



FEEDBACK RECEIVED
As of July 8, 2015

PROPOSED BUS SHELTER REMOVAL
State St. at N. Carroll St.

Against Removal: 10
Supports Removal: 4

###

My name is Fred Mohs. I own 20 North Carroll Street, which I purchased in 1963, and 22 North Carroll Street which I purchased approximately ten years later. The properties have an 80 foot frontage on North Carroll Street. The first floor tenants are the Camera Company and Graft, a new restaurant scheduled to open next week. The first 20 or so years were easy. Two men's clothing shops were the first floor tenants. The shopping that had been so concentrated in Downtown Madison started to slip out to the new shopping malls and it was tough to rent commercial space. Nevertheless, I was committed to maintaining retail and suffered through a series of book and antique stores at much lower rents and with little success. Nevertheless, I am very committed to trying to keep the retail environment in front of the North Carroll Street buildings as positive as it can be.

Now, to the North Carroll Street bus shelter. It is my understanding that the reason that there are advocates for removing the bus shelter adjacent to Teddy Wedgers, directly in front of the smoke shop, is because of the homeless population that collects around the Philosopher Stones goes to the bus shelter when it rains. Personally, I think the problem would be solved if all of the Philosopher Stones were removed before removing the bus shelter. It is my concern that they would flee to the bus shelter on North Carroll Street and I would have the same problem.

I talked to both of my daughters, one who lives in Manhattan and the other who lives in Chicago, and both of them said that there is never a problem with having homeless or troublesome people in the bus shelters. Only bus riders can be in the shelters in both cities. It was explained to me that the bus riders purchase the opportunity to wait in a shelter as a part of the service that they buy from the bus company. If someone else starts loitering in the shelters, the police come by and tell them they can't be there. Both girls have lived in their cities for a long time and they tell me that there is never any problem with difficult people in the bus shelters. Interestingly enough, my daughter in New York tells me that homeless aren't allowed in Central Park either. My question is, do we have this kind of arrangement in Madison? If we do, why aren't we enforcing it? If we don't have it, it seems to me that we should have it because there must be other places where this is a problem as well. There are places where the homeless can go to get out of the rain, but maybe it shouldn't be in the bus shelters.

I am sure someone will ask, "What will happen to people who get caught in the rain? Where will they go?" My answer would be, before there were bus shelters, they found someplace to go and maybe they



could go to those places. The City and private agencies provide places for the homeless to go and that is where they should be, leaving the bus shelters to bus-patrons.

I am against removing the bus shelter at the State Street/North Carroll Street location.

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I have to agree with Dan and Maria that the bus stop is not in a good place. Moving it would help State Street be less crowded and more inviting.

###

Please do not close or move the very convenient stop on State Street near Myles Teddywedgers. I use it many times each week, particularly in the winter. Moving this stop will do nothing to address the troubles in Philosophers Grove; instead it will just kick the can down the road. First, work with the City for funding a full day center, sleeping facilities and educational training/opportunities for homeless and lower income folks. Thank you for considering my opinion.

###

As a bus rider, business owner and service provider, I urge you to leave the bus stop/shelter in front of Teddy Wedgers/Top of State. Getting rid of the shelter does nothing to deal with the underlying issues and make things more difficult for bus riders. Metro: don't join the City in bandaid approaches to problems. Invest in the future, please!

###

Saw flyer on bus that hearing scheduled for tonight about bus shelter removal. When downtown, I get on #2 or #4 here if miss #5. Lots of people use this shelter, and can't find info. on this site why removal is being proposed. In winter/heavy rain/hot weather, shelter is best. Also feel hearings shouldn't be scheduled on days when there are concerts on the square.

###

On Wednesday, July 8, Metro Transit and the City of Madison Transit and Parking Commission will hold a public hearing at 6 PM at the Madison Municipal Building (215 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Room 260) to discuss the proposed removal of the bus shelter located at the top of State St. at W. Mifflin St. Additional Details:

- This proposal is related to a larger City of Madison initiative at this shelter location.
- The bus stop is also proposed to be removed. Buses will stop at the shelter around the corner on Carroll St. (approximately 250 ft. away)
- This proposal is expected to improve Metro's on-time performance in the area due to buses not having to wait at the traffic light.



I work downtown and ride the bus every day for work just off the square. I am interested in this larger City of Madison initiative, as I know little about it. As far as closing the bus stop, I question the reason to be improving on-time performance, as the light will still remain at that corner. I believe the removing of the bus stop concerns the large crowds of transients, homeless and others who congregate at the area at that corner by the information booth. Many times I will visit the library to drop off materials or pick up holds on my way home. That stop is the closest to the library for me to catch the bus (I work off of E. Washington and usually catch the #2 bus in front of US Bank.) I have observed the handling of people waiting at the bus stop, as well as women being ogled. I am not the smallest guy around, and at times, when it is dark or I have worked later than 4-5 PM, I have been somewhat concerned with the people who congregate around that bus stop. I am retired military and have spent time in combat and many months overseas, so I am knowledgeable in defending myself and others if necessary.

