

From: Mike Anderson [mbanderson@wisc.edu]  
Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2008 9:12 AM  
To: Mike Anderson  
Cc: Traffic  
Subject: Re: Bike path idea

I've been out of the country doing research at CERN in France for several months, so I was surprised to hear a friend of mine just tell me "my idea" is already almost done with lights and a bridge over Walnut St.  
Guess I'm a little late, sorry :)  
Mike

On May 25, 2008, at 11:07 AM, Mike Anderson wrote:

Hi,

I hear we can submit ideas for bike paths to this address, and I have one I've been sitting on for a couple years that I've been waiting to tell someone about.

One of the busiest roads in downtown Madison is Campus Dr. Anyone who's even tried to go home after 5pm can tell you about cars backed up on that road. For me, during the many bus rides I've taken over that road, while sitting and looking out the window, I think about how much faster I'd be able to go on my bike - if only there was just a path right there that was a strait a shot as Campus Dr.

Well, now, here's an opportunity!

I'm suggesting a bike path between the railroad tracks and Campus Dr., starting on the east end where the tracks cross University Ave. I know that a bike path can go pretty close to the tracks because of the bike path east of the Charter St. power plant. And there's more room than that between the railroad tracks and Campus Dr! The easy place for the other end of the path would be Locust Dr. & and Shorewood Blvd, because there's a bike path on the road there. Looks like it would be a total length of a little over 1.5 miles of path.

This would be a valuable bike path for commuters, and the creation of the path requires nothing to be torn down since it's just a grass patch anyway.

(Oh, and if at all possible, a chain link fence around the path should be avoided. They're not very pretty - who wants to ride next to a chain link fence?)

Thanks for your time,  
Michael Anderson  
Graduate Student in Physics  
Chamberlin Hall

PS: If this path idea doesn't work out now, then perhaps someday, many years from now, when the Charter St Coal Power plant finally closes, the railroad tracks could be torn up and a bike path built on top where the tracks were. Oh what a great long path that would be! People could commute all the way to Middleton!