

Pien, Janet

From: Donald & Barbara Goldsworthy [golds2@tds.net]
Sent: Monday, January 18, 2010 8:13 PM
To: Fahrney, John
Cc: Pien, Janet
Subject: Objection: January 20, 2010, Board of Public Works Public Hearing: PROJECT LOCATION: 941 Pebble Beach Dr.; PARCEL: 0708-133-2301-4; Owners: Donald J. & Barbara A. Goldsworthy

Dear Board of Public Works:

We write to object to the above-entitled proposed Curb and Gutter Special Assessment in conjunction with street resurfacing-2010 Assessment District, total estimated assessment in the sum of \$737.50, as set forth in Mr. Phillip's letter dated Jan. 4, 2010, to property owners. The removal and replacement of the curb and gutter in question is at the end of the driveway of our home where we have lived for more than seventeen years. Not that I am an expert, but my father and grandfather were in the masonry business for more than fifty years, and I poured curbs and gutters myself when I was a young person. I was aware of the three cracks in question seventeen years ago and have monitored them over the years. I have had the ice and snow removed to the extent possible in connection with the preparation of this objection. This proposed curb and gutter special assessment involves three cracks which are merely cosmetic. Only one of the cracks involves vertical or horizontal offset, which is less than 3/8 inch. I have monitored the concrete in question for more than seventeen years since we purchased our property. The concrete has remained structurally sound and the three minor cracks have not opened or increased in length.

This is an era of unprecedented fiscal hardship for municipal governments, as well as individual property owners. As retirees on a fixed income, this \$737.50 proposed special assessment is a significant financial burden. Property owners who must use the eight year special assessment payment period pay much more interest to the City than they could currently earn on a certificate of deposit. Moreover, in the current financial situation of the City of Madison, we would respectfully request that you consider abating this expenditure of \$737.50 of the taxpayers' funds for cosmetic purposes. Since the concrete in question has not shifted or changed in more than seventeen years, the concrete in place is arguably more structurally sound than the material with which it would be replaced. Replacement of the

roadway surface is not dependent on the concrete in question for structural integrity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Donald J. and Barbara A. Goldsworthy