Perhaps rather than closing the bus stop, something could be done about the individuals who congregate and act so boisterously in the vicinity of the bus stop instead. I would like to be able to continue to use the bus stop, but I understand why some people feel intimidated or threatened by the crowd.

Thanks for listening,

###

I own the property at the "Subject" location mentioned above.

We regret that we cannot attend Wednesday evenings meeting as my wife and I are in route to Nebraska to attend a memorial service for our 16 year old Grandson.

Please read this short note to the members of your Safety Commission and those in attendance at the Wednesday evenings meeting.

I may be available to answer question, if any, by calling my cell phone at 608-575-6515.

For many years the Bus stop has created a bottle-neck at the Subject intersection herein mentioned. During regular hours and rush hours this bottle-neck has caused extreme crowding of the sidewalk on the State Street side of our tenant "Teddy Wedgers". Teddy Wedgers has large plate glass windows on this side at their location at 101 State Street. One of these days someone will be accidentally pushed into one of these windows and will be severely injured if not mortally injured. At this stop the sidewalk is only about 18 feet wide with the Bus shelter plus access to the bus is about 10 feet from the street leaving only a few feet for regular pedestrian traffic and room for those waiting for the Bus to transit them to their destinations. On rainy days it is even worse like Monday afternoon, July 6, 2015, of this week.

As I understand it, this bus stop is to be removed and may be relocated around the corner on Carroll St. that offers about 30 feet from the store fronts to the street. For the safety of all concerned the Bus Stop should be moved to a location that affords more room for the busses to load and un-load their fares.

Thank you for your understanding and concern with this matter.



###

Please do NOT remove the bus stop at the top of State St. at W. Mifflin. Almost every afternoon I take the 14 home and while I'm waiting for the 14 I'll have a beer in the patio at Capital Tap Haus or Buck and Badger. If you guys move the stop around the corner I won't be able to have an after work beer while waiting for the bus cause I won't be able see it coming.

I know, first world problems... but still, we value beer consumption in this town!

###

I am a frequent rider of the #4 and #6 buses and I agree that moving the Metro bus stop from Mifflin and State to N Carroll will be an improvement. Buses almost always have to stop and wait at the traffic signal at top of State, if they can get through the signal then stop on Carroll it seems that all buses that travel this route will save about a minute.

I hope you are successful with your proposal.

###

I oppose the removal of the bus shelter and bus stop at the corner of State Street and the Square.

I use this shelter periodically as it is very conveniently located. Personally, I have only see homeless people using the shelter once - but even if they use it more frequently - so what? Are we going to remove every amenity because it's being used - or even abused - by the homeless? If so, we'd have to close down much of downtown Madison.

In my opinion, Madison Metro's attempt to eliminate this bus stop and others is misguided. If Metro is going to continue to attract riders, then its stops and shelters need to be conveniently located. Expanding the distance between stops is a particular hardship for people with physical disabilities, whether temporary or permanent.

###

(Handwritten letter that is not entirely legible)

I work early AM's so I won't be able to attend the public hearing. I don't know all the reasons why the bus shelter at State and Mifflin is slated for removal. The area is a hangout for loitering. As for me, I've lived downtown and been a regular Metro rider since September, 1986. I use the shelter to sit and wait for buses heading west. When my joints ache...

(the rest of the letter is not able to be read, but the person seems to be advocating for keeping the shelter at current location.)



###

ALL for Removal of Bus Stop from/Near Judge Doyle Square, & Near TeddyWedgers, as A Concerned Citizen, Currently there's too much ado at that location to continue to warrant for a stop there;:

Thanks For Hearing Me Out!,

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I just saw this article, saying that the Madison Metro bus shelter at the top of State St might be removed.

[Http://host.madison.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/article_27788d7a-ca60-5575-a33a-97c107f262c9.html](http://host.madison.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/article_27788d7a-ca60-5575-a33a-97c107f262c9.html)

In my view, that makes no sense. I often use that bus shelter to catch a bus. I've used it at all hours of the day and night (on many, many

occasions) and have never had to deal with significant "behavioral problems" from other people (unless you view the occasional person asking for spare change as intrinsically threatening).

Please leave the bus shelter where it is. It's the most convenient location.

Since, according to the article, the Downtown Coordinating Committee will consider a staff report on the idea of removing that bus shelter, I'm also cc-ing an alder on the Downtown Coordinating Committee.

###

Please don't shut down the State Street bus stop. I often shop downtown and have packages. I like to have shelter from the rain and snow. I've never been harassed at the stop. Sure, there are people in the park nearby, hanging out, talking loud, laughing BUT to me that's NOT harassment, that's just living. If someone is acting badly (and, contrary to what some Madisonians think, that does NOT mean being black and talking loud!) but truly bad/dangerous behavior than it should be addressed but not by removing a shelter that so many people use.