From: <u>Tom Stevens</u>

To: <u>Transportation Commission</u>

Subject: Opposition to Pontiac Trail reconstruction plans

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Transportation Committee Members:

I am writing to state officially our family's opposition to the current options for the Pontiac, Boston, Nakomis, and Rosewood reconstruction.

We have lived on Pontiac for about twenty years, and the street has been in disrepair since we moved into this beautiful neighborhood. It has only gotten worse as the years have gone on, with little maintenance done to prevent street flooding, eroding pavement, etc. We are glad that the City has recognized this and is willing to improve the road.

However, the current plans (Options 1 and 2, presented by City Engineering) are overkill. Specifically, the City's insistence on sidewalks on both sides of the street. I believe most neighbors understand that the neighborhood would benefit from a sidewalk. It would be safer for kids going to school, folks walking their dog, etc. One side of the street has sporadic sidewalks already and it makes sense to improve on that already existing infrastructure.

Due to various disabilities, my family is home nearly around the clock. We see how Pontiac is used daily. We disagree that this a "main thoroughfare" (I don't remember exactly how Engineering presented this, but that was the idea). It makes little sense to assume that residents of the apartments on Hammersley would come down Pontiac to get to Midvale. It is much more likely they would simply continue on Hammersley to the traffic light and proceed from there. It would be closer and benefit from existing traffic controls.

In a time of tight budgets and uncertain politics, it seems imprudent to spend taxpayer money on something that doesn't need to happen in the way the City is planning. The Madison Green Streets project overall makes sense, but not when it is blindly imposed. We encourage you to consider Option 3 as presented by Layne Larson.

Most important to us, though, it what a major expansion of Pontiac will do to the character of the neighborhood. It is a beautiful neighborhood with many large, old trees. Please don't damage that.

Tom Stevens, Tess Mattis, and Benjamin Stevens

933 Pontiac Trail