



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Master

**File Number: 40307**

**File ID:** 40307

**File Type:** Resolution

**Status:** Items Referred

**Version:** 1

**Reference:**

**Controlling Body:** LONG RANGE  
TRANSPORTATION  
PLANNING  
COMMITTEE

**File Created Date :** 10/25/2016

**File Name:** To include new street construction that recognizes the importance of street trees and tree canopy and delineating the terms for community involvement in decision-making in street reconstruction projects in the City's "Complete Streets" program as adopted

**Final Action:**

**Title:** To include new street construction that recognizes the importance of street trees and tree canopy and delineating the terms for community involvement in decision-making in street reconstruction projects in the City's "Complete Streets" program as adopted by the Common Council on 12/15/09 (Resolution RES-09-00997, Legislative File No. 16250).

### Notes:

**Sponsors:** David Ahrens

**Effective Date:**

**Attachments:** Resolution 16250.pdf, Public Comment - Leg File 40307 - TPC 11.09.16.pdf

**Enactment Number:**

**Author:** Ald. David Ahrens, District 15

**Hearing Date:**

**Entered by:** lveldran@cityofmadison.com

**Published Date:**

### Approval History

Version	Date	Approver	Action
1	10/26/2016	Elizabeth York	Approve

### History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Council Office	10/25/2016	Referred for Introduction				
	<b>Action Text:</b>	This Resolution was Referred for Introduction					
	<b>Notes:</b>	Sustainable Madison Committee, Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commission, Board of Public Works, Plan Commission, Transit & Parking Commission					

1	COMMON COUNCIL	11/01/2016	Refer	SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE	Pass
	<b>Action Text:</b>	A motion was made by Verveer, seconded by Rummel, to Refer to the SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE. The motion passed by voice vote/other.			
	<b>Notes:</b>	Additional referrals to Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commission, Board of Public Works, Plan Commission, Transit and Parking Commission, Long Range Transportation Planning Committee.			
1	SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE	11/02/2016	Refer	PEDESTRIAN/BIC YCLE/MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION	
	<b>Action Text:</b>	This Resolution was Refer to the PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE/MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION			
	<b>Notes:</b>				
1	SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE	11/02/2016	Refer	BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS	11/16/2016
	<b>Action Text:</b>	This Resolution was Refer to the BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS			
	<b>Notes:</b>				
1	SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE	11/02/2016	Refer	PLAN COMMISSION	
	<b>Action Text:</b>	This Resolution was Refer to the PLAN COMMISSION			
	<b>Notes:</b>				
1	SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE	11/02/2016	Refer	TRANSIT AND PARKING COMMISSION	
	<b>Action Text:</b>	This Resolution was Refer to the TRANSIT AND PARKING COMMISSION			
	<b>Notes:</b>				
1	SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE	11/02/2016	Refer	LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATIO N PLANNING COMMITTEE	
	<b>Action Text:</b>	This Resolution was Refer to the LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE			
	<b>Notes:</b>				
1	TRANSIT AND PARKING COMMISSION	11/09/2016			
1	BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS	11/16/2016	Return to Lead with the Recommendation to Place on File	SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE	
	<b>Action Text:</b>	Rob Phillips, City Engineer, presented details of the resolution. Motion made by Branson, second by Ald. Skidmore to Return to Lead with the Recommendation to Place on File to the SUSTAINABLE MADISON COMMITTEE. Motion passed by voice vote/other.			
	<b>Notes:</b>				
1	PLAN COMMISSION	11/21/2016			
1	COMMON COUNCIL	11/22/2016			

**Text of Legislative File 40307**

**Fiscal Note**

The proposed resolution will require residents living on residential streets to vote to accept or reject sidewalk construction. Engineering estimates that this will affect two to three projects per year with 50 to 100 property owners affected by each project. In addition, there may be up to six or so sidewalk construction projects with six or less property owners per project. The typical cost to a homeowner for this type of project is \$1,000 to \$2,000.

The proposed resolution requires the voting to be done under the supervision of the Clerk's Office. There is no estimate at this time of the additional expenses that may be incurred by the Clerk's Office for this. Therefore, it is assumed the supervision of the voting will be done with existing resources. If that is not possible, an additional resolution amending the Clerk's Office budget may be required.

**Title**

To include new street construction that recognizes the importance of street trees and tree canopy and delineating the terms for community involvement in decision-making in street reconstruction projects in the City's "Complete Streets" program as adopted by the Common Council on 12/15/09 (Resolution RES-09-00997, Legislative File No. 16250).

**Body**

PREAMBLE

Complete Streets is a national movement to ensure that streets are designed to enable safe access for all users, pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders, of all ages and abilities, to be able to move safely along and across the street. This resolution reaffirms the city's commitment to these concepts to include sustaining our urban forest and notably, our tree canopy and trees in the terrace area.

WHEREAS, the Platinum Bicycling City Planning Committee's report Making Madison the Best City in the Country for Bicycling, adopted by the Common Council on April 8, 2008, recommends that the City adopt a Complete Streets Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the city's adopted Bicycle Transportation Plan, Pedestrian Transportation Plan, and Comprehensive Plan already include complete streets concepts, goals, policies and objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Madison Area Metropolitan Planning Organization's Regional Transportation Plan 2030 for the Madison Metropolitan Area and Dane County includes complete streets concepts in its goals and policy objectives; and,

WHEREAS, Complete Streets concepts include sidewalks and curb ramps for pedestrians, bike lanes, accessible bus stops and a variety of ways to make street crossings easier and safer for pedestrians and bicyclists; and,

WHEREAS, the emergence of the Emerald Ash Borer will devastate most of the city's 21,000 terrace trees in the next few years; and,

WHEREAS, as "Tree City, USA" since 1990, Madison recognizes that its urban forest sustains healthy people, friendly neighborhoods, high-value homes, wildlife and businesses; and,

WHEREAS, terrace trees, are an integral part of the urban forest, and as such clean the air, capture rainwater and support both individual and community goals for healthy, safe and prosperous communities; and,

WHEREAS, as an unintended effect of the Complete Streets concept, the construction of sidewalks in the course of street reconstruction in established neighborhood requires the massive loss of mature trees and street tree canopy in residential areas which in turn results in loss of wildlife, the loss of shade and an increase in summer heat and an overall shift in "the look" of neighborhood; and,

WHEREAS, almost all communities faced with the prospect of the loss of tree canopy due to the construction of sidewalks have voiced opposition to this change in their environment; and,

WHEREAS, the city of Madison has a long-standing tradition of citizen participation in decision-making represented in Engineering Division's Public Involvement Meetings and more formally, in the polling of neighbors in the event of proposed installation of speed humps which results in their acceptance or rejection,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council reaffirms its commitment to "Complete Streets" and directs staff of various agencies including but not limited to Planning & Development, City Engineering, Traffic Engineering and Madison Metro to follow to the extent possible this framework for all street construction involving new developments; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event of street reconstruction projects on residential streets, residents of the affected streets will vote to accept or reject the construction of sidewalks; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that under the supervision of the City Clerk a ballot will be conducted and a majority of received mail ballots will determine the result; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this provision will not apply to collector or arterial roadways.