

From: [Jessi A](#)
To: [All Alders](#); [Duncan, John](#); [Bennett, Juliana](#); [Field, Derek](#); [Verveer, Michael](#); [Vidaver, Regina](#); [Rummel, Marsha](#); [Wehelie, Nasra H](#); [Govindarajan, MGR](#); [Conklin, Nikki](#); [Figueroa Cole, Yannette](#); [Tishler, Bill](#); [Latimer Burris, Amani](#); [Evers, Tag](#); [Knox Jr., Isadore](#); [Martinez-Rutherford, Dina Nina](#); [Currie, Jael](#); [Madison, Sabrina](#); [Myadze, Charles](#); [Guequierre, John](#); [Harrington-McKinney, Barbara](#)
Subject: CC Public Comment- Remove the Nakoosa Trail Extension from the NEAP
Date: Sunday, September 8, 2024 9:37:40 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from jessialter@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi Alder!

If you've responded to my previous email invitation or have come out to the park to see why a street along the south side of Sycamore Park would be an unfortunate addition, thank you very much!

To reiterate, we understand that this is a plan, and not a project...yet. We would like for it to not become a project, which is why we have worked very hard to convince you all to remove it from the plan on Tuesday evening.

The Planners have stated that they've had a difficult time getting feedback and input from the people who live in this area. Well Alder, don't worry...we came through for you on that end! Since seeing that the NEAP has a future street planned in Sycamore Park, we've shown up for one another as neighbors and as a community. Over 55 oppositional public statements have been submitted (as of Aug 26th) and almost **400 people** have signed the [petition](#) asking **you** to vote to adopt the Northeast Area Plan **without the Nakoosa Trail Extension.**

I've done my fair share of [public commenting](#) and emailing so I'll try to keep it brief here.

The NEAP says that the far east side is one of the most diverse areas in Madison. We are working class people with moderate incomes. It's important to us that our children and neighbors have access to places of recreation that are free from the danger of vehicle traffic. *This is an issue of equity.*

The NEAP states that improved safety is a desired outcome, but I ask you, when has inviting cars to drive into a park ever made it safer? Nakoosa Trail inclines, drivers will be accelerating, uphill, as they enter the park. The planners say they envision a regular old neighborhood street, 25 MPH, but every surrounding street has some type of speed remediation strategy already implemented, there's no reason to believe that a future street here will be different. *This is an issue of safety.*

There's been a lot of talk about the benefit of connectivity...having vehicle connectivity to Jana Ln. seems a bit silly and doesn't accomplish much since we already have three East-West roads in this small area. An additional street in Sycamore Park will just be redundant and destructive. We say keep the green space green! *This is an issue of our environment.*

The Planners have written that there is value in a street because improving one of the major entrances to the Burke Heights Neighborhood "presents some challenges." -Well Alder, we believe in the planner's ability to do hard things! They've not provided data that supports the idea that traffic flow will be improved at the Commercial intersection because of an extension of Nakoosa Trail. If they want to improve that intersection, they should improve that intersection.

I heard a guy say that parks are a reflection of who we are and who we're trying to be as a city. The Sycamore Park Master Plan has a bike corridor in the area of the planned street and a Planner stated at a meeting that a community garden would be well suited for this location too. Bikes, soccer, and gardens are much more in line with who we are as Madisonians. Parks are a benefit to our physical and mental wellness, they give us a peaceful space to develop a relationship with nature, and they add joy to our lives. *This is an issue of health.*

We've done everything that we can do as residents, demonstrating again and again that this one aspect of the plan is unsafe, undesired, inequitable, and inefficient. Now it's in your hands. Please be an advocate for our far east side community. **[Vote to remove the Nakoosa Trail Extension from the Plan.](#)**

Thank you Alder,
Jessi Alter

I've attached a short (and basic) slideshow here. Some friends of Sycamore Park suggested creating something to show you our park in case you weren't able to make it out this way before the vote. Take care!



Remove the Nakoosa Trail Extension Please

From: [Judy Bennett](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Northeast Land Use Plan - Remove Nakoosa Trail Extension From Plan
Date: Sunday, September 1, 2024 10:23:33 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from judy@delta-properties.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Alder,

I am writing to you as a concerned long-time resident of the Burke Heights Neighborhood to express my strong opposition to the planned expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park. This expansion would significantly impact our community and the park's essential green space.

