

From: [stmsbr](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#); [Mayor](#); [Verveer, Michael](#)
Subject: Re: State Street Pedestrian Mall
Date: Sunday, July 18, 2021 5:23:50 AM

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I sent in a contact weeks ago regarding State Street via the city website comment form, but never heard back from anyone. Additionally, I never heard back from anyone (Transportation Commission or the Mayor's office) on this initial, May 22nd email (above). I would hope that responding to your city constituents would be an important and prioritized part of your roles. I am now copying Mike Verveer's District 4 email into this thread directly, in hopes that perhaps he will respond.

Scott McKinney

On Sat, May 22, 2021 at 5:21 AM stmsbr <stmsbr@gmail.com> wrote:

To members of the Transportation Commission:

Shame on you for your lack of vision, openness to change and support of retailers in the State Street corridor. I read with incredible dismay your opposition to the thoughtful and forward thinking proposal to transform State Street into a pedestrian mall, something I have advocated for going back decades. Not only would this provide much needed support to struggling retailers in the area, but it would dramatically improve the experience of both Madison area residents and out of town visitors as they walk, shop and eat along State Street. Who wants to enjoy a conversation, meal or glass of wine as a Madison Metro bus comes chugging along or a delivery truck is idling nearby?

To utilize the flimsy excuse of Rapid Transit needs is shortsighted; surely alternate plans could be thoughtfully crafted (doesn't this happen with some regularity during special events such as Maxwell Street Days, Ironman Wisconsin, etc?). It is a lack of vision such as yours that prevents Madison's downtown to reach a level of attractiveness for both residents and visitors that cities such as Boulder, CO (with Pearl Street) have achieved.

As a former downtown resident and continued frequent visitor, I strongly urge the city to reconsider this and make immediate planning for a State Street pedestrian mall (I would urge the city to think big and include the entire capitol square) a priority. I look forward to your timely response.

Scott McKinney, Madison, WI