

Harnish, Sharon L

From: Nicholas Davies <nbdavies@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 18, 2022 12:21 PM
To: Transportation Policy Board
Subject: Shady Wood Plan should make bike/ped plans for Woods Rd explicit

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Dear TPPB,

The Shady Wood plan talks very specifically about plans for an off-street path along Mid Town Rd, which will be really important and useful. But for Woods Rd, it confusingly doesn't include such language.

Although Map 10 visually includes a proposed path along Woods Rd, the text of the plan notably omits this. A path along Woods Rd would be just as important as the one along Mid Town Rd, or perhaps moreso.

My experience biking Woods Rd has been mixed: at times you can bike the length of it and not get passed at all, or you can have a harrowing experience with a motorist who sees the 45 mph limit as an entitlement and anyone else using the road as an inconvenience. With that posted speed limit, the narrow roadway is a blessing and a curse--it makes motorists with any common sense slow down to a more sensible speed and be cautious about passing, but then there's the other kind of driver too.

Currently Woods Rd has zero pedestrian accommodations, even though it's effectively part of the Ice Age Trail today. Pedestrian accommodations will only become more crucial as the neighborhood fills in.

I'm asking that the Shady Wood Plan include the same verbal description of the intended multi-use path along Woods Rd, so that the plan's conspicuous silence on the topic can't be used as justification for lax road safety in future.

Furthermore, lowering the speed limit on Woods Rd, to match current road conditions, is something the city could do immediately, instead of waiting for an occasion to do so, whether it's a rebuild or a traffic death. In its physical design, it's a 30 mph road. Pretending it's a 45 mph road isn't doing anyone any good.

Thank you,

Nick Davies
3717 Richard St