Sycamore Park is a vital recreational area, providing residents with a much-needed place to engage in outdoor activities and enjoy nature. The planned expansion would eliminate a well-used bike and pedestrian path crucial for safe and eco-friendly travel. Additionally, it would remove green space regularly used for soccer, volleyball, and other community gatherings. These spaces are invaluable to the well-being and quality of life of residents.

Another primary concern is the impact on the newly constructed BMX course and the family playground. Families with young children heavily use both, and expanding the road through this area would create a severe safety hazard. Increasing traffic through a park frequented by children and pedestrians is a risk we should not take.

Please remove the Nakoosa Trail extension from the proposed Northeast Land Use Plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Judy Bennett
810 Bewick Dr
Madison WI

--

www.delta-properties.com

From: [Dean Bennett](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Northeast Land Use Plan - Remove Nakoosa Trail Extension From Plan
Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 8:20:09 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from deanrb2@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Alder,

I am writing to you as a concerned long-time resident of the Burke Heights Neighborhood to express my strong opposition to the planned expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park. This expansion would significantly impact our community and the park's essential green space.

Sycamore Park is a vital recreational area, providing residents with a much-needed place to engage in outdoor activities and enjoy nature. The planned expansion would eliminate a well-used bike and pedestrian path crucial for safe and eco-friendly travel. Additionally, it would remove green space regularly used for soccer, volleyball, and other community gatherings. These spaces are invaluable to the well-being and quality of life of residents.

Another primary concern is the impact on the newly constructed BMX course and the family playground. Families with young children heavily use both, and expanding the road through this area would create a severe safety hazard. Increasing traffic through a park frequented by children and pedestrians is a risk we should not take.

Please remove the Nakoosa Trail extension from the proposed Northeast Land Use Plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dean Bennett

810 Bewick Dr

Madison WI 53714

From: [Darlene Ruskowsky](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Sycamore Park Road
Date: Saturday, September 7, 2024 10:22:54 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from darleneruskowsky@sbcglobal.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Sycamore Park Road

To whom it may concern,

We are Peter and Darlene Buckner at 813 Pulley Drive, Madison, WI. Pulley Drive ends at Sycamore Park. We enjoy the park as it is, going for walks and watching the kids play soccer and our Grandkids love the playground. We've enjoyed our quiet neighborhood, although there has been more people speeding down are street due to the dog park and I'm sure there will be more with the new bike run. Putting a road in will only make for more traffic and having to worry about kids and elderly who walk here alot getting injured or worse. Also the soccer field, where will the kids play? This just isn't a good plan.

We would like to recommend the Northeast Area Plan with the removal of the Nakoosa Trail Extension. No road!

Thank you,

Peter and Darlene Buckner

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [noreply](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: [All Alders] Nakoosa Trail extension
Date: Saturday, August 31, 2024 9:27:06 AM

Recipient: All Alders:

Saturday, August 31, 2024 – 9:25am

Janet Carver
4526 Conlin St

Madison, Wisconsin. 53714-1715 No, do not contact me. All Alders Nakoosa Trail extension I am a senior citizen living in the Burke Heights neighborhood. I use the paved trails daily to walk my dog. A roadway through Sycamore Park is the biggest waste of tax payers money. It would cut down on green space, remove healthy trees, and take out paved trails that were redone a year ago. Connecting to Jana Lane is a poor option for traffic flow. Jana Lane has many speed bumps to control traffic. I had tried looking at the web site for the Northeast parks a year ago and could not find any of the info I needed. It was confusing. Now that it has been made clear by our neighborhood association, some are telling us the concern is too late! Do not waste our tax dollars; the proposed referendum will surely be voted down.

From: [Kristina Daleiden](#)
Subject: Northeast Area Plan - Nakoosa Trail expansion proposal
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 12:32:38 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-horizontal.png](#)
[Outlook-Water Work.png](#)

You don't often get email from kristina@wwpoolservice.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Greetings:

I write to express my opposition to the proposed expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park on Madison's far east side.

As a long time resident of Burke Heights, specifically Brandie Road, I have first-hand understanding of our neighborhood's needs and traffic patterns, and I am very much opposed to the expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park.

This is a densely populated community with many rental units, so resident access to green space is already limited. Sycamore Park is the only park within walking distance that does not require crossing a busy road.

