

**From:** [Josh Olson](#)  
**To:** [Transportation Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Beltline PEL Study - Send to Common Council for a Resolution  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 6, 2026 10:41:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

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Hi,

I think the Transportation Commission should ask Common Council to take a position on adding a general lane or extending the flex lane.

I also think TC should provide their answers/recommendations for the following questions to Common Council to help them take a position.

- Does the city support adding general purpose lanes?
- Does the city support extending the flex lane?
- Does the city support the weave structures?
- Does the city support interchange reconstructions?
- Does the city have any concerns about roadway and ped/bike connections?
- Should additional connections be considered?
- Should anything else be considered?

I do not support adding a general purpose lane. I do not support extending the flex lane. We should do whatever we can to avoid taking on additional highway maintenance in the future to help save money and keep our budget in line. We risk future revenue sources and increasing congestion with all the externalities associated with it.

I understand that WISDOT is concerned with population growth. It would be helpful to walk them through cities with similar growth patterns to ours and finding examples where highway expansion did not help. Put the burden of proof on WISDOT to show that with population concerns, highway expansion helped with expected congestion. Many DOTs have traffic models that do not perform/are not accurate and underestimate the need for expansion.

My guess is that it did not help with congestion, it cost billions, and it took decades. This is construction we can avoid.

I also understand we have several City Staff and elected officials that are on the TAC and PAC groups.

Ben Zellers	Planner, Comprehensive Planning & Regional Cooperation Sec	City of Madison
Urvashi Martin	Transportation Planner	City of Madison
Peter McKeever	Appointee	CARPC
Jason Valerius	Executive Director	CARPC
Meagan Tuttle	DPCED Planning Director	City of Madison
Mike Cechvala	Metro Transit Planner	City of Madison
Jim Wolfe	City Engineer	City of Madison Engineering Dept
Chris Petykowski	City Engineering	City of Madison Engineering Dept
Yang Tao	Director of Traffic Engineering	City of Madison Traffic
Tom Mohr	Assistant Director of Traffic Engineering	City of Madison Traffic
Sean Malloy	Traffic Engineer	City of Madison Traffic
Christof Spieler	Transportation Director	City of Madison
Robbie Webber	Madison Bikes Board of Directors and City of Madison Transport	City of Madison and Madison Bikes Inc.
John W. Duncan	Alderperson, Dist. 1	City of Madison
Joann Pritchett	Alderperson, Dist. 9	City of Madison
Yannette Figueira Cole	Alderperson, Dist. 10	City of Madison
Bill Tishler	Alderperson, Dist. 11	City of Madison
Isadore Knox, Jr.	Alderperson, Dist. 14	City of Madison
Sean O'Brien	Alderperson, Dist. 16	City of Madison
John P. Guequierre	Alderperson, Dist. 19	City of Madison
Barbara Harrington-McKinney	Alderperson, Dist. 20	City of Madison

If Common Council does take a position on this, and if that position is no, I hope these PAC and TAC members can continue to reiterate that expansion is not desired in Madison.

Josh Olson