

From: [Kierstin Kloeckner](#)
To: [Tolley, Sabrina](#)
Subject: FW: SW commuter path
Date: Wednesday, November 21, 2012 2:23:24 PM

I am forwarding a message I just sent to the alders. Thank you.

Kierstin Kloeckner
Head Personal Trainer, Pilates and yoga instructor, USA Cycling coach, Parkinson's director
608-831-6500 ext.2347
kierstin@harborathletic.com

From: Kierstin Kloeckner
Sent: Wednesday, November 21, 2012 2:22 PM
To: allalders@cityofmadison.com
Cc: amanda.white@bfw.org
Subject: SW commuter path

Hello alders,

I am aware of the upcoming meeting on Wednesday regarding the lighting issues on the SW commuter path. I am not able to attend the meeting so I would like to add my comments via e-mail.

As a year round bike commuter for over twenty years, I am very concerned about the safety of other commuters and pedestrians. I am happy to see so many people using the SW commuter path, however, I see several issues with the current conditions. Ideally, I would like to see a separate walking/bike path running next to each other. I understand that this is not a viable option at the time, so the best option to keep both parties safe would be lighting on the path. There have been several instances, especially in fall/winter/spring that I have almost crashed into pedestrians walking with dark clothes on or have been almost tripped by dog leashes. I have also had a few close calls with debris on the path that I didn't see until the last minute. Because there is no way to manage people that choose not to wear lights, the only option is to install lighting on the path. If this were a road, there would be no questions asked...the lights would just be installed.

As concerns over climate change and obesity increase, hopefully we will see even more people using the commuter paths. We need to think proactively regarding this issue and make the paths more accessible to everyone.

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