If you study traffic patterns along Nakoosa Trail, Brandie Road, and Zeigler Road you will see that there is already heavy traffic through our residential neighborhood due to the dense population and proximity to Walmart. Additionally, many residents park on the street as this is a working class area where many units do not provide sufficient off-street parking for the number of working adults who share apartments due to high housing costs. Finally, during winter snow storms Nakooka, Brandie, and Zeigler are regularly limited to one lane of traffic due to on-street parking and lack of alternate side parking enforcement, so the value of creating a through-way from Thompson and Janna Lane simply isn't there for the residents.

Historically, this area has dealt with high levels of crime, including violent crime, and the limited vehicular access serves to slow traffic and deter non-residents from using our already crowded streets as a through-way. There is no value to be had by destroying our one large green space in order to connect two low-rent, high-disfunction neighborhoods.

I ask that the commission remove the expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park from the Northeast Area Plan in deference to residents safety and quality of life.

Sincerely,

Kristina Daleiden
801 Brandie Road

Kristina Daleiden

General Manager

Water Works Pool & Spa Service

608.575.8986

<http://wwpoolservice.com>



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From: [Mrs. Dean-Slaton](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Northeast Area Plan
Date: Saturday, August 24, 2024 7:14:55 AM

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Dear Madison Common Council,

I am a 14 year resident homeowner in the Burke Heights Neighborhood in Madison. My home is currently located on Pulley Drive (705) near HWY 30 and Commercial Avenue. Prior to the purchase of our home, my family resided on the opposite side of Sycamore Park on Rockefeller Lane for 8 years. Therefore, we have lived in this area for over 20 years. Through the past years as a homeowner at my current address, I have logged complaints with our representative offices about the noise level coming from HWY 30 with our representative offices and the adjacent on ramp which has a speed limit of 55 mph posted and which contributes to an extreme amount of **unwanted noise**. I have wanted some sort of noise abatement included in the future plans, with the planting of trees or a wall being built to help with the noise. I am frustrated that the quality of living is so greatly impacted with the ever increasing noise level coming from HWY 30 and the on ramp connected to it.

However, as that (HWY 30 noise) is one issue, the new concern that has come to my attention is the **proposed road through Sycamore Park**. This is a very bad idea, especially since we already have quite an issue with "through traffic" in the neighborhood as well as the constant roar of HWY 30. Additionally, being able to walk to the other end of my street and finally enjoy peace, quiet, and natural beauty is a very important part of why my family enjoys the Sycamore Park area. In fact, I have often wished that my home was located near there, where the difference in peace and quiet is quite remarkable in comparison to where my home is located. Myself and my family join our neighbors in **complete opposition** to a street disrupting the last refuge of peace and quiet in my neighborhood. I feel that the residents adjacent to the park have the joy of experiencing such a gem for our neighborhood everyday, and we are thankful for the access we have to it. Please vote "no" on the proposed street through Sycamore Park, it would be an unnecessary and unwanted addition to our neighborhood and greatly affect the quality of life and enjoyment that one seeks when deciding to purchase a residential property to call home.

Thank you,

Mrs. Dean-Slaton

From: diewaldians
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: NO Road in Sycamore Park
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 12:23:06 PM

[You don't often get email from diewaldians@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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I live at 818 Pulley Drive, half a block from the proposed road thru Sycamore Park. Hundreds of kids on bikes and dog walkers walk into the park daily down Pulley Drive. They Should not have to cross a busy road to access the park.

Please pass the Northeast plan WITH OUT the road through the park.

Thank you,

Mike Diewald

818 Pulley dr

608 575-1899

From: [Debra Diewald](#)
To: [All Alders](#); [Duncan, John](#); [Bennett, Juliana](#); [Field, Derek](#); [Verveer, Michael](#); [Vidaver, Regina](#); [Rummel, Marsha](#); [Wehelie, Nasra H](#); [Govindarajan, MGR](#); [Conklin, Nikki](#); [Figueroa Cole, Yannette](#); [Tishler, Bill](#); [Latimer Burris, Amani](#); [Evers, Tag](#); [Knox Jr., Isadore](#); [Martinez-Rutherford, Dina Nina](#); [Currie, Jael](#); [Madison, Sabrina](#); [Myadze, Charles](#); [Guequierre, John](#); [Harrington-McKinney, Barbara](#)
Subject: Remove Nakoosa Trail Extension from Northeast Area Plan prior to adoption
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 4:08:41 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from baosdiewald@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To our Honorable Mayor and all Alderpersons:

To All Alderpersons:

My name is Debra Diewald. My husband and I have owned our home at 818 Pulley Dr since April of 1995. I Absolutely oppose the plan for a Nakoosa Trail Extension and urge its removal from the Northeast Area Plan prior to adoption.

