

**From:** [Lorien Draeger](#)  
**To:** [Transportation Commission](#)  
**Subject:** 9/14 meeting item 8: Whitney/Odana intersection  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 13, 2022 5:16:44 PM

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Hello Transportation Commission,

I am really concerned about letting WisDOT redesign or rebuild the intersection of Whitney and Odana. This intersection is currently a disaster, and I don't trust WisDOT to make it better.

A few years ago I wanted to buy something by West Towne mall, and I thought I could bike west on Odana in the sorta-comfortable-feeling bike lane and make my way over to Medical Cir and catch the path along the Beltline. But the bike lane just ended! On the way home (coming east) I thought I could be smart and take the Medical Cir to where it gets near Whitney, but it was impossible to cross Whitney there (slightly south of Odana). I never biked that way again.

This is a really bad gap in the bike network. Any rebuild of this intersection must address this. We can't just surrender this public space in our city for WisDOT to design another monstrosity.

Finally, this intersection is on the high injury network. I'm not sure what the status of Madison's vision zero plan is, but the common council adopted it as a priority. I consider that a promise the council has made to all of us, and to keep that promise this intersection needs to be fixed.

Thank you,  
Lorien Draeger