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To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Agenda item 70385 Reconstruction of LMD
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The engineering-dominated plan that has not been sufficiently enunciated for this project needs to slow down and give far greater thought to what Spring Harbor residents feel is important. The planning to-date has been overly engineering oriented and has not properly taken into account the unique and beautiful ambiance afforded by Lake Mendota Drive. There is little doubt that if the project goes forward in its current form, one of the most beautiful, scenic streets in Madison will be degraded in the name of greater vehicular efficiency. What a wasted expenditure of time and money, not to mention city beauty, this will be if not rethought. Moreover, there has been essentially no cognizance shown of the fact that just east of the project LMD goes through Shorewood Hills wherein sidewalks will not exist. As someone who walks the length of LMD multiple times per week, sidewalks are not needed, nor are they any kind of improvement. I'm not aware of any collisions having occurred along LMD between cars and walkers. Also, those of us who walk this road do not magically stop when reaching Shorewood Hills. Rather, we see all of LMD as a unique stretch to walk or bike along. Putting in sidewalks just leads to a daisy chain of downstream outcomes, such as further narrowing LMD for terraces to hold plowed snow, take down trees, etc., that are not an issue as long as sidewalks are not installed. The city engineering staff appear to act as if this area is some sort of new subdivision, as opposed to the historical and unique area it is. Others in the Spring Harbor neighborhood have spoken about the pollution and Native American effigy issues associated with this project, and those issues are quite valid. My intent here is to show why the current plan is a badly thought-out idea from an aesthetic, livability standpoint.

There's a famous saying in the world of medicine - "First, do no harm." The current plan is a great example of what can happen when one ignores this principle.

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