Pulley, Bewick and Redland are all beautiful tree-lined streets that dead-end at Sycamore Park. In large part, we purchased our home because of its location on a dead-end into a park. Our last home was also located on a dead-end into a park. Living on a dead-end creates an ideal low-traffic environment to raise children and less criminal activity. There is very little crime in our neighborhood. We have never needed to lock our doors. The home at 814 Pulley was recently sold. A prime reason that the new owner, Marci, purchased this home was because of its location on a dead-end into a park, helping to create this safe enclave that we live in.

There is a gravel alley that connects the end of Pulley and Bewick that allows neighbors at the end of pulley, and neighbors behind them on Bewick to access their garage and a storage shed. The city also uses this alley to access the park on occasion, but it has never been a through street, and there is no need for one.

The recreational path that has been added to the park over summer is attracting numerous walkers and bicyclists to our streets. For years our neighborhood has opposed sidewalks. If Nakoosa Trail is made into a thru street, it will destroy the character of our neighborhood and create vehicular hazards for current neighbors as well as walkers and bicyclists attracted to the new path in the park. This extension is NOT something that anyone in this neighborhood wants. There is absolutely no benefit to our neighborhood. There is parking for Sycamore Park across the park on Sycamore Street in a parking area for the dog park, and there is parking for folks playing soccer on Janna Ln. Making Nakoosa Terrace a thru street will unnecessarily increase traffic creating vehicular hazards and destroy our quiet neighborhood. It will destroy the very reason that many of us have chosen to purchase our homes here.

Burke Heights is a very diverse neighborhood. Neighbors here are warm towards each other. Things feel a bit more relaxed and quieter, and people take time to visit with each other as they pass on the street. Traffic congestion will destroy this peaceful environment and introduce a great deal of noise.

Extending Nakoosa Terrace will also destroy a huge amount of prairie restoration efforts

that have been made in the park. For 34 years, when returning home after a long day, or after some days away, the lovely view down the street into the park has welcomed me. Extending Nakoosa Terrace will destroy this.

I have not talked to one neighbor that supports the proposed extension of Nakoosa Terrace. Please, Please, Please remove it from the Northeast Area Plan prior to adoption.

My husband and I have not met one person in our neighborhood that supports this extension, and wonder who does, certainly not anyone that lives here. My husband asked our Alderperson, just who it is that does support the extension and why, but received no response, so I will ask again. Just who does support this extension, and why? This extension is NOT supported by Burke Heights home owners. We do NOT want this.

Thanks for Your Attention on this important issue.

Debra Diewald

818 Pulley Dr

Madison, WI 53714

From: [PAT FULLER](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Northeast plan. National trail extension
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 5:01:57 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from pfflyer9@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello,

I am writing you today in regard to the Northeast plan. Sycamore park in particular. I have lived in the Burke Heights neighborhood for 10 plus years. One of the draws for me, that it is a small area and all streets were/are dead ends into the park. We have no sidewalks. Which is fine, because we have the bike path, dog park and playground a block away. My family utilizes the park on a regular basis. The grandkids learned how to ride their bikes on the backpack. It is a SAFE and CAR FREE ZONE.

I personally have never gone to the park and it was empty. Soccer games going on, basketball court in use and always kids/families at the playground. And for the people in the neighborhood with dogs. That either don't have a fenced in yard or live in the apartments nearby. Sycamore dog park is a safe and friendly place to let the dogs get exercise and fresh air with their human.

Fingers and toes crossed that you all reconsider the plan to extend Nakoosa trail through Sycamore Park.

I vote no!!!!

Thank you,

Pat Fuller

Longtime Burke Heights resident.Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

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From: [Aaron Ganser](#)
Cc: [Kristina Daleiden](#)
Subject: Northeast Area Plan - Nakoosa Trail expansion / Sycamore Park road proposal
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 9:05:44 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-horizontal.png](#)
[Outlook-Water Work.png](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from aaron@wwpoolservice.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Greetings:

I write to express my opposition to the proposed expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park on Madison's far east side.

