while they're not looking?

Dena H.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:23 AM

Are they going to complain when the New Middle school gets built right below there property too. I cant wait to hear the complaints that will come when a Kid gets out of Northwoods and starts running around there yard. I lived below the railroad tracks and had people looking for the kids that get out of northwoods so I hope they enjoy it. I agree everyone should HONK their HORNS as they drive by day or night.

Stacy G.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:23 AM

The scenic overlook was there before you even had a premonition to wreck the beauty of the hillside so what right do you have to try and stop people from using it. This is one of the craziest things I've heard in a long time.

Ken C.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:18 AM

I can see it now.....Neighborhood Parking by Permit only. What the heck, I Live in Duluth, Pay my Taxes , so maybe no driving in my neighborhood after 10, There is a chance someone will vandalize my house as well. Money seems to buy alot, including that house, but in this case it can't nor shouldn't take away what all us tax payers have paid for.....the beauty of

going up there and see what this city has to offer at night. Some of the best views happen at night on a rainy stormy night. Seeing what nature has to offer. I can't believe they even got the permit to build the stupid fence they put up. Money sure makes people GREEDY.....

Grant .

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:16 AM

Is that fence in compliance with code?

N H.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:16 AM

When the tail starts wagging the dog, we're in for a lot of trouble. The request to shut down the overlook at night by these arrogant homeowners once again proves they don't care about being neighborly. The council should have never let it get this far. What would they tell a senior citizen who requests that no one be allowed to park in front of their house on a regular city street?

Dan O.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:14 AM

I hope they're not surprised about the vandals breaking their windows. Just by building their they've wronged all the citizens of Duluth and future generations. The house has got to go. Shame on those who allowed it to be built in the first place.

Michelle L.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:13 AM

I can't believe the audacity of these people, and no, I'm not at all envious of their house or their money, especially now since this article is only targeting their home even more. William Rogers and Sam Snively were rolling over in their graves far before this eye sore on the hillside started, the road conditions and over growth of trees and shrubs has marred our beautiful views on Skyline Parkway long ago. There are not even that many nice overlooks anymore and this is one of few that you can still get a good look at the city. Obviously these people are not from Duluth, otherwise they would know these overlooks have been gathering places for well over 100 years, since the days of "tallyhoes" with horse and wagon.

steven b.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:13 AM

This is terrible urban planning. This newly built home on skyline parkway is as bad, if not worse, than the Beacon Point project. Who in the city government allows this kind of development to take place. I guess money talks! The rich elite in our city and in our country are calling the shots, not "We the People".

Tom K.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:11 AM

everytime i pass i'll make sure to lay on the horn anytime of day or night, so i say beep off prudes!!!! you've made too much noise and brought this attention on yourselves deal with the consequences

lynn k.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:09 AM

Who do these people think they are!!!

Joshua N.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 10:08 AM

They cant own the view!! I dont think they should Restrict everyone elses either! They should know people drive by, park and walk around that area. Last I remember this is a free country!

Janice H.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:08 AM

That overlook is public property and citizens (local or visitors) should have access to it at anytime. What is needed is more police patrol AND street cleaning. I was at that overlook a couple of weeks ago. It was about 3:30 p.m. on a weekday. First, I was embarrassed that a couple from out of state were there looking at the sites while standing in all this waste. Most importantly, not 20 feet from where they were standing was a 'drug' store open for business. A car was parked at the end of the overlook parking area and cars were driving up to this car and people making a 'quick' visit to the car and 'conversing' with the driver then they would get back in their car drive away only to have another car drive up and do the same thing. BROAD DAYLIGHT!!!!!! I wish anyone reading this would contact their council representative and ask about pushing to have a greater presence on the parkway AND to have cleaning done. We have citizens required to do community service. Here is a perfect opportunity for the city to give brooms and garbage pails and keep the overlook areas clean. As for the owners I can't help but wonder why would they build a house right at a point of a sharp turn on the parkway. It's an accident waiting to happen.

Grant .

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:06 AM

Mike S.: In general I would have to guess that this is not about envy. This is about an arrogant homeowner who exhibited great stupidity in thinking that the world needs to conform to their petty wants.

Erica S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 10:04 AM

This is completely ridiculous. This is yet another case of a person buying/building a home in an area with a previously-established use, then deciding that the entire community needs to change because they didn't put complete thought into where they built their home. This reminds me of the people who buy houses out in rural Lakewood/north shore and get mad that the people next door have horses or livestock. Or the people on London Road who buy a lake shore home and then get mad about the traffic. If you don't like the activity in the area, then don't live there. It's not rocket science. And I think it's completely unfair to deprive the community of access to western skyline because of one thoughtless home owner.

Michael S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:57 AM

And the next ordinance will be - no traffic on this section of Skyline unless you live there . . . harumph...

m h.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:54 AM

This isn't about envy, it's about common sense; how can you not know there is partying going on at the overlook 3 blocks away? Didn't they get a hint while they were building this blight on the hillside? It's like the people that buy or build on Park Point complaining about the traffic and the bridge being all the time. Look around the area before you sign the paperwork. If it's a problem and there's illegal activity going on, send a squad up there a few times a night.

steven b.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:53 AM
No morre homes should be built up there!

john w e.
Ashland, WI 09/25/2009 9:53 AM
That house is destined to get bought out by the city. Unintended consequences all around. Tear it down. Then develop some reasonable zoning restrictions up there.

M.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:47 AM
I don't envy these people, Mike S. I HAVE a nice house with a nice view, which I share with everyone else. But as a photographer I want to take pictures from this PUBLIC lookout sometimes within Mr. Agenter's "private hours"

Deb J.
Lady Lake, FL 09/25/2009 9:43 AM
I live on a golf course. Yes,our house gets hit with golf balls, should the golf course be closed. I DON'T THINK SO....These people should get a life. The overlook was there many years before them. You built your house there so deal with it, or move.

