

October 18, 2010

FROM: SCHENK-ATWOOD-STARKWEATHER-YAHARA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

TO: MEMBERS BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Jaclyn D. Lawton, Chairperson, Board of Public Works

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RE: Board of Public Works Wednesday October 20 Public Hearing 6:30 PM Agenda Item 7. Approving Plans, Specifications, and Schedule of Assessments for Williamson Street and South Ingersoll Street Assessment District - 2011

Schenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara Neighborhood Association (SASYNA) Council voted Thursday October 14 to support Marquette Neighborhood Association's request for a one-year delay of Williamson Street Reconstruction -- to 2012.

Atwood-Winnebago-Williamson from Olbrich Gardens to Blair Street is one continuous transportation corridor. What happens in one part of the corridor affects the whole of the corridor.

So we hope whatever 'Green Street - Complete Street'-design elements are incorporated into the Williamson Street design will also be incorporated into the Winnebago and Atwood Reconstruction projects in future years.

That's why we have an interest in this. We support our neighbors and businesses in the Marquette Neighborhood Association but, also, we hope that, if we have one more year to discuss design changes, those Willy Street design improvements will directly benefit us later because we can include them in the Winnebago and Atwood Reconstruct designs. That's why we want to take the time to make sure we do this right.

We're sure you recognize Williamson-Winnebago-Atwood is one corridor; that these streets are not just motor vehicle corridors--they are places where we live; that we have thriving walkable Business Districts along the corridor; that we want a calm, civilized experience along these streets - where people on foot and on bikes are valued as much as cars; where people on foot don't have to feel they're taking their lives in their hands just to cross the street.

We in the Atwood Neighborhood have been following the efforts of our neighbors in the Marquette Neighborhood as they encourage a "Green Streets - Complete Streets" approach to the Williamson Street reconstruction project. If we delay the project one year - to 2012 - it would give us more time to further consider design options - like bumpouts at intersections - that might improve safety for people on foot; create a more civilized feel along the street; improve health and survivability of substantial street trees; improve filtration of storm water; and properly consider the effect of nearby train corridor work.

Please delay Williamson Street Reconstruction one year - to 2012.

Sincerely,

Dan Melton Chair

On behalf of the Schenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara Neighborhood Association Council