As a long time resident of Burke Heights, specifically Brandie Road, I have first-hand understanding of our neighborhood's needs and traffic patterns, and I am very much opposed to the expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park.

This is a densely populated community with many rental units, so resident access to green space is already limited. Sycamore Park is the only park within walking distance that does not require crossing a busy road.

If you study traffic patterns along Nakoosa Trail, Brandie Road, and Zeigler Road you will see that there is already heavy traffic through our residential neighborhood due to the dense population and proximity to Walmart. Additionally, many residents park on the street as this is a working class area where many units do not provide sufficient off-street parking for the number of working adults who share apartments due to high housing costs. Finally, during winter snow storms Nakooka, Brandie, and Zeigler are regularly limited to one lane of traffic due to on-street parking and lack of alternate side parking enforcement, so the value of creating a through-way from Thompson and Janna Lane simply isn't there for the residents.

Historically, this area has dealt with high levels of crime, including violent crime, and the limited vehicular access serves to slow traffic and deter non-residents from using our already crowded streets as a through-way. There is no value to be had by destroying our one large green space in order to connect two low-rent, high-disfunction neighborhoods.

I ask that the commission remove the expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park from the Northeast Area Plan in deference to residents safety and quality of life.

Sincerely,

Aaron Ganser

801 Brandie Road

Aaron Ganser

Owner/ Operator

Water Works Pool & Spa Service

608.235.4755 - cell

608.575.8986 - office

<http://wwpoolservice.com>



Do you have friends, family, or neighbors with a pool or hot tub? We want to help them too, and we want to reward you for telling them about our services. Refer a friend and you'll both get \$25 off your next service!

From: [Joan Ketterhagen](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Sycamore
Date: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 9:26:53 AM

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Please don't put a road through Sycamore Park. It's a needed and loved park by so many.

Joan Ketterhagen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Matt Krempely](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Nakoosa Road support
Date: Sunday, September 8, 2024 7:25:11 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from mattkrepely@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Hello,

I simply wanted to voice support for the Nakoosa road extension in the NE Area plan, as long as it remains at the perimeter of sycamore park.

Thanks,
Matthew Krempely

From: [Donna Leckwee](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Sycamore park project
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 8:17:45 AM

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I am A resident who lives on Redlands dr. I Strongly oppose the road going through this park!! For safety reasons with all the young children in the neighborhood who would have to cross that road to get to the park that they use every day. There are many other access roots to get where you need to go in this neighborhood without putting a road through there. It's dangerous for the bikers. It's dangerous for the kids. It's dangerous for the walkers who use this park multiple times a day. Not to mention all the sports activities that go on in the park. This money would be better used for other purposes in the neighborhood, including more traffic stops for speeders, especially at the roundabouts. There are always safer routes to drive out of this neighborhood if one chooses to. One problem area doesn't Equally offset keeping our kids And elderly adults safe who use the park.
Please consider carefully these factors before moving forward with this plan.

Donna Leckwee

From: [LLH](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: regarding Sycamore Park Plans
Date: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 8:01:56 AM

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Dear Alders,

I ask that the city NOT put a road through Sycamore Park in Madison and instead install a community garden and sport activity areas. Doing these instead of a road can provide more safety for any wildlife who would potentially be harmed by traffic from a road. It would be better for the environment as a road brings more cars with their emissions. Installing a community garden will also provide much needed community connectivity and activity for our youth living in the area which I think could deter youth crime. Lastly a community garden and sports areas can provide an outlet for seniors and retirees, a place for adults to enjoy after work and on days off and a place for kids to enjoy after school.

For all the above reasons, please scrap the plans to put a road through Sycamore Park. Please support and advocate for a community garden and sports activity area instead,

Thank you all for serving as alders. Your service is appreciated and important.

(please do not share my email address or add it to any contact lists)

Lin
Homeowner
Madison, WI

From: [Barbara Michaelis](#)
To: kmcallen@uwalumni.com; jessialter@gmail.com
Cc: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Nakoosa road
Date: Monday, August 26, 2024 8:21:38 AM

You don't often get email from bmich055@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi I live on the dead end street on Redland Dr. We have lived here for 47 years. My husband and I are against of the extension of Nakoosa trail going thru to Kim Lane. There are kids that live on our street and kids from the apartments that use the bike path to go to the park to play. There is also a gentleman from the senior care that walks to the park almost everyday. If the street would be put thru then these kids would not be able to go to park due to having to cross the street to get to it. It would not be safe for the kids. A lot of the neighbors use the bike path to ride or go to the park.