David N.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:42 AM
That homeowner is crazy.

fae s.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:42 AM
Talk about crazy. Why waste time and resources to created another rule/law that will just be broken anyways. I'm sure the trouble makers that are drinking, littering, and causing a ruckass will not have a problem ignoring a sign as well.

steven b.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:41 AM
Heck no, don't you dare put up a no parking sign at that scenic overlook! That is our "we the peoples" scenic overlook. Where is the common scence going in this country? Is common scence being affected by all of the vaccines that we injest, all of the chemtrails up in the sky, all of the chemicals in our food and environment, or all of the flouride in our municiple drinking water? People are seriously getting mentally ill! You people build a frickin house on a beautiful stretch of skyline parkway that destroys the beautiful view of the hillside and now you want a scenic overlook closed? Where has the common scence gone?

adam s.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:40 AM
"I don't have any real issues with councilors putting an idea by a citizen on the table for discussion," he said. "We should take requests and concerns from the citizens seriously, whether or not we support them."..... ...Unless you are a minority or happen to be on the bottom of the tax bracket.

David K.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:38 AM

To say the fence is hideous is not doing it justice. The overlook was there for many years before this house was ever even thought of. Location location location, and you choose it now you have to live with it.

Cindy K.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:33 AM

hey, tony--i've had my car broken into twice in the past 3 months; think i can get some extra cops in my neighborhood? oh, wait--i live in lincoln park, so my concerns are no concerns of yours....guess i have to make 6 or 7 figures for anybody to listen to me.

Bob B.

09/25/2009 9:31 AM

I believe Skyline Parkway was there before these homeowners built their home. You can't build a house and then say "now that I have a house here, I want the city council to change everything around us ". All of this should have been taken into consideration by the homeowner before they decided to build a home at this location.

King L.

09/25/2009 9:27 AM

Whatever.

P N.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:24 AM

It's one thing to have a view... it's another to own it.

Mike S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:24 AM

The amount of class envy on this site is just amazing.

barry b.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:23 AM

This is NOT ABOUT ENVY!! This about people making an idiotic decision. We all make them and we all deal with them. Thier decision just happens to be where they chose to live. With every re-location I make in my life, I look for a place that suits my lifestyle best and that allows me to live with minimal environmental impact. Part of that, for me, is deciding that I will never build a house on an entirely new site -period. I moved into the Hillside because I can WALK to work, to the grocery store, to the gym, to EVERYWHERE that I need to go in my little life. I knew all about what this neighborhood was like. I knew the hospital helicoters would fly over, I anticipated rowdy behavior outside at night, I even expected vandalism of my property (and therefore pay \$\$ for insurance). I've ended up LOVING it. These people threw themselves out in the most high profile area that can be imagined. I don't know them but, they must not be from around here, or they wouldn't be whining. They clearly have unsurd EGOs.

m o.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:21 AM

Councilor Tony Cuneo needs to understand the role of the councilor is not to create a resolution on behalf of any constituent that wants one. He's pandering to some people with money. It is ridiculous for him to propose an ordinance he will vote against. The police chief's memo should have gone to the officers patrolling the area to solve the problem. Closing the area is a silly solution to a manageable problem.

Chris S.

Two Harbors, MN 09/25/2009 9:18 AM

Duluth should close all roads leading to this house. Close the air space over it as well. Then nobody will have to look at this eye sore!

geo m.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:16 AM

This idea is nothing new. They built a fence on east skyline parkway years ago east of vermilion road at the curve.

Grant .

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:16 AM

I ask: Which was there first, the overlook or the home? If someone wants to build a home, the first thing a rational person would do is to look at the site and determine what environment they will be building in. These home owners built with full knowledge that the skyline drive and the overlook existed. If they choose to proceed with construction that indicates they accept the site as is. Also, are the homeowners sure the problems are caused by those who "park" at the overlook or could the problems come from the Northwoods Childrens Home, some of whom have been known to do vandalizm including burning a church in the area. Perhaps the homeowners were extremely stupid to build where they did?

janis v.

Bessemer, MI 09/25/2009 9:15 AM

The homeowners are like celebrities.. once they draw attention to themselves, they want privacy! As a former Twin Ports resident, I side with many, and say they should have thought of that before building. This is complete nonsense!

Robert M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:14 AM

The fact that our city council even has to take time to discuss this is unfortunate. Maybe the council, or someone, should have discussed not letting these people build the house in the first place. It is a beautiful home, but an absolute eyesore on the city. It looks completely out of place, and ruined the pristine view of the hillside. And now they want to limit public access to public property, and our council is wasting their (our) time on this issue. Just another example of Duluth city politics at its finest. The homeowners should have thought out the decision on where to build their home better, and now they get what they get. That home never should have been built. What if they feel they have to wait too long to get out of their driveway onto Skyline? Will they ask the council to limit public driving on Skyline too? And what if homeowners on Park Point follow suit? Wil the council next be discussing public beach access?

Ryan K.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:14 AM

Closing the area is a ridiculous idea. Most of us do not need our freedom to take in a vista infringed on - BUT, let's not forget that a fair amout of knuckleheads to go there to smoke weed and drink and litter their McDonalds all over the place. Let's take a hard stance on enforcing the laws that exist instead of having a few morons ruin it for the rest of us.

Chris S.
Two Harbors, MN 09/25/2009 9:13 AM
What an ugly house.

Mickey P.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:13 AM
This is beyond ridiculous. This home owner already desimated the hillside with that hideous fence, and is blocking some of the view. I personally think that the city council should fine the owner for obstructing the view of a public place (you know city owned air space). This arrogant home owner new when they bought the property that Skyline was right there, they just believed that they could dictate to the city council what to do. I agree that the police maybe need to patrol that area a little more, but thats it. Really if you put up a "No Parking" sign, do you think kids are going to adhere to it? If they are doing what this home owner claims: Drinking, and vandalizing, aren't they already breaking the law? What is a sign going to do? If the city council approves such a stupid law, you are shutting down one of the nicest views in the midwest, and yes at night is when the view is best with all the lights. Tell the home owner to move if he doesn't like it. They knew what they were getting into when they bought the land. Oh Ya, and GET RID OF THAT UGLY FENCE!!!! It's hurting tourism.

