From: H.

To: <u>Transportation Commission</u>; <u>Field, Derek</u>

Subject: Requesting opinion recorded for MacArthur Road/Sycamore Ave project

Date: Sunday, September 7, 2025 9:53:01 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello transportation commission,

I am emailing to submit my concerns for this project.

Specifically I am opposed to the staffs requirement to put sidewalk on both sides of MacArthur Road and MacArthur Court.

I am concerned that the staff has willfully ignored the requests of multiple residents and property owners. It is clear at this point that we have been provided a bait and switch at the last minute. Nashaly specifically has told multiple residents that they would not be forced to have sidewalks and that there was compromise to ensure safe passage on one side of a street.

As the MPNA president I walked the proposed site with the entire staff/team in Nov 2024. At that time the team (both streets and engineering were in attendance) noted that sidewalks would not be required on both sides of MacArthur road. At that time the team noted that side walk would never be required for both sides of MacArthur Court given the dead end nature of that section and lack of vehicle traffic would not justify the costs or impacts; with a possibility of requiring it only on the SE side to connect to the remnant path to Duncan drive.

In early summer 2025 at the informational meeting this was again reiterated to the impacted residents. At that time Nashaly informed the residents we would be provided 3 hypothetically options of MacArthur Road, MacArthur Court, Larson, unimproved sycamore, and improved sycamore subsections as part of a survey. That survey ONLY provided options for discussion of the unimproved portion of sycamore and neglected to provide any options for other subsections. Many residents noted to me that they were confused on if they were even allowed to leave comments for anything beyond the unimproved sycamore options; showing the poorly designed survey appeared to allude to the new surprise addition of proposed sidewalks.

Last week was the first time the staff have presented this revised plan with sidewalks on all sides to residents and property owners. Clearly a big surprise to many and hence the large boils of additional surveys with comments that were submitted in the past week as residents used the comments field to add their concerns about the sidewalks.

I have reviewed the staffs PowerPoint that they plan to present to the plan commission on 10 Sept and nowhere does it account for the overwhelming comments that were provided in the survey. I have confirmation by at least 8 impacted properties all of which have reiterated that they do not want sidewalks forced on both sides of MacArthur Road or on either side of MacArthur Court and they made comments specifically in the survey question 14. I am asking specifically that the commission raise this concern with staff and ask on the record for a submission of all comments from the survey results in order for the TC to see the full details. I also made request by the staff to delay the meeting with the TC to give additional opportunity to meet with residents given the last second addition of these sidewalks to the

proposed plans; this was sadly denied.

I have also reviewed the safe streets and green streets policies and while I understand the default standard suggestion of full sidewalks, the policy also clearly dictates that staff and the city needs to consider the community, the desires of property owners/residents, and the broader impacts; including environmental.

Sidewalks are needed for safe passage but that has been accomplished in our neighborhood for over 100 years with the sidewalks we already have in place with zero recorded pedestrian accidents. Adding more sidewalks is an unnecessary environmental impact as concrete is costly to install and also increases non permeable surfaces. Sidewalks lead to increased salt usage which also negatively impacts our lakes and waterways. Sidewalks lead to increased negative health impacts/risks of our aging population when they are forced to shovel and maintain them in inclement weather. Many of our residents specifically purchased properties because they do NOT have sidewalks. If you look at the majority of the character of MPN; sidewalks are not on any internal neighborhood streets and only historically on one side of more heavily travelled streets; ex MacArthur road.

I implore you to talk to the actual residents and property owners to find a suitable compromise that fits the city policies while also not negatively impacting the character and historical nature of our neighborhood. At this stage the staff has not provided any room for a compromise and actually appears to have ignored multiple comments in their recommendations.

I am requesting that we only add side walks to make the minimal connections needed from the south end of MacArthur road to sycamore and those are only on one side. I am requesting we do not add any sidewalks to MacArthur court; a dead end road servicing only 4 residents properties with minimal vehicle traffic.

Can you please reply ahead of the TC meeting to acknowledge receipt of this email and that this will be placed on record?

I am unfortunately in poor cell reception on my first vacation in 18 years so it will be difficult for me to attend the meeting on Wednesday but I would like to know this is being taken into account.

Sincerely, Hilton