

From: Aaron Anding [mailto:aaron.anding@andingrealty.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2012 3:21 PM
To: Parks, Timothy; Dailey, Janet; McCormick, Dan; Skidmore, Paul; Kelley, Chris
Cc: Burse Surveying and Engineering Inc
Subject: Old Sauk Road and CSM of 9624 Old Sauk Road

Dear Alder Skidmore and City of Madison Representatives,

I am sending this e-mail to follow-up on my conversation with Alder Skidmore, my conversation with Tim Parks and messages that I have left for several of you today.

My name is Aaron Anding and I live at 9601 Shadow Ridge Trail in the Greystone Neighborhood, just north and west of the intersection of Old Sauk Road and Cricket Lane. I am treasurer of the Greystone Neighborhood Association Board, but I am not sending this e-mail at the request of the board. Please do know that these topics have been discussed multiple times at board meetings and they are a concern for many Greystone residents.

Tonight, the plan commission considers the subdivision of a two acre parcel at 9624 Old Sauk Road. I neither oppose nor support the proposed Certified Survey Map. However, I am concerned about the intersection of Old Sauk Road and Cricket lane, just east of the parcel proposing the CSM.

Within the last few years, the City of Madison reconstructed Old Sauk Road. It is the belief of many Greystone residents that the city made the intersection of Old Sauk Road and Cricket Lane more dangerous when they reconstructed Old Sauk Road. The intersection of Old Sauk Road and Cricket Lane is a busy intersection and the gateway to both the Greystone and western Blackhawk neighborhoods. I have several concerns about the current state of this intersection and many of my neighbors share these concerns.

The reconstructed Old Sauk Road is significantly wider than it was prior to reconstruction. I am not certain if the traffic lanes are wider, but traffic lanes feel wider. Also, the right of way from the south side to the north side now seems significantly wider than it was prior to reconstruction. While the wider lanes give more space for cars and bicycles, I believe that this wider area encourages higher traffic speeds and I don't believe that this is desirable in a residential neighborhood. Cars now rarely travel at or below the posted limit of 35 mph.

Just east of the intersection of Old Sauk Road and Cricket Lane, the westbound lanes of Old Sauk Road are merged from two lanes to one lane. I realize that this is due to the fact that there is only one lane in either direction on Old Sauk Road in the Town of Middleton. However, the location of this merging so close to the intersection of Old Sauk Road and Cricket Lane causes a dangerous situation because the left lane is forced to merge right and, many times, folks in the right hand lane are turning right onto Cricket Lane. Is it possible to move this merging west of the intersection of Old Sauk Road and Cricket Lane?

Prior to the reconstruction of Old Sauk Road, there was a right turn lane at Cricket Lane when westbound on Old Sauk Road. This right turn lane gave Greystone and Blackhawk residents a safe space to slow down and turn safely into our neighborhood. With the elimination of that turn lane and the merging of westbound traffic just east of Cricket Lane, there is little time or space

for merging drivers to make adjustments and slow down when they face drivers in the right lane making a right turn. There is plenty of room in the right of way to add a right turn lane. Is it possible to make this right turn safer than it is today? Currently, there is a left turn lane at Old Sauk Road when eastbound on Old Sauk Road. There must be significantly less traffic west of Cricket Lane than there is east of Cricket Lane, so surely there must be a way to give safer access into our neighborhoods.

Finally, the enormous width of Old Sauk Road at Cricket Lane means that there is more road to be covered with snow in the winter. That snow has to be put somewhere and the plowing trucks often pile snow in the painted median in the middle of Old Sauk Road on either side of Cricket Lane. In a normal winter after a medium to large snowfall, these snow piles are a severe impairment to the vision of left turning vehicles. Often in the winter, when I turn left from Cricket Lane onto eastbound Old Sauk Road, I have no idea what is coming from the west because it is impossible to see to the west. It is doubly difficult because eastbound drivers crest a hill just west of Cricket Lane, so it is difficult to see traffic even without the snow piles in the middle of the road. Is there another solution that can improve vision and safety at this intersection? In my opinion, the best solution might be to pile snow along the south side of Old Sauk Road where it would not impair the vision for nearly as many neighborhood residents.

After speaking with Tim Parks, I have decided not to attend tonight's meeting. I believe that this e-mail can help get our neighborhood's concerns addressed without impacting the subdivision of 9624 Old Sauk Road.

I look forward to further conversations about these matters.

Kind regards,
Aaron Anding – 9601 Shadow Ridge Trail 239-3423

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