Kristin L.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:12 AM
No it should not be closed. The lookout was there when they built. Our city continues to need quality park programs and good places for kids to go where proper supervision is available. While our city is struggling financially, we need to remember the cost to all of us if kids lives head the wrong direction. In Minneapolis when I worked for the park department we had wonderful programs that were accessible by foot for kids in most neighborhoods and they were used, kids knew the adults who worked at the park and the adults knew the kids and knew what was going on, it was a really positive thing.

Robb W.
Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:11 AM
Leave Skyline open, make the homeowners take down the fence, and if the issue is teenagers then DPD should be patrolling more.

David J.
Esko, MN 09/25/2009 9:11 AM
I fully support all the comments that this house is hideous. Property ownership does not give you the right to do whatever your heart desires. This is as bad as having a junkyard right next to a scenic parkway. City officials, please read these comments and protect the natural resources that Duluth has to offer, thats what makes this a desired destination and a nice place to live. If I had a vote, I would demolish this eyesore!

Allen B.
Riverview, FL 09/25/2009 9:02 AM
Hilarious! These idiots have really sealed their own fate! Having the arrogance to request a closure of the overlook 3 blocks from their property is ridiculous enough. But now that the so called "destructive juveniles" realize what these morons have done; their property is going to be a target FEVER. I grew up on the hillside, and kids and juveniles know who the bad homeowners are. They have ways to harass these people incessantly. These homeowners stupidity is going hurt them for a long time....

Duluth I.

Beverly Hills, CA 09/25/2009 9:02 AM

So let me get this straight. They built next to a scenic overlook and now they are complaining about the people using the scenic overlook? It makes perfect sense to me but I'm a moron.

kevin y.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 9:01 AM

Skyline was there long before these self righteous idiots. Who do you think you are? Move your damn house if you don't like the traffic.

April M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:59 AM

The home owners built a fence to block the view? City ordinance does not allow any fence to be taller than 6 feet. Are these people allowed to do whatever they want? I understand their concerns over the problems they have experienced but, they do not own that entire area and Duluth should NOT revolve around them. They should have thought of the pros and cons before building at that site.

Sherry D.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:58 AM

I consider this home to be a blight on our spectacular hillside. The Skyline Parkway is one of the unique assets of Duluth, and access to it should not be changed for these arrogant homeowners!!!!

nate m.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 8:55 AM

Sure, they deserve a peaceful setting, but don't the people who live in the less peaceful central hillside neighborhood deserve the same? I have a feeling there's more disruptive behavior down there that needs attention.

Dick T.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:51 AM

Complete crap! This is public land and overlook. and THIS IS THE WRONG SOLUTION - focus on the issue, not people's position in the conflict: The council should not be spending their time discussing this - there are many more important issues for their time. It is a police issue. They need to enforce the laws already on the books being broken - vandalism, underage consumption, assault, noise violations. Why add a new ordinance that impacts law abiding people? Just enforce the ones already on the books with more patrols.

Joel T.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:45 AM

It's ridiculous that they were allowed to put up that fence and block the view from any portion of skyline parkway! Mayor Snively, the grandfather of skyline parkway is turning over in his grave right now.

Adam S.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 8:45 AM

I think it is pretty ridiculous that the owners of the house want the overlook closed. They decided to muck up the view for everyone else and by doing so...they need to deal with the consequences. the view is just as gorgeous at night as it is during

the day and by closing the overlook...we would be robbed of that. I've seen this house from the Blatnik Bridge and it just looks out of place! what was once a great view of the hill and horizon is now blemished by that house.

Becky G.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:44 AM

Skyline parkway is for everyone. Instead of closing the lookout completely, simply send an officer out that way once in a while and start ticketing teens who are being destructive. Its enough that these people put this blemish they call a home on our hillside, don't let them control who uses it too.

Jeannie B.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:42 AM

Why in the world would they think that they have the right to limit hours at a public place 3 blocks away which was there long before they chose to build a home there, who do they think they are? People are going to like them even less now that use that over look!

Dena H.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:39 AM

I think it is stupid that they think just because they build a house in the middle of a hillside that they should be able to control everything around it. If they didn't want anyone around there house they should have built it in the country. I really feel that they should have took more time to see the activity that goes on around there and the traffic around there before they agreed to build there. I do agree it ruins the look of skyline parkway. I just cant believe that they got permits to build it there. I will really be upset with the city if they give in to them. If that goes though then can we all get new rules around are houses with are neighbors, I get vandalized around my house, but I don't go running to the city counsel to go and make new rules. They need to just deal with it they chose to build it there and now they will have to deal with it.

Melissa M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:33 AM

"It's is one of the most beautiful views of our city and is seen at night," Gardner said. "I would hate to be depriving people of that opportunity." The teenagers congretating there in large intimtating groups and throwing trash all over the place already do that.

Sarah M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:33 AM

maybe they should have thought of this before they built the house there. i drove by this house awhile ago and its in a bad spot anyway...i would be more worried about cars missing the turn and driving into their house! morons!

Michael P.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 8:30 AM

I'm not surprised at all by what is happening. These people have built a huge, beautiful home. But it's a Taj Mahal visible for miles. Nothing is there to provide any cover or camoufluge, and the rocky terrain provides little hope of much vegetitive cover ever. It sticks out on the landscape and is easily visible from the Wisconsin approach on the Bong Bridge. It is so prominent that it attracts unwanted attention, from the curious passerbys just interested in the scope of the construction to the juvenile vandals with nothing better to do. With next to no setback from Skyline Parkway I wonder if they have any privacy at all. In no way is this meant to minimize or excuse the innapropriate behavior. But the magnitude of the architecture and the nature of the location invites these problems into the area. I'm all for no parking around their driveway entrance, but to shut down the overlook, which has been a hallmark of Duluth's vista for years is an unreasonable request.

