

From: Calvin Brace <Brace.calvin@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 16, 2017 10:34 PM
To: All Alders
Subject: Moped parking regulation concerns

General Information
Name: Calvin Brace
Address: Drexel Ave
City: Madison
State: Wi
ZIP: 53716

Message:

Dear Alders and Public Officials,

I write to express my concern over the pending decision regarding moped parking regulation. As a lifelong Madison resident, I have learned to adapt to life in a "college town." Whether it's been the rising cost of housing born from, and extending out of, the downtown area or the transportation issues that have arisen from the lack of viable parking options downtown and around campus, part of raising a family in Madison has been learning to adjust.

As someone who works downtown and frequents centrally located businesses, I have experienced some of the frustration associated with limited parking in the area. I am concerned about the impact of adding hundreds of mopeds to the pool of vehicles that would require the valued parking spaces downtown. Of further concern is the potential reduction in value of mopeds to both students and permanent Madison residents that comes from increased regulation. A significant reduction in value realized from utilizing mopeds will likely result in increased use of other vehicles which are less friendly to the environment and to issues of traffic density. Current policies allow students to live in more affordable housing areas of the city while commuting to campus without worrying about parking.

Please consider these concerns and vote NO to increased regulations on moped parking in Madison.

Thank you,

Calvin Brace

Recipient:
All Alders
From: Jack Steinberg <steinbergjack@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 16, 2017 10:50 PM
To: All Alders
Subject: Free moped parking is important

General Information
Name: Jack Steinberg
Address: Birch Ave
City: Madison
State: WI
ZIP: 53711

Message:
Dear alder,

I am writing to ask that you oppose any new laws or changes to moped parking in Madison.

Not all moped riders are college students. Many moped owners like myself are homeowners who pay taxes and vote in local elections. Many moped riders like myself do not use our moped to get to work or school downtown, but instead use our mopeds to get to business downtown and spend money. If we are not able to conveniently park our mopeds for free as we are now, we will stop going to business downtown and instead go to businesses outside of Madison. This will result in a loss of revenue for local businesses downtown and ultimately will result in a loss of tax revenue for the City of Madison

Some people claim that changes are necessary because a few mopeds are parked blocking pedestrians or because some people ride their moped on the sidewalk. The fact is that while mopeds are allowed to park on terraces and some sidewalk areas, there are already laws that prohibit mopeds from parking blocking pedestrian walkways and there are already laws prohibiting mopeds from being ridden on the sidewalk. The smartest and easiest way to stop people from riding on sidewalks or parking blocking pedestrians is to enforce the existing laws that are already in place to address those issues.

Another concern with restricting moped parking is that it will ultimately lead to more people choosing to simply drive a car downtown rather than ride a moped. This will result in more cars competing with already very limited parking downtown. In addition, mopeds would also be forced to compete for this same parking, which would annoy more drivers of cars and further discourage people from going downtown to patronize businesses, again ultimately resulting in lost tax revenue

Having walked and driven through most of downtown Madison, most areas do not have large numbers of mopeds parked on the terraces. Even in the areas with large numbers of mopeds, the mopeds are generally out of the way and are responsibly parked. Most moped riders follow the

laws and shut off the engine and get off their bike before leaving the road to park and walk the bike onto the terrace to park it. Passing an ordinance that affects the entire city because a few riders are already breaking the law is unnecessary and irresponsible on behalf of the City when the problems can be solved by simply enforcing the existing laws while still maintaining the convenience of allowing moped riders to ride downtown, conveniently park for free, and patronize businesses and special events downtown.

Jack Steinberg

Recipient:
All Alders

From: Fields, Debbie
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 11:32 AM
To: All Alders
Subject: Phone message: Alex White

Mr. White called on April 17, 2017, at 11:15 a.m. He's a District 7 resident. He asks the Council not to take away any rights or parking for moped riders. He works at the UW and commutes daily on a moped. If he can no longer park his moped on campus, he'll have to drive instead because there's no bus service where he lives, and he thinks this is probably the case for others as well. He didn't leave his phone number because he doesn't need a call back.

