

[RECEIVED AFTER
1 PM.]

TPC 02.10.16
ITEM G.3.
HAND-OUT

Benishek Clark, Anne

From: Joe Schmitt [jschmitt106@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:23 PM
To: Sobota, Timothy; Benishek Clark, Anne; Rummel, Marsha; MNA Board; Gary Tipler
Subject: Jenifer St bus rerouting

Transit and Parking Commission,

2/10 AGENDA, Legistar file #41691

http://legistar.cityofmadison.com/meetings/2016/2/14563_A_TRANSIT_AND_PARKING_COMMISSION_16-02-10_Agenda.pdf

Item G.3. Metro: Jenifer Street Construction Plans and related Bus Stop and Detour

Information - TPC 02.10.16

Transit & Parking Commission

c/o Timothy Sobota, City of Madison, Metro Transit Division,

608 261 4289, <tsobota@cityofmadison.com>

TPC Secretary, ABenishekClark@cityofmadison.com

Be it known that I fully support the Marquette Neighborhood Association's alternate proposals for rerouting Madison Metro bus service during the Jenifer St reconstruction project.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph P. Schmitt
1304 Jenifer St.

Benishek Clark, Anne

From: Dayna Long [delizabeth.long@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:23 PM
To: Sobota, Timothy; Benishek Clark, Anne; Rummel, Marsha
Subject: Jenifer Street Bus Stop and Detour Information

Transit and Parking Commission,

2/10 AGENDA, Legistar file #41691

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Item G.3. Metro: Jenifer Street Construction Plans and related Bus Stop and Detour

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Hello,

I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposal to temporarily re-route buses to East Washington from Jenifer street during the upcoming construction on Jenifer. Though I am concerned about accessibility issues for neighborhood riders who would need to commute to and from East Washington in order to board their normal buses, my main concern is about the personal safety issues that the change would present. As a near-daily bus rider, I already consciously avoid getting on any bus that will leave me on East Washington after dark. I live on Williamson and am not comfortable walking the poorly lit, low-traffic blocks in between East Washington and my home. My concerns about personal safety and that particular area have increased since the high-profile sexual assault that took place on the bike path in between Willy and East Wash this fall. Please do not ask me and other people in the Marquette Neighborhood to add a stressful, potentially dangerous walk to our day-to-day lives. I strongly recommend Williamson as an alternative to E Washington. It's closer and heavily populated with lots of foot traffic. I am much more comfortable with the idea of walking after dark on Willy Street than I am walking from East Washington - or even on Spaight, for that matter.

Thanks for taking my thoughts into consideration.

Best,

Dayna Long

Benishek Clark, Anne

From: Gary Tipler [garytip8778@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:28 PM
To: Benishek Clark, Anne
Cc: Dorla Mayer
Subject: Fwd: jenifer st reconstruction bus re-routing

----- Forwarded message -----

From: dorla mayer <screendoorstudio@sbcglobal.net>
Date: Wed, Feb 10, 2016 at 8:55 AM
Subject: jenifer st reconstruction bus re-routing
To: tsobota@cityofmadison.com
Cc: "garytip8778@gmail.com" <garytip8778@gmail.com>

Dear Madison Metro,

Please re-route the buses on to Williamson St. I live on Williamson and operate a business there and welcome the temporary re-routing on to Williamson. I have not been contacted by GWABA about supporting a move to East Washington and am wondering where the opposition from businesses on Willy St. lies. My employees and customers will be inconvenienced by the move to East Washington and I feel the walk across the train tracks especially at night is not a safe option. Thanks for listening.

--

Dorla Mayer
851 Williamson St
Madison, WI 53703
[608-255-4987](tel:608-255-4987)
screendoorstudio@sbcglobal.net

From: Leslie Schroeder [leslie.c.schroeder@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:30 PM
To: Benishek Clark, Anne; Rummel, Marsha; mnaboard@marquette-neighborhood.org; Sobota, Timothy
Subject: Legistar file #41691

Dear Transit and Parking Commission members,

I am asking you please to reconsider relocating all of the bus lines from Jenifer Street to East Washington during the upcoming reconstruction. To do so would be leaving passengers to walk between Jenifer and East Washington which especially for women at night walking through a corridor in which at least two women have been attacked in the last year by an assailant who is still unapprehended is a truly awful and dangerous idea.