They don't own that overlook, it's paid for with taxpayer money, and was put there for the very purpose. Unfortunately, the only solution I see is more diversions of precious law enforcement to check on that overlook.

Mary Ann G.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 8:28 AM

If the people can afford to build a house there, they can hire private police to watch it. Arrogance!

Elizabeth U.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:25 AM

So this couple, that, obviously, has trillions of dollars, wants a public place to be restricted just because it's near their fancy new house?!?! Too damn bad!!! Guess they should've thought about where they were building....

jerry n.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:25 AM

Simple - What was there first the overlook or the house? What were the rules for the overlook when the house was built? Nothing about the overlook should change to appease the homeowner if the overlook was there first.

marilyn e.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:21 AM

I can't believe this. The man has already totally ruined the skyline. gee did you think about these issues before you built there...evidently not. so many are already angered by this matter and this request is certainly not going to improve their opinion. it only makes me more angry about it. I hope the citizens of Duluth put a stop to this matter right now and make sure the city council knows how they feel about it. VOTE NO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Matt M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:18 AM

This house should have never been allowed, period! It's a horrible eyesore for the whole city to enjoy. The entire population of Duluth and all of the tourists should camp out up there and enjoy the sites and cause horrible traffic jams for them. They should have kept their mouths shut, I can see more problems for them in the future!

D E.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:18 AM

The Parkway was there before they decided to build. They chose to live there. Deal with it!

robert b.

St. Paul/Woodbury, MN 09/25/2009 8:17 AM

The Skyline drive should never be closed to the public. These scenes are what makes Duluth great. If the people can afford to build these expensive homes in these areas, they can certainly install security systems and lights to counter the vandals. Why should the public be banned just because some hotshot with more money than most get his/her way. Loosen up that purse and install the security system. The DPD have other, more serious issues to deal with than to have to monitor one more area because someone wants an area closed off.

D E.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:16 AM

The Parkway was there before they decided to build. They chose to live there. Deal with it!

David W.

Mound, MN 09/25/2009 8:15 AM

I would like to know who was responsible for allowing a house to be built on that location. The structure and the fence is an eyesore that defaces a beautiful hillside.

ck w.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:13 AM

Look at any port city in the world that is on a body of water and you will see homes filling the hill sides. Progress people, progress. Leave the poor guy alone. Let him enjoy his view.

John B.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:08 AM

You've got to be kidding. You build a house that close to a lookout and don't expect to have people there. The kids is just an excuse. I go there often, and sometimes at night and have not seen destruction. Restrict it at night!! That is some of the most amazing beauty there is with the city lights, etc. And you want to take that away from me. If I have a problem with someone vandalizing my house I call the police. Get a life, you bought and built there...deal with it. Again, one person trying to take away the rights of many. I help pay for that skyline!!

cindy g.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 8:06 AM

That house has tarnished the view of the landscape--it sticks out like a sore thumb. Leave Skyline alone. Maybe this home owner should have put more thought into their construction plans prior to building. The view at night IS what many tourists and locals want to see--these homeowners will get the view all to themselves? NO WAY!!!

Brenda Lee R.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:04 AM

I agree with James Barnstorf, putting a house there has taken away from the beauty of the hillside.

Robin S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 8:00 AM

I have no sympathy for the homeowners. I live near the racetrack in Proctor. It was my choice to live there. It would be ludicrous of me to think that I have the right to complain about the noise level on Sunday nights or whenever there is an event taking place. Isn't it sad enough that they have marred the beautiful hillside of Duluth for their own use? I am sorry they have had problems with vandals but they have also vandalized the scenic beauty of Duluth.

Sue C.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:59 AM

Maybe the owners should have thought about the issues involved before starting construction. My understanding is that they grew up in Duluth, if that's the case they probably partied on the hillside when they were young. People who build and then decide they are entitled to have things changed to suit them are ridiculous!

Dan D.

Poplar, WI 09/25/2009 7:59 AM

Wow, maybe they should have checked out the neighborhood before they raped the hillside. It kind of looks like a BIG divot in a golf course up there - only you can replace a divot.

Tom K.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:56 AM

i completely agree with stauber. they have taken a famous stretch of road and built on it, who and why would someone sell or allow for this home to be built there? and i'm sorry just because they moved in doesn't mean the traffic and skyline lovers have to suffer. here is an idea..relocate!

Todd L.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:55 AM

what idiots - maybe they shouldn't have built on skyline then, if this goes through i am going to walk my dog by the house and make sure he leaves them a present as often as i can.

Mike C.

Tampa, FL 09/25/2009 7:54 AM

Envy...Stingy... its MY view, no one else's! I moved here, but no one else can build nearby! It has to look like I say it should! Let them throw things and break windows! Punish those people for spoiling MY view! Let me run for public office so I can make people live and act like.... "I" think they should...and the slugs will pay me a salary to do it! Is "live and let live", dead in Duluth? It appears that envy has been set free.

John I.

Finland, MN 09/25/2009 7:54 AM

I agree that it is a bit of an assault on the senses. It reflects a complete lack of consideration for other people. I'm not talking about the occasional car pulling up to the wayside and people talking and yes probably occasionally some yelling or goofing around. I'm talking about the home design itself, particularly the intense unshielded night lighting. As a resident of the north shore I appreciate the beauty of the night sky. I can see how others appreciate the view of the city at night. Obviously that's why they built this home where they did, to also enjoy that view. For them to suggest that others should not be able to use a wayside on a public street because it might somehow detract from their personal experience up there is rather arrogant.

chester k.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:53 AM

Is this another situation where the haves want the rest of the world to go away? Remember, money talks and the rest . . . !

