

From: [Charles Litweiler](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: The City's Share of the Hoepker Road/I-90 Interchange
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I don't know if the Commission ever is consulted on City required financing of the DOT's projects. If not they should be.

In May 2024 the Commission approved DOT plans for upgrades in Madison. A new full diamond interchange was included at Hoepker Road. I listened/watched that portion of the meeting in which the Commission 'concurred' with all the DOT's plans, including the full Interchange. There was no discussion. Madison is required to pay for a percentage (not disclosed) of the cost of the Interchange.

Sometime in the Fall of 2025 the DOT notified the City that the City's share would be approximately \$8.4 million. The DOT wants the City to respond to the 'request' this Spring. Apparently this requires a vote by the City Council.

I encourage you to advise the Council to reject the 'request.' The Transportation Department already faces a deficit in excess of \$5 million. The Interchange will be the 3rd in a less than 5 mile section of I-90. The presentation to you by Director Lynch indicated that the project had been planned for a long time. He mentioned that drivers had perceived problems accessing the American Center by a "convoluted" route. He said that the UW Hospital was supportive of the plan. Also that "perhaps" the American Center might contribute toward the expense.

This entire process has been opaque. This is the only new interchange in the 50 mile stretch of I-90 planned for upgrades. This part of the plan should have been considered separately first with public meetings and then by the Commission. No businesses have publicly said why the interchange is necessary. Nor has UW Hospital. There is a direct route from the west, Hanson Road, that routes traffic from Hwy. 51 into the American Center. It may well be that the transportation companies in the Center for Commerce and Industry want the project. The same may also be true for the now PGA approved Cherokee Club. The fact that no organization has publicly made the case for Madison to pay for the project is inexcusable.

Even if you do not as a Commission weigh in on this expenditure my hope is that some of you as individuals will discourage the City Council from paying for this project.

Thanks for reading this.

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