Not only is this considerable distance of nearly a half mile from existing stops opening up riders to an alarming potential for danger, but the distance itself is formidable for some. For myself and my young daughters, it will make riding the bus nearly useless. We often hop the bus to the downtown library which is about a mile from our house. If we were to walk to a bus stop at East Washington it would be equal to us having traveled half the distance to the library already.

I urge you to consider alternatives which could involve splitting the routes to various alternative streets during the reconstruction, such as diving them among Spaight, and Williamson. Particularly at least one temporary line down Williamson would be very useful to us, and knowing the challenges of siting bus stops one idea could be to reduce the number of stop locations. This would ease the accommodation of temporary stops and still be much closer for many riders and not be sending people down a long and potentially very dangerous walk between East Washington and Williamson.

Sincerely,

Leslie Schroeder
854 Jenifer

Benishek Clark, Anne

From: John [colemanjj@ameritech.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:39 PM
To: Benishek Clark, Anne
Cc: Rummel, Marsha
Subject: TPC item G3: my support for buses on Williamson St.

Transit and Parking Commission,

I support the re-routing of buses to Williamson St. during the Jenifer St. reconstruction.

I am a cyclist and bus user. Moving the bus routes out of the neighborhood during Jenifer St. reconstruction is a bad idea. Bus stops on East Washington are not a practical alternative for much of the Marquette neighborhood.

thanks you,

john coleman

--

john coleman
413 S. Dickinson St.
Madison, WI 53703
608-256-8164

From: Cosmic [cosmicstarchild@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:39 PM
To: Benishek Clark, Anne; Sobota, Timothy; Rummel, Marsha; mnaboard@marquette-neighborhood.org
Cc: Gary Tipler
Subject: Rerouting of Bus Routes for Jenifer St Construction

Transit and Parking Commission,
2/10 AGENDA, Legistar file #41691
http://legistar.cityofmadison.com/meetings/2016/2/14563_A_TRANSIT_AND_PARKING_COMMISSION_16-02-10_Agenda.pdf
Item G.3. Metro: Jenifer Street Construction Plans and related Bus Stop and Detour Information - TPC 02.10.16

Transit & Parking Commission
c/o Timothy Sobota, City of Madison, Metro Transit Division,
[608 261 4289](tel:6082614289), <tsobota@cityofmadison.com>
TPC Secretary, ABenishekClark@cityofmadison.com

I am writing to register opposition to rerouting the Jenifer St buses to East Washington for the six or so months. I take the bus to work Monday-Friday, and I leave my house at approximately 6:25AM, at which time it is sometimes dark, with very little traffic and few people out. I would be extremely leery of walking to E Washington at that unsafe hour, at any time of year, along the industrial area locations and near the bike path, particularly during inclement weather. If this were to take place during time when pavement is slippery, it would be particularly precarious to walk those extra blocks.

I support an alternative to rerouting the bus service to East Washington Avenue for the project.

- East Washington Avenue is far too distant for the heavy bus ridership in the neighborhood.
- The walk through the former industrial and rail area has few "eyes on the street" and has proven to be unsafe, particularly for women after dark.

There are two alternatives that the Traffic Committee proposes:

A. Provide a shuttle service for the neighborhood to provide service around the Capitol Square to make connections to other lines. Or,

B. Provide service of existing lines on Williamson Street, with limited designated stops -- three are suggested. The neighborhood will work with business owners to secure approval for the temporary stops.

6. Support reevaluating the proposed shift of the westbound bus stop on the northwest side of Ingersoll due to its negative impact on traffic visibility and safety for multiple properties.

- The two proposed bus pads west of Ingersoll on the north side of Jenifer would block visibility of vehicles and bikes from drivers exiting driveways west of Ingersoll.

I am also wondering why buses couldn't be rerouted along Spaight St--is it because the street is too narrow? If not Spaight St, my choice would definitely be Williamson St. I would definitely prefer not to have to spend an additional 20-30 minutes to walk to the

bus or to add to my commute time, which is already at least 45 minutes to the westside. I implore you to PLEASE consider the safety of the bus riders above all. I appreciate your response to my concerns.

