

Dailey, Janet

From: T&D Bresenham [dandt2@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2009 4:37 PM
To: Dailey, Janet
Subject: Blackhawk Rd Expansion

Janet,

It was a pleasure discussing the Blackhawk Rd expansion project with you this afternoon.

From the City of Madison spreadsheet, I understand that we own parcel number 0708-164-0131-2 R1 – at 9124 Aspen Grove

As you know, there is a meeting this evening to discuss the road project. We would like to express our lack of support for the project. I will likely not attend the meeting to participate in family events – two soccer games for two of our children. I understand that you may be able to pass on our views of the project.

We do not support the road project if the city would like us to fund curbs, gutters, and four feet of the road.

Overview – Roads with a traffic volume as Blackhawk Rd. are not local roads. We funded our neighborhood roads when our house was built in 1999. Blackhawk Rd. is not a neighborhood road. Most of the traffic continues onward to the west in addition to numerous bicyclers starting their western bicycling trek. The road is a public good with little local connection to our house.

Our reasoning, from a more detailed perspective,

1. 1999 improvement only please.....not perpetual improvements.... We purchased a property with curb and gutters installed in 1999. We are surprised that we are required to fund additional curb and gutters and four foot of roadway in 2009 as part of our property improvements. Our capital improvement contribution to roads was made in 1999.
2. We don't abut Blackhawk Rd.... There is a distinct separation between our property and Blackhawk Rd. There is a subdivision easement with a substantial fence and landscaping which we do not control. We do not have a say in the fence construction/maintenance, landscaping, chemical application, grass mowing responsibility, etc. We do feel we benefit from the separation from Blackhawk Rd. as Blackhawk road is a busy road with cross town traffic. Our children have particularly benefitted from this separation. We do not feel that Blackhawk Rd. adjoins our property as Aspen Grove does. We view the road as a county highway.
3. No MCPSD school on Blackhawk Rd.... There should not be an increase in traffic flow since the MCPSD school referendum did not pass. The existing road is sufficient as there is no increase in traffic flow. The road may be in poor condition but does not need to be expanded to accommodate increased traffic flow.
4. Four foot of road?.... It appears that the city would like us to fund a bicycle lane with the contribution toward the four foot of road width. While bicycling is a great sport, we do not feel we should fund bicycle lane improvements for the healthy folks bicycling westward.

Summary - Asking us to fund Blackhawk Rd. improvements is like asking us to fund other public goods such as Beltline improvements. Blackhawk Rd. is not longer a neighborhood road with exclusive local benefits. We cannot agree to curb, gutter, and four foot of road contribution to a road separate and distinct from our neighborhood.

Best,

Damon & Terri Bresenham
9124 Aspen Grove
Madison, WI