Thanks,
Debbie

From: Aaron Seligman <aaseligman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 3:40 PM
To: All Alders
Subject: Moped regulation - vote no

General Information

Name: Aaron Seligman
Address: Major Ave
City: Madison
State: WI
ZIP: 53716

Message:

I am writing, on behalf of myself and other families who depend on only needing one car, to voice my strong opposition to the moped parking ordinance. I live on the east side of Madison, and use my moped to work and attend events downtown. I have ridden a moped both as a student on campus and young professional working around the Capitol.

Regulating mopeds like motorcycles is no assurance it will solve a problem, but is assured to create problems. The proposed ordinance 1 is uninformed 2 unfairly targets mopeds 3 ignores alternatives 4 creates more parking problems 5 runs counter to our values.

First, the ordinance relies on outdated and inappropriate information. It cites only a 2012 study that focused solely on campus, BEFORE campus began requiring not only a moped parking pass, but added a requirement to park in a specific space. Any decision should be based on a city wide analysis which is a highly different context from campus and use more updated information.

Second, the proposal unfairly targets mopeds. If there are concerns about the visibility of mopeds, those arguments apply to bikes as well. If there are concerns about mope riders who ignore traffic rules, bikes and pedestrians and out of town visitors are much greater offenders. Mopeds are quieter than motorcycles, smaller than cars, and can more quickly and safely brake.

Third, the proposal ignores alternatives. Increasing enforcement of traffic rules, or rules against riders who do park in driveways or in areas that block access would be a good start. Or increasing fees for parking violations, considering a small surcharge. Or allowing double riders but I would favor requiring helmets to decrease the number of mopeds needed at any time. I would be happy to help consider other options.

Fourth, the ordinance creates problems. Downtown parking is already limited. There is no reason to incentivize more people to drive cars and take up more spots. If anything, we should be encouraging fewer cars on the isthmus. Why are we not considering a tax like New York or Mexico City or other places have on commuters? Mopeds are far more fuel efficient than almost every car.

Finally, restricting mopeds runs counter to our Madison values of creativity and good

governance. One of the things I love about Madison is seeing all the mopeds and the unique commuter culture we have - from buses, bikes, mopeds, and walkers. We complain about our Governor and state imposition of regulations when they are not needed in other areas Women's healthcare, drug testing, collective bargaining, to name a few. Why would we want to follow suit and create unnecessary regulations - especially without involving more community members in the decisions.

I would attend the hearing, but I will be taking my moped to my Ultimate Frisbee game, where I will safely park and allow plenty of space for cars. My wife and I are not wealthy, and both for economic and environmental reasons choose to only have one car. We use our moped as an alternative when we can't bike needing to dress up, carry items, or when it's too windy or rainy to bike. This ordinance is a no solution to a non-problem. Please do not advance it.

Aaron

Recipient:
All Alders

From: Jami Crespo <jamicrespo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2017 9:37 PM
To: All Alders
Subject: Opposition to Moped Parking Changes

General Information

Name: Jami Crespo
Address: Major Avenue
City: Madison
State: WI
ZIP: 53716

Message:
Alders,

Greetings. I write to strongly oppose the changes that are being planned to the moped parking rules that you are introducing at Tuesday's meeting. You want to treat mopeds like motorcycles and ban them from parking on sidewalks and terraces in all parts of the city where they can currently park for free. The study looking at this issue only noted problems near the UW campus with the main issue by terraces at large apartment buildings that house UW students. No big issues were noted by Capitol Square or elsewhere. You could fix the current issue of congested moped parking near UW campus without negatively impacting all other moped riders in the rest

of the city. There is no need to regulate mopeds as motorcycles when the problem area is extremely limited. You can, as already suggested, create a unique parking design near UW campus. You could also change the law to not allow mopeds to park in bicycle racks anywhere in the city. The city should be encouraging alternate forms of transportation besides cars, not unfairly targeting mopeds and making them undesirable for people to use. Below, I have listed several reasons for my position.

I have been a moped rider as both a UW student and a professional since 2009. I have been parking in the study area the entire time so I understand the issue very well. I was a graduate and law student until 2012 and I have worked downtown by Capitol Square since then where I use my moped to commute to work almost every day weather permitting.