The city just completed putting in a new bike path from Nakoosa trail using tax dollars. If the road is extended then part of the new bike path will need to be removed and it would be a waste of our tax dollars.

During the winter months our streets are covered with snow that have been blown from the park. Our streets are usually covered with snow and ice since our streets are not maintained too well by the city. I have to missed many times going to work due to not be able to get up my street. I would rather see the money spent to maintain our street better during the winter than be used to put a new street in.

If you would like to talk to me I can be reached at 608-669-1848.

Barb Michaelis

seriously hurt from the ice on the street when his vehicle
slid down the street.

If they put the street thru, would our streets be maintained better during the winter?

From: [m.m](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: NO ROAD THROUGH SYCAMORE PARK!
Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 6:43:32 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mozes38@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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So, we have lived on the east side of Madison since the summer of 2008. We moved into a 4 plex on Wayridge, lived there for a year and loved the area we moved over to Rockefeller and lived there for another 3 years, loved the area we moved ACROSS THE STREET to 1008 Jana and lived there for another 3 years - in 2015 we moved over to Westend Circle - STILL IN THE AREA - because we LOVE Sycamore Park, the Dog park, watching the soccer games, walking along the path, even taking the path on walks over to the Burke Heights area - it has cleaned up considerably since our time on this side of town along the south end of the park and clearing of invasive trees and species. The butterfly gardens along the north section of the hill and the dog park - why oh WHY in the heck would someone think putting a road right THROUGH A PARK would be a good idea? Because some are lazy and not wanting to drive around? It is absolutely ABSURD that this is even being considered.

My wife and I were instrumental in putting in the speed bumps now present on Jana due to the speeding and cut through traffic from Thompson to Sycamore. The city drivers were the worst offenders of screaming down this street. At one time the number of children within that small area, Kim Ln, Rockefeller, Jana was 3 kids to 1 adult - it was HUGELY POPULATED with kids and to this day still is! Why would we put a road to connect one that is heavily traveled over to Kim Lane, through a beautiful park, just because of a bike path, thinking it will lesson traffic on Sycamore? You have already done speed reductions on that road, that has helped - however you need police resources to continue to enforce the speed on this road. Again, WHY would a road over to another road with implemented speed bumps be a good idea? We had to calm traffic on that road somehow, and the city did a traffic study and finally put the bumps in - it was a godsend for sure.

Please do the right thing and VOTE NO on this ridiculously, and lazy proposal to put a road through this beautiful park - dumb - sorry but plain dumb!

Matthew and Cathryn Mosher
15 Westend Circle

From: Molly.parsells@gmail.com
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Northeast Area Plan
Date: Monday, September 2, 2024 5:31:43 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from molly.parsells@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing in hopes that item of the road extension of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park will be removed from the proposed plan.

As a current resident of the area, I urge the council to please listen to the residents who love the community and enjoy beauty of the park and neighborhood as it currently stands.

There are too few neighborhoods like ours left in the city. Please remove the proposed road extension from the plan and keep the beauty and tranquility of the park intact. the road Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park.

Sincerely,
Molly Parsells
Jana Lane Resident

From: [Merikay Payne](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Sycamore Park
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 7:01:39 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from merikay_merikay@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Alders,

Thank you for your work. I am writing to you regarding a Common Council meeting scheduled for September 10. There are signs in Sycamore Park indicating you will be voting on whether to add a road through the park. I'd like to give you our input on the situation.

There have been many improvements to Sycamore Park: new playground equipment, trees, a bicycle path, soccer fields, dog park, walking path, shelter, prairie, and basketball courts; all to make the park user friendly, We walk on the path almost every day. There are kids on the playground, teams playing soccer, people taking their dogs for a walk, kids playing basketball and bicyclists on the new path.

It is a well-used park and seems incongruous to add a road making access more difficult and increasing the possibility of car/pedestrian accidents and speeding complaints. Past speeding complaints resulted in stop signs being put on every neighborhood corner.