Thank you,

Carlyn Pruess
1029 Spaight St #D-1
Madison, WI 53703

From: Megan Marsh-McGlone [meganmcglone@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:45 PM
To: Sobota, Timothy; Benishek Clark, Anne; Rummel, Marsha; mnaboard@marquette-neighborhood.org
Subject: OPPOSED to rerouting buses to East Washington Avenue

I am a resident of the Marquette Neighborhood and I am writing to say I am OPPOSED to rerouting buses to East Washington for the following reasons:

1. I ride the Jenifer Street bus routes daily with my toddler, and walking all the way to East Washington to catch the bus is too far for a toddler to walk. It is also too far for many people in our neighborhoods who are differently abled and cannot walk distances that are that far. I am also extremely concerned about having to cross East Washington with my toddler-- it is already a dangerous street for adult pedestrians to cross, I do not want my toddler crossing that street.

2. I am female and I often come home well after dark-- I am very uncomfortable walking through those desolate areas between E. Wash and Willy Street late at night- especially after the attempted homicide and rape that happened in that area last year. The location where that attempted homicide and rape took place would be the exact area where I would have to walk to get home. I would also feel very unsafe walking through that area after dark alone with my toddler.

3. There are already plenty of buses on East Washington-- if they were a suitable option for the people living in this neighborhood then we would already be taking those buses- but everyone I know, myself included, in this neighborhood does not take the buses on East Washington, but takes the buses on Jenifer instead.

4. Many of us purchased homes in this neighborhood because the bus lines are so close by. Many of us have decided how many personal vehicles we need based on those nearby bus lines. Moving the buses so far away with such short notice likely does not give most people in this neighborhood enough time to either move to a location with closer bus lines or to purchase additional vehicles if needed. Not to mention- if people decide they need more vehicles based on this bus line move, there will be even less parking than usual due to the closed streets during construction, and parking is already exceptionally limited in our neighborhood.

Moving the bus lines to Willy Street makes much more sense and is a safer and more inclusive and helpful option than moving them all the way to East Washington.

I am only just writing this letter today because I only just learned of this matter yesterday. I had previously heard that Jenifer bus lines would be kept very close by, either on Spaight or on Willy Street. I would have written in opposition earlier had I known that the plan was to move them to East Washington.

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c/o Timothy Sobota, City of Madison, Metro Transit Division,

608 261 4289, <tsobota@cityofmadison.com>

TPC Secretary, ABenishekClark@cityofmadison.com

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Megan Marsh-McGlone

From: deb.joeydog@gmail.com on behalf of Deb Joseph [joseph@cs.wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:56 PM
To: Sobota, Timothy; Benishek Clark, Anne; Rummel, Marsha; mnaboard@marquette-neighborhood.org
Subject: Bus stop at Ingersoll and Jenifer St.

We live at 1051 Jenifer St and have the eastbound bus stop in front of our house. Obviously it would be nice if the bus stop was moved from in front of our house to the other side of Ingersoll in front of the church. And, I understand why our neighbors across the street are not eager to have the bus stop moved to the location in front of their houses. All of this said, I think that we all enjoy having the bus and taking a "not in my backyard" attitude is not productive. I certainly think the arguments/objections about visibility are just that.

I believe that the biggest problem with the bus stops at Jenifer and Ingersoll is not the bus stop, but that this is a location where driver's switch and the busses idle to stay on schedule. Its not uncommon to have a bus just sitting and idling for 3-5 minutes in front of our house. In addition we are always short on parking because of the spots taken up all day long by the bus drivers' cars. The intersection of Jenifer and Ingersoll has 3 single family houses and a church. While busses idling in front of the church may not be a problem, it is a problem on all the other 3 corners. If the busses simply stopped and moved on (no driver switching, and schedule catch-up), I don't think the location of the bus stop would be such a big issue.

So, how about solving the real problem: find a better location for the bus drivers to transfer and catch up the schedule; one that is not directly in front of single family houses.