My objections are further outlined below:

Current Moped Rules Decrease Competition for Parking on the Street

Allowing mopeds to park on sidewalks and terraces decreases competition for parking on the street which is already severely limited, particularly near UW campus and downtown. Changing the rules would increase competition for scarce spaces, especially in these areas.

The Study Notes the Only Real Issues it Found with Moped Parking is with UW Students and the Campus Area. I have Never Faced Congestion of Moped Parking Outside of the Campus Area. The Proposed Regulation is Extremely Broad and Doesn't Make Sense Given the Problem Areas

The study notes that the main issue with mopeds is terrace parking near apartment buildings that house UW students. It doesn't note major congestion in other areas. I have been parking downtown or around campus since 2009 and I've never seen an issue with congestion with mopeds around Capitol Square. The only problem areas I've ever seen are near the UW campus. I parked almost every day for several years near Pickney and East Wash and I have parked outside the city county building since 2013.

Although the study only analyzed a very small area, the author says mopeds should be treated as motorcycles throughout the entire city and so should be banned on all sidewalks and terraces throughout Madison. Again, outside of the UW campus area, I've never seen an issue with moped congestion wherever I've parked in the city since 2009. There's no reason to make a change to the law for the entire city, when only a small area has been causing an issue and when you have a proposed solution for that area.

People Bought Mopeds in Large Part Because of the Ability to Park them on Sidewalks and Terraces and Changing the Rules will Increase Vehicle Use and Harm Professionals Working Downtown.

Current parking rules are the reason myself and my friends who own mopeds bought them. If these rules change, I'll drive my car instead of taking my moped. The current system has also allowed our family to get by with only one car. When changes were proposed to moped parking

in 2012, I, along with several other individuals, spoke about our moped use. Everyone that came to the meeting was a working professional mostly in the downtown area and spoke of how beneficial it was to use their scooters to commute to work because of the current rules free sidewalk and terrace parking. They were able to park easily and could avoid driving their cars.

Current Rules for Moped Parking Could be Enforced to Decrease Violations and Current Rules Could be Changed to Not Allow mopeds in Bike Racks in the City

The study noted that mopeds sometimes violate current parking rules. To deal with this issue, you can simply increase enforcement instead of changing the entire parking structure for mopeds. In my opinion, mopeds should not be allowed to park in bike racks. I've never parked in a bike rack and have always been able to find an allowable spot. You could change the rules to not allow mopeds to park in bike racks and start doing better enforcement to ensure people are properly parked. There is no reason to ban all parking on sidewalks and terraces when you only have a small problem area near UW campus and when you haven't tried increasing enforcement.

The Proposed Policy Singles Out Mopeds as Undesirable

Most of the study focuses on bikes and the need for more bike parking. The recommendations propose adding a lot more bike parking to help address the issue and increase bike riding in the city. Conversely, the recommendation to deal with mopeds is to change the parking regulations to make moped riding less desirable. Your proposed policy uniquely singles out and targets moped riders as undesirable on the sidewalks when the vast majority of parking on sidewalks is for bikes. It is unclear why bikes are more aesthetically pleasing than mopeds. The city should be encouraging all forms of alternative transportation in the city.

This Change will Likely Negatively Impact Scooter Therapy's Business Even Further

When UW made the changes to its moped laws, Scooter Therapy suffered a large loss in business because not as many people wanted to buy mopeds because UW's policy made them less desirable. I use Scooter Therapy for service and asked the owner how the changes had impacted him. He had tried to fight against them and had to cut hours for staff due to declining business. Making this change will again likely negatively impact his business as there won't be as many advantages to having a moped and so fewer people will likely buy them.

I am happy to answer any questions you have about this issue and to work with you on other ideas. Again, I strongly oppose changing the parking rules for mopeds to not allow them on sidewalks and terraces.

Jami Crespo

Recipient:
All Alders

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Veldran, Lisa" <LVeldran@cityofmadison.com>
To: "All Alders" <allalders@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Voice Mail Message: Devon Degon (spelling?)
Date: Wed, Apr 19, 2017 1:25 PM

Left a voice mail message on April 18 at 10:17 pm that he opposes the restrictions on mopeds.
He is a student and uses his moped to get to and from practice.

Lisa Veldran, Legislative Administrative Assistant

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210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard

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Madison WI 53703

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Fax: 608.267.8669

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