

March 23, 2009

Office of the Mayor  
Office of the Common Council  
Board of Public Works  
Board of Estimates  
Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motor Vehicle Commission  
Janet Piraino, Ramon Harmon, Larry Nelson, Christy Bachmann, David Dryer

Dear City of Madison:

The Glendale Neighborhood Association respectfully requests rejection of the plans, specifications and scheduled assessments for the Camden Road Street Assessment District-2009 in the 16<sup>th</sup> Aldermanic District. We are in opposition to curb, gutter and sidewalks with speed bumps on Camden Road. We recommend the following alternatives to the proposal which address street repair issues in the area:

- a. Restore the unimproved streets with an asphalt edge along the property terrace
- b. Provide concrete aprons and drains on street corners to route water directly into the storm sewer
- c. Consider marking a pedestrian/bike path with paint on school bus route streets that have spread

Our concerns about the impending proposal include:

1. Negative impacts still exist and will not be resolved by installing curb, gutter and sidewalks
  - \*illegal activity such as drugs, theft, alcohol abuse
  - \*gang behavior including graffiti, drive by intimidation and fighting

It should be noted that LaFollette, Sennett and Glendale schools are located within walking distance of Camden Road

2. New safety concerns will be created:
  - \* low picture windows on ranch style homes will compromise privacy
  - \*shoveling and maintenance of sidewalks will be necessary
3. This proposal does not address significant drainage issues in other parts of the neighborhood and city
4. The 5% interest cost payment over 8 years or deferment of payment in the form of a lien on property prior to the sale of a parcel must be evaluated given the unstable economy
5. The City will reassess the properties resulting in higher property taxes as a cost for already economically overburdened citizens
6. The loss of the large number of existing mature trees

Historically, the Glendale Neighborhood Association has been engaged at the beginning rather than, as in this case, the end of process. Through the years we have collaborated with the City

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over Neighbors Opposing the Dump (NOD), Monona Golf Course low income housing, mosquito eradication pond water plans in Edna Taylor Conservation Park, Lafollette High School site improvements as well as Monona municipal projects like Woodland Park preservation where Tellurian is. The aesthetic features of our established neighborhood are analogous to Maple Bluff or Shorewood.

We have had a great relationship with the City of Madison. We have been helpful with our positive ideas and have some city wide concerns if this proposal goes through because similar to Glendale there are about ninety miles of unimproved streets where Chip Seal is applied in eight aldermanic districts without sidewalks. As in these other districts the Glendale Neighborhood was annexed without infrastructure modifications.

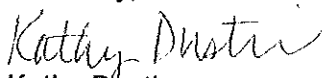
For residents who live on a fixed or moderate income the large estimate for curb, gutter and sidewalks given the downturn in the economy is overwhelming. If this potential project is approved, it can and will cause the flight of good citizens. Forcing our seniors, duplex residents, young and middle age homeowners into financial duress during the worst global economic crisis since the Great Depression is detrimental to sound fiscal policy.

The work of Liaison Officer Dan McFarlane should be recognized in collaboration with Glendale residents to maintain the quality of life desired on Camden Road and throughout the entire neighborhood. The continued basic services of police and fire protection, plowing, sweeping, safety and jobs creation is essential as we look forward to the vibrant connection our neighborhood has with the larger community.

We urge you to reject the proposal before you until the entire neighborhood can continue the discussion internally and with appropriate City staff about our priorities especially during these difficult economic times.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Kathy Dustin

President

Glendale Neighborhood Association

Cc: Board of Directors: Sue Christoffersen, Jack Chvala, Liz Doss Anderson, Mary McGrath, Carole McGuire, Ruth Richard, Jim Roloff, Greg Strain