

**From:** [Furman, Keith](#)  
**To:** [Transportation Commission](#)  
**Subject:** FW: LMD transportation commission hearing  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 6:35:59 PM

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Tom's written comments. He was struggling earlier to get on, got on, but had phone issues.

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**From:** Thomas Jeffries <[twjeffries@xylome.com](mailto:twjeffries@xylome.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 9, 2022 5:54 PM  
**To:** Furman, Keith <[district19@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district19@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Cc:** Thomas Jeffries <[twjeffries@xylome.com](mailto:twjeffries@xylome.com)>  
**Subject:** LMD transportation commission hearing

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Keith,

I have registered to speak at this meeting and have prepared some comments, but I cannot get into the video session. Not sure what the problem is, but I do not have the correct passcode.

Here is my statement:

My name is Tom Jeffries, and I am speaking in support of the LMD project. - I am speaking on my own behalf - not on behalf of the Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association, however my family and I have been active in the Neighborhood Association as Officers or Area Directors since moving here 43 years ago.

I strongly support the reconstruction of Lake Mendota Drive – though not with the current plan. If there is to be a sidewalk on LMD, it should go on the south and west or “city side” of the Drive not on the lake side as currently planned. All the mailboxes on LMD are on the lake side of the road. Installation of a terrace to accommodate the mailboxes and snow removal, would require tremendous amounts of fill and tree removal and would be virtually impossible on the East end of the project. Some areas such as access to the beach, harbor boat launch and school clearly could benefit from additional sidewalks and safety crossings.

LMD needs reconstruction. It is pitted and broken so much that it is difficult to walk on some sections without stumbling. The only flat place to walk is in the middle of the street.

Beyond LMD, I would support the sub-surface refinishing of most if not all the lanes in the Spring Harbor neighborhood. As many people will note in this meeting, Spring Harbor is largely free of sidewalks. It also lacks curbs and gutters. Without curbs and gutters, many of the drives and lanes are badly pitted and eroded. In the absence of curbs and gutters, the city will not consider refurbishing the lanes.

Interestingly, in Spring Harbor and Indian Hills there are “drives”, “lanes”, “courts”, “ways”, “trails”, three “roads” (Risser, Merrill Springs and Flambeau), two “avenues” (Baker and Capital, but the name is truly descriptive only of the latter). There is only one “street” – Blanchard. It is a dead-end, ½ block long with only three houses.

This is an old, mixed neighborhood, and it retains much of the countryside feel that existed when it was established. This is likely because it was annexed into the City of Madison after many of the drives, roads and trails were established. The oldest home in our neighborhood is Hickory Hill House, a sandstone home that was constructed in 1842. Hickory Hill Drive – which was its driveway – initially went all the way back to Old Middleton Road. There are many remnants of ancient occupation in Spring Harbor, Merrill Spring and Indian Hills – which is not named gratuitously – and these must be protected.

To the best of my knowledge there have not been any open lots in in the Spring Harbor Neighborhood for over ten years. There has however been a great deal of construction with older homes torn down and newer, larger homes replacing them - particularly on Lake Mendota Drive. The resulting installation of new sewer connections has further disrupted the road surface. LMD clearly needs reconstruction, but sidewalks are not essential.

Tom Jeffries [REDACTED] Greening Ln 608-[REDACTED]