April 21, 2009

To: City of Madison Common Council

From: Jack Chvala

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In 1943 my Tomahawk, WI high school football coach promised our team a trip to the last University of Wisconsin v Minnesota game if we had an undefeated season. During our trip to Madison I became ecstatic about our wonderful city! After serving in WWII, in 1960, I moved here to be close to my brother Joe, who flew anti sub patrol and on D Day with Joe Kennedy-33 missions over the Bay of Biscay in the English Channel.

For over 30 years I was a teacher, 24 of them with Madison Public Schools. "Green" was as popular for me in 1946 when I majored in Conservation as it is today. I was the president of the Madison Teachers Union (MTI) during the strike of 1976 and I have been involved in major collaborations with the City that has been positive. Could you imagine a dump on Stoughton Road, no Monona Golf Course or the kids at LaFollette still parking on the street? I am also a past president of Southeast Business Association (SEBA) and we worked on Stoughton Road 20 years ago. We're proud of our neighborhood initiatives on mosquitoes, Tellurian, Woodland Park and Lussier Stadium.

As current Vice President of the Glendale Neighborhood Association I can tell you our Board of Directors is a great group. This winter our focus was on assisting residents with property maintenance. I used my new snow blower to clear driveways for my 82 year old neighbor who broke his back, a 40 year old who broke his ankle and our 93 year old eldest resident. We have curb and gutter without sidewalks on our street and we like it that way.

If the Pedestrian/Bike Committee wants a sidewalk on these two blocks, you own the terrace why not consider using 2 feet from each side of the street to create a path on one side of the street marked for pedestrian/bike use that measures 4 feet wide. The proposal before you should be delayed indefinitely as way to support the citizens on Camden Road during these unusual economic times.

Stimulus seems to be the buzz word these days and two blocks is just the tip of the iceberg on almost ninety miles of unimproved streets. If the citizens have to pay in this economy you may run them out and they are the stability for the area. This is really a small project that will impact us forever. You can amend this proposal by taking off the interest if it were to proceed. When we consider that \$28 million is being spent for Allied Drive there's unintended consequences for any decision you make