Sincerely,
Deb Joseph and Paul Young

From: deb.joeydog@gmail.com on behalf of Deb Joseph [joseph@cs.wisc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:56 PM
To: Sobota, Timothy; Benishek Clark, Anne; Rummel, Marsha; mnaboard@marquette-neighborhood.org
Subject: Bus stop at Ingersoll and Jenifer St.

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So, how about solving the real problem: find a better location for the bus drivers to transfer and catch up the schedule; one that is not directly in front of single family houses.

Sincerely,
Deb Joseph and Paul Young

From: Scott Thornton [sbthornton@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:17 PM
To: Benishek Clark, Anne
Cc: Kamp, Charles
Subject: Jenifer Street Reconstruction and Bus Stops

Dear Commission Members,

Unfortunately I've been out of town and not able to attend this evening's meeting regarding the Jenifer Street Reconstruction.

I live at 1104 Jenifer St and understand my neighbors concerns. However, I also am impeded by buses stopped for extended periods of time in front of my home and driveway. I do not have a parking lot behind my property and am only able to back out which can be tricky. I also on occasion have trouble getting into my driveway.

That said, I trust that Madison Metro and the TPC will do what is best for the safety of passengers, pedestrians and vehicles including bikes. Long term you really should be looking at a better alternative to changing shifts that would keep your buses from idling in front of our historic homes. Metro is not a good neighbor in that regard.

I also believe that you should reroute buses to Williamson Street during construction, and in fact believe they just belong there. If you are ever going to promote Metro as something more than commuter service you should be looking at that. Already more people get on the bus at my corner from across Williamson. That is where dense housing is being built. Someday it would be nice to see a "Shop Willy Street by Bus" promotion. That's not going to happen if you're afraid to drive it.

Sincerely,

Scott B. Thornton
1104 Jenifer

Benishek Clark, Anne

From: Denise Jess [denisejessconsulting@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 2:18 PM
To: Sobota, Timothy; Benishek Clark, Anne; Rummel, Marsha; mnaboard@marquette-neighborhood.org
Subject: proposed temp bus stop changes

Transit and Parking Commission,

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Item G.3. Metro: Jenifer Street Construction Plans and related Bus Stop and Detour

Information - TPC 02.10.16

I am writing with concern about the proposed relocation of bus stops from Jenifer Street to E. Washington Ave. during the Jenifer Street reconstruction. I ask that the alternatives proposed by the Marquette Neighborhood Association be considered and one of these options be adopted by Metro Transit.

I have grave concerns for safety if the stops are moved to E. Washington for my family and for the neighborhood residents in general.

First, I am a person with a visual disability and am also a small business owner who travels to see my clients in their workplaces as an executive coach and instructor. Since I legally am unable to drive, I use the bus system routinely and am dependent on it for my business' success. Moving bus stops to E. Washington means that I will need to cross that busy street to either get on the bus or when I get off it, depending on direction of travel. While the intersection of Patterson and E. Washington, the one I'm most likely to use, is controlled, it is still a dangerous one for those of us with limited vision as there is not an audible signal there and it is a large intersection. It is challenging to see across the lanes of traffic to ascertain that the walk light is on and then navigate all the lanes of traffic before the time runs out and the signal changes. I strongly feel that needing to navigate this intersection multiple times a day puts me at risk for injury.

Also, I have two teenage daughters who attend East High School. They ride the bus daily to and from school, often leaving very early in the morning, before 6:00 AM and returning in the evening since they both athletes and highly involved in the campus community. Given the lack of daylight in the early morning and evening hours and the recent brutal sexual assault in the railroad corridor, I feel it is extremely unsafe for young women to pass through that area alone or even in pairs. My daughters, like several other kids in this neighborhood are making meaningful contributions in their school community, but not having safe bus access will seriously impact their involvement.

The MNA's suggestions are concrete, specific and achievable. I urge you to adopt one of their alternative suggestions so that those of us living in the Williamson-Marquette Neighborhood continue to have access to our schools, community and our livelihoods.

Thank you,

Denise

Denise Jess Consulting
denisejessconsulting@gmail.com
djess@denisejessconsulting.com
608-258-9652 office
608-516-8127 cell
www.denisejessconsulting.com