

From: lesaboat@charter.net
To: [All Alders](#); [Transportation Commission](#); [Wolfe, James](#)
Subject: FW: Lake Mendota Drive ideas
Date: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 4:46:32 PM

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Please include this email in item # 70626 legistar. I forgot to request it when originally sent.
thank you

From: lesaboat@charter.net
To: "Transportationcommission@cityofmadison.com"
Cc:
Sent: Tuesday April 12 2022 4:39:31PM
Subject: Lake Mendota Drive ideas

Please look at attached photos of what we are envisioning for Lake Mendota Drive. A multi use in street permeable pathway 8' wide on one side with narrow roadway for cars. The only lines would be denoting the walkway. It's a shared street with cars. We could walk beside wheelchairs, service dogs and our children instead of behind. Parking could be limited in particularly narrow areas that require it. Trees would be saved with permeable pavement and more green space could be added, as well.

Please see this as a great opportunity to do something very different instead of the traditional sidewalk. Every neighborhood doesn't have the same needs or wants. Lake Mendota Drive was once considered a rural development. That's why we moved here. We'd like it to remain that way. We are just like Arboretum Drive, Highland Drive and all along Lake Mendota Drive into Shorewood and University of Wisconsin...Rural, natural environment with a road running through. We share the love of nature and we share the road.

If cost is the issue, let us work on finding extra funding. We are motivated and capable. We are trying to help.

Remember...

- * 70% of 200+ surveyed are NOT in support of the current project design (perhaps even more in our neighborhood now, as more are finding out about this project).
- * 81% of those are over age 50, with 35% of those over 70, and 18 listed as disabled
- * 40% have lived in their homes over 20 years
- * no pedestrian accidents ever recorded on LMD
- * average speed of cars is 17-19 mph

As we all age, the more we all require the "familiar" in our lives. Our homes, our neighborhoods, our routines. It's a fact of aging. The non existent "safety" and "accessibility" issue you speak of providing when this project is completed as it stands, is actually making our older neighbors, ourselves, feel less familiar and less safe in our own neighborhood.

You're taking away vital parking for visitors and services to these older folks who have lived here almost all their lives and now rely on it for their own health and mental well being

You're isolating them even further than they already are
You're forcing them to maintain a sidewalk that they can't physically maintain or financially pay to have it maintained AND
You're forcing them to pay the additional assessment plus additional yearly property taxes it requires to stay in their homes.
This is not equity. This is not accessibility or safety. This is faux equity, disguised and labled as accessibility at the expense of the older population in this neighborhood. It's not right or fair.

Please read Elma Metzloff's email from 5122 Lake Mendota Drive in the public comments. It made me tear up when I read it. This is what I'm taking about. She's 88! and there are others like her that want to remain here as long as they can. As long as WE all can...where we already feel safe and at home where we grew up and walked the drive daily. (And btw, there were many similar comments like hers about Tokay Blvd and Hammersley Road in the last Public Works meeting. Is this what the city wants for our future? This can't be part of Madison's vision. You're forcing older citizens out of the homes they've known almost all their adult lives. If this were your own parents or grandparents would you be so willing to approve these projects that take away their independence?) Very sad.

Please delay this project to allow new designs to be presented that we'd all feel better about. A Street level wider, shared walkway accessible to everyone... kids, wheelchairs, bikes, large groups and cars...everyone all walking and riding together!

Thank you,
Lesia Reisdorf
1814 Camus Lane (formerly 5702 LMD resident)
Spring Harbor resident since 1961