D G.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:51 AM

Maybe they should have thought about that before they built there.

b k.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:49 AM

Money talks way too much these days. Would a counsilor bring forth any of my concerns? I doubt it because I'm a regular nobody. These folks on skyline just moved there, perhaps they should have done more research on the area before they put all that money into a place that makes them so miserable. I guess you can't buy happiness.

Pete P.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:49 AM

Skyline was there long before your eyesore of a house was, do you really expect the rest of the city to bend around your wishes? If the 80,000+ residents of this city can't enjoy the night view on skyline maybe 6 am - 10pm you can move your ugly house so the rest of us can enjoy the view of the hill during the day. You are class A "jerks" for this action. I hope they shoot the resolution down. You chose to build your house next to a teen hangout there live with it or take your eyesore elsewhere!

colleen w.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:46 AM

They knew that before the house was put up there. So why is it that you are so surprised that it is happening now. if you did not anyone around that house why built it there. Sorry if this makes anyone mad but it is just my opinion

Jessica P.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:44 AM

It always amazes me when someone moves into a certain area than immediately wants to change the area. You hear about this in suburbs around larger cities where a sub-division is near a few active farms and before to long the folks in the sub-division want to regulate the farmers due to the smell of manure etc... Hey...you moved next to the farm. Why should the farmer who's been there for 50 years have to change to meet your needs ? If this overlook is such a known problem why would you build a home next to it ? It sounds like this problem has been going on for quite some time. I feel bad for the people who had the windows broken, but maybe they should have researched the area a bit before building the home ??

Nancy C.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 7:43 AM

They should of thought of that before they built there. I so love the view there at night,looking over the city lights. It is a good thing they did not build by an airport, they would of had to ban planes at night also!!

J T.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:39 AM

For crying out loud, where does it end? If someone has the money to purchase the land, then they should be allowed to do so. Those whining that the house is "hidious" are just jealous because THEY cannot afford to build in that spot. As for the problems with people at the overlook at night, if there's so many complaints shouldn't the police be patrolling more often up there? What about those of us photography enthusiasts who actually use it for intended purposes, why do we have to suffer because some irresponsible and disrespectful kids can't control their behaviour? Make the punishment fit the crime; patrol up there, bust the kids, then sentance them to cleaning the area up. Oh wait, I forgot, the judges around here don't like to hand out strict sentances because then they have to do paperwork instead of go play golf. I don't blame the officers themselves, they are just following their schedules, but whoever is in charge in that department NEEDS to get their head out of their patootie and assign an officer to patrol up there very frequently.

Larry H.

Cloquet, MN 09/25/2009 7:36 AM

I have never heard of such selfish homeowners in my 28 years in the real estate business. I hope the city stands against them. They should be rebuked and the overlook built by the CCC during the last depression left open for the public to view at night when it is so colorful and dazzling.

Mike B.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 7:36 AM

I love it! Someone in this area does well for themselves and those less fortunate complain. I'm wondering why the Duluth news tribune photographers haven't taken a photo of the overlook. I was there yesterday and it looks like a dump. For those complaining about the view from skyline there was none before they built the house so stop whining. There are hardly any views left since the tree huggers won't let any brush get cut down.

Bruce H.

Cloquet, MN 09/25/2009 7:35 AM

They should have thought of this before they built that eyesore.

Kathleen W.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 7:34 AM

Was Skyline there first or was the house there first? Let's see. They chose to build there after the overlook was all ready there so they were aware of it. They have to right to have this closed and we have every right to have it continue to be opened. Depending on how affluent this person is and who's back pocket he/she is in will determine whether they get what they want.

Anne K.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:34 AM

If these people didn't want to live next to a public scenic overlook, they should have bought and built elsewhere. If there is underage drinking going on, regardless of where it is, that can be addressed with existing laws. In fact, if there are only a few places in the city where kids congregate to do this, that's all the better... easier to round them up!

Terry J.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:31 AM

Tear down the house and move away. The amount of vandalism it's getting should give you a good idea of what a lot of people think of it being there.

Leah W.

Silver Bay, MN 09/25/2009 7:30 AM

If owners have 13 acres, why build your beautiful mansion directly below the wonderful lookout where you knew people came day and night? Leah

Spring B.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:30 AM

Money talks and wins again!

A R.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:29 AM

I frequently visit the parking areas on Skyline PARKWAY and often it is late at night because the view is just pain beautiful. I have never witnesses any of the things these people are complaining about. I would guess the vandalism they've seen at their house is people upset about the disgusting house on the hill. Maybe they should call the police while these events are happening instead of reporting it afterwards, although I have a feeling what they reported was greatly exaggerated. I just hope the councilors remember that when Snively started his road, he wanted a parkway for everyone to enjoy the view of Duluth, not just those rich enough to carve their way onto the side of the hill.

Scott L.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:28 AM

Isnt this closing the barn door after horses are out? If you didn't want noise from an overlook or problems that arise from living in the city. DON'T BUILD A NEW HOUSE IN THE CITY.

Heidi Z.

Minneapolis, MN 09/25/2009 7:25 AM

Um, where was the realtor who should've explained the Skyline traffic? Do they wonder why maybe no locals had purchasred the property? If you want to live in one of the most scenic areas of duluth, then be prepared to deal with one of the only natural attractions Duluth has to offer. You can't have your big house, with your big view, and expect privacy when you live on Skyline. Besides, that house looks terrible in the beautiful hillside. I hope the city council votes to keep it open for the sake of Duluthians.

J. M. W.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 7:21 AM

They knew Skyline Drive was there before they built that monstrosity up there, ruining the view for all city residents and all our tourist visitors. Another case of screw the populace, and blame us for their poor planning, and the owners not concerned with anything other than their own greedy selfishness. What the city should do is void all their building permits and bulldoze that eyesore flat. People who have more money than sense expecting us to run out of their way when they wave their cash around.

vince r.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 7:20 AM

Boo....hoo....hoo

M S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:18 AM

Bill has always been a whiner

j k.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:18 AM

I thought Skyline Parkway was a road that was open to anyone to drive on and park to look at the views. They must not have investigated the area before they decided to build the 'eyesore'! They must feel they had enough money to buy the 13 acres--build the 'eyesore'--and now they are able to dictate how the overlook can be used. WOW, who do they think they are??? I would imagine some of Duluth's forefathers are rolling over in the their graves!

matthew m.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:14 AM

first the rape the natural beautiful view of the skyline block it off and now want to keep people from observing one of the best views in duluth lmao I hope their house slides down the hill.