Please reconsider your decision to add a road to Sycamore Park and keep Burke Heights neighborhood safe.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Henry and Merikay Payne
810 Redland Dr.
Madison, WI 53714

From: [Greg](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: The Road Through Sycamore Park
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 6:58:57 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from mavsicks@charter.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To who it may concern,

I have lived on Pulley Drive since 1977. We have a very quiet neighborhood and would like to keep it that way. We already have problems with people speeding down our street to go to the park and to the dog park. We have allot more people in the neighborhood with small children and we do not want an increase in traffic. With the new bike path that was just put in, why would you want to put a busy road through the park? To me this is NOT common sense. You are going to force homeowners that have lived here all their lives out. Nobody is going to want to buy a house in a neighborhood with such a busy road. Nobody is going to want to bring their kids to the park or dog park because of the traffic. Would you want to live in a neighborhood where there is a busy street, that puts animals and children and elderly at risk?

Your fellow neighbor

Gregory Pond

From: kmpwis@charter.net
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Sycamore Park
Date: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 2:42:26 PM

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Hi, I just want to voice my opinion about the purpose road. We have lived on Pulley Dr since 1977. Our children loved playing at the park, they could go down there with their friends, and we did not have to worry about them. It was a safe park and the kids were in a big group. When my grandkids started to come over, they wanted to go to the park, we would not let them go alone because of some of the problems in the neighborhood. There were many police calls with problems. We want to keep this safe for the kids and grandkids. There were already problems with speeding, so stop signs were put on every intersection on Colin. If that road goes in there will be so much traffic, kids and adults walk down the streets and now they will have to look out for speeding cars. We all have dead end streets, that's what makes this neighborhood so peaceful. Please don't vote for that road. Thanks for listening Kathy Pond

From: [Kyle Russ](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Please do not put a road through Sycamore Park
Date: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 11:31:06 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kyle_russ@trekbikes.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi, I'm writing to you to urge you to please, please do not put the Nakoosa Trail street extension through Sycamore Park. I'm greatly looking forward to riding on the new bike trails in Sycamore park with my two daughters without fear of having cars right next to them. We need safe play spaces for our kids, and this is the only spot on the east side that is a safe biking space to work on skills and technique. Please consider removing the street extension from the Northeast area plan. Thank you!

Kyle Russ | Lead Biomechanical Engineer | Trek Bicycle | +1 920 478 2191

From: [ERIKA LYNN SCHULTZ](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: I support West and Northeast Madison Plans
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 9:15:02 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from elschultz3@wisc.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello,

My name is Erika Schultz. I am a Madison resident (and student at UW Madison who plans to stay in Madison post-grad). I support the West and Northeast Area Plans. I believe the changes stated in these plans will positively impact their respective communities and help support Madison's growing population.

Thank you,
Erika Schultz

From: [Tom Schwarze](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Nakoosa Trail Extention
Date: Wednesday, September 4, 2024 10:13:35 AM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from taschwarze@outlook.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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To whom it may concern,

I am a resident living adjacent to Sycamore Park, a vital community space that brings people together every weekend, especially during the summer, when the park is filled with community members enjoying soccer. The proposed Nakoosa Trail extension threatens to disrupt this beloved community gathering by removing one of the soccer fields. Moreover, this extension poses a safety risk to the new bike trails that have just been completed. The increased vehicular traffic would significantly endanger recreational cyclists who currently enjoy a safe environment.

The proposed plan would also redirect traffic onto Jana Lane and Rockefeller Lane, streets that are not designed to handle a high volume of vehicles. This was starkly demonstrated by a recent accident on North Thompson, which resulted in traffic being rerouted onto Jana Lane and creating several hours of bumper-to-bumper congestion. This neighborhood, known for its walkability, already requires multiple speed bumps to mitigate speeding dangers. Increasing traffic flow here would only escalate the risk to pedestrians and children who frequently walk and play in this area.

I urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived plan, which aims to create a marginally shorter drive that can already be achieved by using Commercial Avenue or taking Walsh Road from Nakoosa Trail to Sycamore Avenue. Such a project represents a poor use of tax dollars, with minimal benefits and significant drawbacks, undermining the recent improvements that have led to an increased use of Sycamore Park.

I strongly encourage you to prioritize the safety, enjoyment, and community value of Sycamore Park and the surrounding neighborhood over a road extension that would negatively impact both.

