

Wed, May 27, 09

Mr. Paul Skidmore, Alderman
9th District
13 Red Maple Trail
Madison, WI 53717

Dear Paul -

A few days ago, I spoke to you about neglect by the city of Madison in maintaining our city parks. My wife and I live in the Junction Ridge Condos and frequent several city parks in your district. We also go to other parks to watch soccer games, & drive by still other parks periodically.

Exactly two weeks ago (Thurs 5/14) I walked through Junction Ridge Park and couldn't help noticing the many thousands of dandelions in full bloom, with grass approx 5-6" high. Why hadn't this been sprayed or mowed before they bloomed?

My wife and I were up North after that for one week and returned the eve of Fri May 22. The next day I again took a walk at J. Ridge Park and was astounded at its looks and deteriorated condition. Thousands, hundreds of thousands, of dandelions turned to seed 12-14" tall, thistles & other weeds of equal height, and totally unusable for any

outdoor activity. I tried to imagine how neighbors felt everytime the wind blew. I was angered at such deplorable condition, wondered what the thinking is of our Parks Department, and couldn't imagine the thinking that transpired to let public property get to this condition.

Enclosed are several photos I took on Monday, May 25 - still no mowing!! A picture is worth a thousand words!!!

Our city seems to always have money to provide sanitary, police & fire personnel for the Muffin St Block Party, the State Street Halloween blast, money to construct speed bumps & bike paths, and a brand new library; how about a few thousand dollars to mow the city parks, & use ^{chemicals} ~~pesticides~~ to prevent this obnoxious situation in the future.

Paul, give me a call if questions arise. Do you need testimony down the line? When you think about it, every park in the city has looked like this. How deplorable!!

Regards,

Tom Consigny

8507 Reid Dr. (827-9347)

ID#15010

5/28

8:30 am

Paul -

On the radio this morning -

If residents of our city allow

their lawn area to exceed

6" (maybe 8") in height, they

are in violation of a city

ord & can be cited for

an unsightly / uncared - for

lawn. Will the city

cite itself for park areas?

? ? ?