Kim R.

Mcgregor, MN 09/25/2009 7:11 AM

I am a photographer and frequently park on the skyline to photograph passing storms and the city at night. I often encounter other photographers and sunrise lovers long before 6am. I have never seen a vandal, by the way. You will deny us access to our beautiful views for one household?

T C.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:10 AM

Kind of sounds like some other people I know.... "I own the lakeshore, so I own the lake!" I used to enjoy the view from there at night, especially when there is a full moon. The police do patrol the area, but maybe they should drive by more frequently.

David J.

Esko, MN 09/25/2009 7:08 AM

The hillside view of Duluth is one of our most valuable assets, I hear about it all the time from people that come into Duluth from out of town. This eye sore of a house is horrible. Somehow, the remaining hillside needs to be protected from development. These folks have tarnished the land forever and now they want to control the Skyline overlooks, NO WAY!

tom b.

Rogers, MN 09/25/2009 7:05 AM

Hey people, if you are bothered by this new home being built, you should have bought the property!

Curt A.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:04 AM

Also, if the home is the one in the picture, then it is an ugly house. If some one is going to build a home that everyone can see, it should at least look intentional. If anything, the city should have stricter standards on what constitutes acceptable standards for building design. Putting your home on a hill in plain sight of the community is a responsibility and placing a home so haphazardly designed in play view is not only selfish, but puts a person's tackiness on display for all too. When a visitor to the community sees this, they see tackiness as a representation of what duluth is.

Tad M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:02 AM

I can't get a no parking sign in front of my driveway after having the police tow over a dozen cars from there, and one person makes a phone call and gets on the agenda for a city council meeting to close a section of Skyline??? Money talks. Did money talk to you Mr. Cuneo?

s p.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 7:00 AM

Hay buddy.....you chose to build your house there, the overlook was there long before you and the problems didn't just start because you decided to put your house on the hill. that stuff has been going on there for years. get real.

Curt A.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:57 AM

I think we have too many parking restrictions in this community already. Failure by the home owners to realize that the place they had chosen to build was near a place where people often parked is not a city problem. A little foresight would have told them to accept this or build somewhere else. The overlook belongs to all people. Closing it off would be like telling the community that it belongs to one home owner. I personally believe that even bringing the resolution forward represents weakness on the part of city council members. The city should not waste its time pandering to the petty concerns of one selfish citizen.

R D.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:53 AM

I'm telling you right now. You'll never get any sign that restricts people from traveling skyline and stopping anytime of the night or day to view Duluth and Superior. If you feel threatened, move. I personally think that new house is an eye sore to skyline, above Wheeler field. No one should have any right too that land. It takes away from the hill, having to see someone with money, just plant a house anywhere he or she pleases. So, if it bothers you so much that people have traveled that part of Duluth, since Mayor Snively built it, move. Get the heck out, we don't need you and your kind. You don't own Duluth, and have no right to tell people they can or cannot travel and stop on skyline any hour of the day or night. You wanna live in a communist state, move too Russia and build your mansion in Red Square in Moscow, you idiot.

robert l.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:52 AM

I have lived in the Duluth area all my life.. I dont think skyline drive should be closed off. MAYbe a bit more police patrolling..?? BUt what about the tourists who come through town after ten wanting to see the lights.. It kinda does disturb me that just one home owner can change everything.. (JUst cause they have a bit of money??) I actually wish they would clear some of the trees and brush that has grown in over the years so people could enjoy the beautiful view along sklyine drive. It wasnt meant for just one family to enjoy.Maybe they should have thought about building there... when they already knew that others would be stopping near by... ITs not their own personal hill ..

j l.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:52 AM

omg!! who do these people think they are? no they can't just close the overlook because these two people want it done now. if they would like to give back to the city..they can volunteer their time to be a citizens patrol and watch "over" the outlook for the people of duluth.

KEVIN C.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:52 AM

Move or hire private security, We all would would like to have our own little world on top of the hill if we had the money to buy it. What next, turn the city lights off at certain times because they keep you up at night. Come on, if you have that much money to build there, hire a security outfit.. and will you keep them there after your house is built.. how far wil people have to stay away from your home after it is built. Get real, It's public land.

beth d.

Cameron, WI 09/25/2009 6:50 AM

Too Bad!! Move!

Marie M.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 6:44 AM

I say no to parking restrictions. Deal with the teenagers that are causing the disturbances. Do not limit all others that want to park and enjoy one of the most beautiful scenes in the area.

jon w.

Tecopa, CA 09/25/2009 6:37 AM

Let's see if I have this straight? These people built this nifty home. Spent a lot of money on it....and then the city goes and goes and builds the Skyline Parkway right behind it. People have the gall to stop and view the view from behind their spendid home. This further annoys the homeowners....after all it is their dream castle. The city needs to do the right thing and move the road. At least a mile away.

nate m.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 6:35 AM

Booo!

Chris S.

Two Harbors, MN 09/25/2009 6:34 AM

Wow, um, I don't know what to say. DR Z., can you help me out here?

