

From: lesaboat@charter.net
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Woonerf and shared street ideas for Lake Mendota Drive 4/19 CC meeting
Date: Monday, April 18, 2022 4:31:47 PM

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Please enter these videos and email into legistar for item 70626 common council meeting on 4/19

This video shows what Lake Mendota Drive could be like and in many instances already is used like this

<https://youtu.be/bSBdshn2tUM>

This video explains the concept of A woonerf or shared space but the residential woonerf, which is more of what we're thinking, are discussed beginning at 3.50 in the video

<https://youtu.be/ZxFu6rUH9cY>

We really could do something incredibly special with Lake Mendota Drive if the city could only see the vision like we do.

No lines. No traditional sidewalks. Permeable pavement with different options and placements. Slow speeds with traffic calming measures for cars that must move around the pedestrians who always have the right of way over cars and bikes. Areas for sitting, playing talking. Trees and green spaces and parking.

It's always been this way here. As kids we ran races, played kick ball, hopscotch and roller skated in the street. In the winter we sledged down Lake Mendota Drive, on the big hill going towards Shorewood, day and night before the plows came. Night was better because you could see the headlights coming. And also crossing Lake Mendota Drive coming down Laurel Crest. "CAR!!" was yelled and we waited until the car passed. Kids still play. Almost every one walks a dog, walks or jogs or rides their bike there these days. In our neighborhood survey 90% said they use Lake Mendota Drive daily in some capacity. Let's keep it that way.

FYI

Back In the 60's or 70's there was some talk of adding sidewalks here. At that time, as is now, most were against it. As I remember, The discussion of it ended fairly quickly, because it was determined that when the city of Madison originally annexed this area from the Town of Madison, which the Town and residents didn't really want either, there was an agreement made that the area would remain rustic and rural and sidewalks would not become a part of it when it was annexed. So the annexation went through. That has always been the rule here. It's not some old wives tale. Recently I, and others, have combed through old documents from common council meetings since the early 1900's, both at the city clerks office and the Town of Madison. Unfortunately, the records are extremely vague and not detailed and we were unable to locate this agreement. That doesn't mean it didn't happen or that it doesn't exist. Why do I and others remember that we were "grandfathered in" to an agreement that would never allow for sidewalks on Lake Mendota Drive? We didn't just make it up! It was real and now without the document the city won't honor that pledge made back in the 30's, 40's or 50's. It's not right.

Please vote to delay this project until more research can be done on environmental impact and a new better solutions for the street plan can be made.

Thank you