Kind regards,

Thomas Schwarze
Resident of Sycamore neighborhood for the last decade

From: [Paige Shapiro](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: No road through Sycamore Park
Date: Sunday, September 1, 2024 10:00:25 AM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from paigemshapiro@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi,

I was recently informed of a plan in the Nakoosa Trail extension to add a road or parking in Sycamore Park. As a resident of 3902 Sycamore Ave I think this would be a big detriment to the area.

There are always kids playing, people walking their dogs, kids soccer games happening right there at the park. It would severely cut access to this beautiful park by adding a road.

The width of the field also allow other people to access the park and playground when there are soccer games going on. I feel there is plenty of street parking and parking at the dog park.

Please consider voting against breaking up this community necessity for more cars.

Thanks,
Paige

Paige Shapiro, PharmD, MS
Doctor of Pharmacy, University of Wisconsin-Madison
MS Biology, University of California, San Diego
Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity

From: [bvedder](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Northeast area plan
Date: Saturday, August 31, 2024 3:09:59 PM

[Some people who received this message don't often get email from bvedder@charter.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

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Dear alders,

Please don't build a road through Sycamore Park.

Barbara Vedder
608-249-8428

From: [Ed Walker](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Measuring the success of the Area Plans
Date: Thursday, September 5, 2024 8:41:19 AM

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Measuring the Pay Off from Area Plans

The Common Council is about to approve the first two Areas Plans. How will you measure whether the Area Plans succeed in your district? In Madison as a whole?

Take increased density as one measure of success. The Comprehensive Plan argues that density must increase to improve housing costs, cope with population growth, and mitigate climate change, as well as to lower barriers to diversity, equity, and inclusiveness. Unless there is a target for density in each Area and Sub-Area, progress toward these worthy policy goals in the Alder Districts and in Madison as a whole may be uneven and haphazard.

There is no free lunch. Increasing density requires more than increasing the number of dwelling units. Denser areas also require non-residential buildings for other uses and non-built space for streets, parks, or pathways. In a built environment like Madison, increasing density requires redeveloping sites with existing housing, other buildings, or open space. It may require new or reconfigured public services, and it may aggravate congestion, affordability, and climate change. A fair accounting of the benefits from increased density has to debit the value of uses that are lost, the cost of repurposing or creating new services, and possible negative impact on other targets.

In developing a scorecard for measuring success and your targets for outcomes, it would be foolish not to consider lessons learned (or being learned) by other cities, as well as those learned from past efforts to make Madison more compact. Comparing Madison with other cities that are responding to similar challenges will help set public expectations for the outcome of change. It also will reveal unintended consequences and white elephants, both of which Madison can ill afford.

Ed Walker
4717 Regent Street
Madison, WI 53705
edw@ectwalker.com
+1 978.223.3564 (mobile)

From: [Tom Whitcomb](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Public Comment re: Northeast Area Plan
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 10:40:35 PM

Some people who received this message don't often get email from tomwhitcomb91@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello, my name is Tom Whitcomb, and I'm a resident of the neighborhood surrounding Sycamore Park. I'd once again like to voice my opposition to the plan to extend Nakoosa Trail and bifurcate the park.

In my previous comments, I highlighted issues with speeding and other forms of dangerous driving, and I still see that as the primary issue regarding the proposed road. The neighborhood is full of children, many of whom spend a lot of time in the park. Running a road through it is rolling the dice on their safety.

But the more I try to think about it, the less sense it makes. What benefit is there to shredding apart the prairie restoration areas? To make it easier to go to Wal-Mart? For a city that make it's relationship to nature such a large part of its identity, it seems strangely willing to do away with a thriving green space without really explaining why.

And that's the other thing that gets me. One of the reasons given for the road was to "better connect the neighborhoods surrounding the park". Yet the general feeling I'm getting from those of us who actually live in those neighborhoods is that none of us want a new road, *at all*. We are already effectively connected to one another through the series of bike and walking trails (not to mention a brand new dirt track that city put in within the last few months) that the city of Madison has provided for us. If anything, our collective opposition to the road has connected us.

I urge the alders to vote against the plan to bifurcate Sycamore Park and extend Nakoosa Trail. It may seem small, but to those of us who not just love it, but essentially live in it, the change would be seismic.

After all, how much would you like your city routing traffic through your backyard?

Respectfully,