Rose H.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:26 AM

Although there's no way that it's ever ok to vandalize property or throw garbage and break beer bottles along the road, I can't help but wonder, ironically, who is the "obtrusive" one here? I, like many others, have speculated about how/why this "home" was invading (errr, I mean being built) along the western hillside. Let me remind the invaders (sorry, I mean home owners) and our city council, that there are others besides those out-of-control vandals who like to enjoy the splendid nighttime view from skyline parkway in the area mentioned. As far as I'm concerned, this home has become a blight on the skyline and invaded our parkway. It sticks out like a sore thumb and doesn't seem to fit the environment. Now, to have the builders of this monstrosity complaining to the city and taking up the time of our police chief and city council, only adds insult to injury. In my opinion, this area should never be zoned for development if Duluth is to maintain some untouched greenspace, not to mention the integrity of the view Skyline Drive offers both locals and tourists alike. I was recently on the other end of Skyline Drive (Hawk Ridge area) on a clear, starry night, only to be blasted from somewhere just below by the rowdy sounds of a party. It's too late to take back what has already been built, however, it's not too late for Duluth to wise up and not allow any further construction that would interrupt the natural beauty of the western end of Skyline Parkway. Maybe the new home owners should hang out at the overlook where they want "no parking" signs one night and see who they can meet with an open mind instead of spending so much time defending their ivory tower just down the road? It's obvious these folks are privileged to build such a place, however, that does not make them entitled to ruin the area for the enjoyment of others. R. H., Duluth

troy e.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:25 AM

Bill agenter owns the property. and pays taxes on said property ,why shouldnt he have the right to build on it!!! it is a beutiful house with an awesome view !

Mark L.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:20 AM

This is a no brainer, the city council should vote no just because of the concerns of one home owner.

Steven S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:18 AM

It's an inappropriate location for a house. Like Jim Stauber, I think the house is hideous.

Reggie B.

Superior, WI 09/25/2009 6:14 AM

All of a sudden someone builds on the parkway and are trying to dictate ordinances for their own personal satisfaction. I'm sure they were aware of the situation before construction started. They will ALWAYS have incidences where they now live. Perhaps they should have built on the Central Hillside.

Robert G.

Canyon, MN 09/25/2009 6:09 AM

This area was Lovers Lane for over 75 years before they began building. What do these nit wits think was going to change?

Bob

Kim L.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 6:07 AM

The overlook has been there forever! They knew all about the area, hopefully, before they built their home. They never should have been allowed to build there in the first place- it's an eyesore and takes away from all of the natural beauty. Do they think skyline is only for them now? Come on!!!! lk

Chris B.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 5:54 AM

I want this house that is currently under construction to be demolished, and our beloved view returned immediately. How dare they be so arrogant as to think they "own" Skyline Parkway and the views that belong to the citizens. Many of us lived here long before this hideous home was constructed. The house needs to be razed immediately, the owners should publicly apologize, all this before it causes us further heartache and damage. Indeed! P.S...the overlook is considered a park and there is such a thing as park hours so they will just have to learn how to "deal"....

Bear T.

Ely, MN 09/25/2009 5:39 AM

And those home owners REALLY can't figure out why this is happening to them? They are the problem to start with!

Jim J.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 5:24 AM

One has to sympathize with the homeowners plight of vandalism and loud noise. The police will have to step up their efforts because the City Council will not rescue them. The Council's responsibility is to protect the interests of 'all' citizens of Duluth and provide full access to these unique public resources. Citizens have been parking and partying in that area for

decades and the overlooks provide unparalleled views of the city at night. The affluent homeowners will have little recourse because they moved into the nuisance, the outrage over sullyng the hillside, and the perception of a sense of entitlement and exclusivity will win few Council votes. These unfortunate homeowners who invested a considerable sum building their dream home will have an uphill battle and meet with vociferous opposition in their attempt to restrict Duluthians from any public amenity or parking.

jon d.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 5:24 AM

Who in the hell do these people think they are? Having grown up in West Duluth and living in Piedmont currently I was horrified when I first noticed the structure being built. Its great to see that the Council at this time is not in favor of this STUPID idea. Though my days of youthful exuberance are over, if my wife and I decided we wanted to look at the lights at 10:15 in the evening from the overlook and where shoed away by the cops it might make me want to break a window or two. Though I wouldn't, other people may.

ryan b.

Hancock, MI 09/25/2009 5:18 AM

Why do people continually complain about what others do with their propert. "It tarnishes the view of the hillside"? Too bad, if you didn't want something put there, you should have bought the property.

Jeff P.

Merrimack, NH 09/25/2009 4:58 AM

I think they should stop their whining or their building. One or the other. It is not like this is something that just started to happen when the started to build.

ginny b.

New Castle, IN 09/25/2009 4:44 AM

Earlier this year while visiting Duluth I took my skyline drive, as I always do and enjoy only to be in shock to discover a home being built! I think it compromises the integrity of a wonderful landmark in the city. I would hope no more homes will be built and certainly the restriction of no parking will NOT be enforced just to satisfy one homeowner. Nighttime is one of the most beautiful sights to behold. Please pass something to prohibit the sale and building of additional homes instead!

Danielle B.

Glyndon, MN 09/25/2009 3:58 AM

Mabye they shouldn't have built there house there than. Dont ruin the Skyline for everyone, just b/c some people dont want to be disturbed. They built there house in a popular area, they should deal with it.

Robin P.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 3:40 AM

#1 why buy land alone there if you don't want the view...(why did they put up a fence?) #2 this sounds to me like some one is going to be NOTHING but trouble. #3 it's a beautiful view at night and it's not fair to take that way just because ONE family want's it...no one else there has any issue's. Don't give them what they want it's only that 1st step to them controlling even more things as time goes on.

Mike M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 3:28 AM

What a crock of crap! Go buy a different piece of land! They knew that the parking spot was there when they bought the property. What do they expect? I would hate for someone to actually have to do some police work and actually patrol the area, or worse yet, the rich folk in the house may be seen by us common folk?! Oh no, god forbid!

Larry L.

Minneapolis, MN 09/25/2009 3:27 AM

"we have observed many teenagers who park in this scenic out-look area, sometimes during the day, but mainly at night, and carry on in an obtrusive manner by throwing cans and beer bottles out of their car windows onto the ground, hollering loudly and fighting outside of their cars." What? Really?

Jeffrey H.

