

From: [Don Golembiewski](#)
To: [Martin, Arvina](#)
Cc: [Beck, Drew](#); [Board of Public Works](#); [Irene Golembiewski](#)
Subject: Bus stops on Toepfer Ave.
Date: Friday, October 2, 2020 10:36:25 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello Alder Martin,

I am writing to convey my serious concerns over the proposed placement of new bus stop pads on the reconstruction of Toepfer Ave. where I live. I am at 449 Toepfer Ave.

I have an undated "Fact and Details Sheet: Toepfer Avenue, Holly Avenue, Euclid Ave, an Assessment District - 2019" listing the bus stops by home address after construction of Toepfer Ave. is completed.

On Wednesday, September 30, "Reed" from the city engineers office, hand delivered a letter dated September 30, 2020 from R. Drew Beck, Metro Transit Planning Manager stating that a new bus pad will be constructed in front of our property on our side of the street not according to the approved plan.

This is unacceptable for a number of reasons.

1. We did not have an opportunity to express our opinions on this last-minute change of an approved plan to an abrupt and last minute alteration. We are now aware of the Zoom meeting on October 7 and we request that our concerns are taken seriously.
2. We question the need for changes to the past locations of bus stops. What is the rationale for moving them?
3. I question whether anyone conducted an actual, on-site assessment of possible bus stop locations. For other nearby bus stops, the location is not directly in front of the front entrance of residences. The new proposal places the bus stop directly in front of our front porch we use for safe distance socializing. We are located close to the street as well. A bus stop so close to our front porch would be totally disruptive and is not necessary. Past locations were sited either between or on the side of homes away from front entrances or were placed where no front porch suitable for social gatherings is evident. No one paid attention to our home or potential use of our property. It seemed that a decision was made absent any concern for how a property is configured or is sited near the street or is oriented.
4. Another new bus pad is also proposed directly in front of our home but on the other side of the street for west bound buses. So, we are being hit with not one, but two very intrusive, side-by-side bus stops directly in front of our home's front porch. I also question the safety of this arrangement as buses can be stuck in snow or otherwise disabled and to have two buses blocking traffic is an unnecessary safety hazard as Toepfer is a busy street. Additionally, people with mobility limitations can extend the bus stopping times leading to a greater possibility for the road to be blocked on both sides of the street. This is a hazard. Toepfer Ave. gets a lot of commuters, truck traffic and young kids walking to and from school and having this situation presents a seriously hazardous situation. I suggest that the bus stops be staggered and not be side-by-side and be placed where they do not intrude on anyone's front entrance. Property values matter.

I have left two voice messages for Mr. Beck but have not gotten a response. I will cc the Board of Public Works and Mr. Beck with this email to you and look forward to hearing from all parties. I will also invite Mr. Beck to join me to conduct a personal walking site assessment of Toepfer Ave. to explore better options. My wife and I walked the street yesterday and it only took a few minutes to assess potential bus stops.

Thank you, Mr. Beck for informing me that "There will be no charge to you for this transit upgrade."

Thank you for looking into this situation.

I can be reached at 608-445-0096 or by email – don.golembiewski@gmail.com

Don Golembiewski

cc: R. Drew Beck

boardofpublicworks@cityofmadison.com