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June 6, 2008

To: W. Gilman Street Neighborhood Residents, Businesses, & Interested Parties

Re: Upcoming Meetings & Actions Regarding W. Gilman St. Reconstruction Project

After several public meetings of considering different options and input for reconstruction, the State Street Design Project Oversight Committee and Alderperson Verveer have introduced a resolution to the Common Council recommending to conduct a 120-day pilot to test two-way traffic on the 400 block of W. Gilman Street, including adding a new traffic signal phase for Gilman St at the existing signalized intersection of University Ave. and Frances St. Various options for the street are being considered because this section of W. Gilman Street, from State St. to University Ave, is scheduled for reconstruction in 2009.

The Committee and Alderperson made their recommendation based upon the State Street Design Project Plan, adopted by the Council in 2002, which recommended converting the 400 block of West Gilman Street from one-way to two-way traffic. Since concerns have been expressed regarding this conversion, the Committee and Alderperson requested that a 120-day trial be conducted to fully evaluate this concept prior to making a final recommendation and directing that the final reconstruction plans be developed. The recommendation specified that the pilot be evaluated on pedestrian safety, traffic flow on Gilman St., Frances St. and University Ave., and economic vitality measures in consultation with the State St Business Improvement District.

Background

At the request of the Committee and Alderperson, City staff met with the neighborhood, the Oversight Advisory Committee, and Madison's Central Business Improvement District (BID) board to discuss reconstruction options for W. Gilman Street between University Ave. and State St.. Three options were presented and are as follows:

1. Two – Way traffic flow with a right turn in / right turn out intersection with University Ave.
2. Two – Way traffic flow with a separate phase in the signal at the intersection with University Ave.
3. One – Way traffic flow with enlarged concrete terrace for full block.

The options are currently being displayed on the City of Madison's website at the following url address:

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/TrafficEngineering/>

In addition, more information on the State Street Design Project Plan can be found at:

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/planning/statestreet/statestreet.htm>

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Next Steps

On June 3, 2008, the Common Council referred the resolution item for discussion to the Board of Public Works (lead committee), Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commission and the Public Safety Review Board. On June 4, 2008, the Board of Public Works deferred the item to hear results from the two other Committees.

The following schedule has been set for the remaining public hearings:

Public Safety Review Board	June 10, 2008	Rm 103A City County Building
Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commission	June 24, 2008	Rm 260 Madison Municipal Bldg
Board of Public Works	July 2, 2008	Rm 108 City County Building
Common Council	July 15, 2008	Rm 201 City County Building

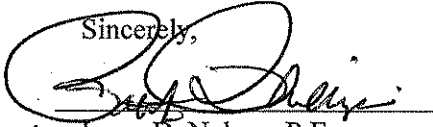
The City County Building is located at 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Madison, WI 53703 and the Madison Municipal Building is located at 215 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Madison, WI 53705.

The resolution and details of the committee meetings above may be viewed at the City's Legistar website:

<http://legistar.cityofmadison.com/mattersearch/> (in the keyword, type 10674)

If the recommendation to conduct the pilot is approved by the Council on July 15th, the proposed test would be performed approximately late summer through late fall of 2008. Results of the test would be reported back to the State Street Design Project Oversight Committee and Alderperson, for a final recommendation and direction on the 2009 reconstruction plans.

Anyone with questions or concerns about the project may contact the Project Engineer, Chris Petykowski, at 267-8678.

Sincerely,

Larry D. Nelson, P.E.
for City Engineer

LDN:CJP:DJM

cc: Ald. Mike Verveer
Ald. Eli Judge
Christy Bachmann, City Engineering
David Dryer, City Traffic Engineering
Dan McCormick, City Traffic Engineering
Bill Fruhling, City Planning