Maple, WI 09/25/2009 2:34 AM

Why not just give them the whole skyline parkway as a driveway. Nobody is going to have much use for it after the red plan taxes everybody out of their homes.

Dan H.

09/25/2009 2:25 AM

Who put a gun to his head and forced him to build a house there? Skyline Drive exists for residents and visitors to be able to enjoy the incredible city views from the parking areas. This guy is either not a real deep thinker or he's incredibly arrogant to expect the rest of the city to cater to his whims.

gary k.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:56 AM

The corner of Skyline and 40th west has been littered with broken beer bottles, booze bottles and other debris. Proof? Take a ride by on either a saturday morning or even better a sunday morning EARLY....before the City has a chance to pay overtime and have it cleaned up. It's been a filthy mess for years. Mr. Agenter has every right as does his neighbor if the land was for sale to build on the site with City approval, and I'm sure he had to go through everyone of the Hoops and climb Rung of the Ladder to get permits. He did what he had to do to build.....now let's get the City to do theirs as well!!!!!!

xxx y.

09/25/2009 1:34 AM

I think that this overlook should be closed, especially for the Fourth of July fireworks. RIGHT!!! Sorry landowners, but I hope you lose big time on your request. Yep, it sure make sense to close down this lookout just for this one house. Give me me break!!!!!! I've got an idea, why don't you just move back to Florida, and take you house with you!!!

Mike S.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 1:16 AM

It's amazing. Somebody worked hard to succeed enough to build a beautiful home, they pay more taxes than probably many other Duluthians, and people in this town get their feelbads hurt. I guess nobody is supposed to actually try to succeed anymore.

Julie B.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:55 AM

Okay, here's my problem with this whole thing: There are a "few" more parcels up there on Skyline, for sale, by the City, so next, ALL of skyline is going to be closed down? The owners of these new homes up there KNEW full well that this was and always has been a SCENIC drive , DAY or NIGHT! It is beautiful up there at night, when it is clear outside, and now THEY want to take this away from everyone? I had NO problem with this land being sold off for whatever reasons, however, I have a HUGE problem with someone trying to take what has been ours all of our lives, away from us! Get yourself an alarm system and some REALLY HUGE KICK A** out door dogs, post signs that tell E1 to BEWARE OF DOGS ! If you can afford to buy this land, and build this BIG beautiful home, then you can afford to protect it! And, on the off chance you aren't from this area, then you SHOULD HAVE DONE YOUR HOMEWORK before you bought and built up there!

kirsten h.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:43 AM

In every town i have lived in has laws to prevent blocking views and houses can be a certain height when you live where there is a view duluth well they do not seem to have that block the view of the lake from your neighbor that live above you or build a business to do it like they did across from the church on skyline and rice lake the laws in duluth need some help

Judy M.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:40 AM

I was wondering if I could get a sign by my house asking the truckers to keep the noise of their trucks down, or the firetrucks that race by all hours of the night to be a little quieter. Please! You built the house, now enjoy it. Just because it was your dream, doesn't make you king and queen. Grow up and put up with the stuff we all have to live with.

mike s.

Duluth, MN 09/25/2009 12:37 AM

I'm sorry but the "natural beauty" of Duluth has already been tarnished and was so long ago. There are numerous spots along Skyline where development has crept in. It's a fact of life and in this economy, if you have the ability to sell prime real estate, you sell it. These people have as much a right to living in a peaceful setting as any other homeowner does.

Published September 25 2009

Brandon Stahl, Duluth News Tribune

Homeowners want access to Skyline overlook restricted

From the scenic overlook on Skyline Parkway about a mile east of 40th Avenue West, you can see breathtaking views of Duluth, Lake Superior, the St. Louis River and the Bong and Blatnik Bridges.

Might a view of a "No Parking" sign be next?

The Duluth City Council could vote Monday night to close the overlook to parked cars from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. because of concerns of the owners of a three-story home under construction about three blocks away. Their issue, they say, is people who use the spot during those times cause problems.

"Over the past three months," wrote Bill Agenter in an April letter to Police Chief Gordon Ramsay, "we have observed many teenagers who park in this scenic out-look area, sometimes during the day, but mainly at night, and carry on in an obtrusive manner by throwing cans and beer bottles out of their car windows onto the ground, hollering loudly and fighting outside of their cars."

Councilor Tony Cuneo, who chairs the council's public safety committee, is sponsoring the resolution after being contacted by the police department, which put him in touch with the home's other owner, Karen Martichuski. She told Cuneo that

their home has been vandalized numerous times, including having all its windows smashed out.

Cuneo initially thought Agenter and Martichuski wanted to ban night parking near the driveway in front of their home, but later learned they wanted parking banned at night at the overlook as well.

He said he'll still bring the resolution forward, but is "leaning toward" voting against it.

"I don't have any real issues with councilors putting an idea by a citizen on the table for discussion," he said.

"We should take requests and concerns from the citizens seriously, whether or not we support them."

Councilors Gary Eckenberg, Jay Fosle and Sharla Gardner already spoke out against the resolution during a Thursday agenda session meeting.

"It's one of the most beautiful views of our city and is seen at night," Gardner said. "I would hate to be depriving people of that opportunity."

Agenter counters that most city parks and beaches at Park Point are closed from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. When asked why he wanted to close the overlook at night, he advised the News Tribune to park at the site.

"You'll understand why anybody that lives anywhere near that area would like that closed from 10 to 6," Agenter said.

The home, which sits on 13 acres, already has engendered some bad feelings from people living below it. The City Council heard from neighbors earlier this year when builders needed easements to connect electric and gas lines. The couple also put up a fence in front of the home, blocking the view from Skyline Parkway. Councilor Jim Stauber called it "hideous."

Some residents also feel that the home tarnishes the view of the Hillside. James Barnstorf, for example, who rides the bus from West Duluth to Downtown every day for work, said he believes the natural beauty of the hillside has been "assaulted."

"The beauty of Duluth has been sacrificed for one person," he said.