

To: Transportation Policy & Planning Board  
From: SMPC & South Madison Unite! for South Side neighbors  
Re: Item 1, Amendment 4  
Date: May 26, 2022

#### **Alternative 4E: Combining 4B and 4D**

Metro's website displays Amendment 4D as the city's preferred selection for South Madison with this announcement in red: Staff recommends [4D], pending input from the South Madison Planning Council on May 16, 2022. A previous e-mail to a citizen from Metro Transit staff also stated that the May 16th SMPC meeting would be an appropriate venue to discuss the alternate routes proposed by Metro Transit as well as the alternate routes proposed by the community.

In preparation for engaging in a productive discussion about Route "O" with Transit planning staff on the 16th, a South Madison resident submitted Alternative 4E as the South Side's input, combining the section of 4D that runs along Fish Hatchery with the section of 4B that runs through Capital View and Bram's Addition. According to staff, Alternative 4E adds 5 minutes to their favored Alternative 4D route. The graphic for Alternative 4E submitted prior to May 16<sup>th</sup> includes travel on West Wingra Drive between Fish Hatchery Road and Mills Street. This graphic was based on Metro's original graphics for Routes 4A and 4B as displayed at the South Side Public Meeting on March 17, 2022. Staff's maps included two-way travel on West Wingra between Mills and Beld streets. Travel along West Wingra Drive is not required for Route 4E to provide transit service to Capitol View and Bram's Addition and neighbors' amended 4E is attached.

#### **Reasons Why the South Side Endorses Alternative 4E**

Endorsed by those present at the SMPC meeting on May 16, 2022, Alternative 4E is the only option presented so far that meets the needs of all South Side neighborhoods. SMPC members represent the entire South Side community. We do not favor the needs of one neighborhood over another. That is why neither Alternative 4D, staff's favored choice, which cuts service to the neighborhoods of Bram's and Capitol View, nor Alternative B, staff's alternate choice, which cuts service to the neighborhoods along Fish Hatchery Road, has SMPC's endorsement. The community and SMPC members lobby the Transportation Planning & Policy Board and the Common Council to select a single amended Alternative 4E that provides local service to the Capital View, Bram's Addition, Burr Oaks, Bay Creek (Romnes), Greenbush, Vilas Neighborhoods, as well as Vilas Park and Zoo.

We refer Transit staff, the Transportation Planning & Policy Board, and the Common Council to the South Side's letter dated April 5, 2022, endorsed by SMPC, which details the hardship that the elimination of local bus service presents to South Madison neighborhoods. This letter advocates for the necessity of easy access to local bus service throughout the South Side to connect the entire community to local shopping, doctors' visits, childcare, work, and social life. It is important to note that for many Route 4E would provide transit access to South Madison's only full-service grocery store located at the Truman Olson development, which is slated to open in spring 2023.

#### **Alternative 4E is Consistent with the Route Redesign Goal of Providing Transit Equity on Madison's South Side**

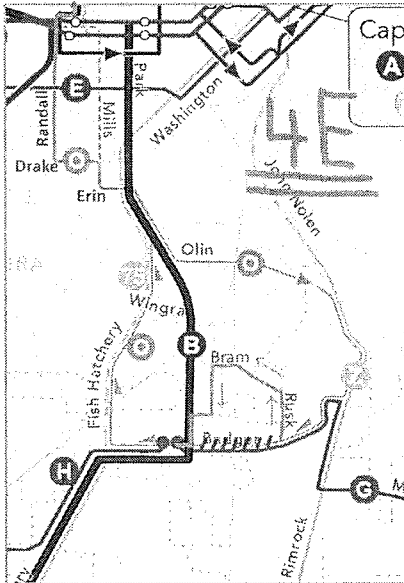
1) Local coverage is the only easily accessible form of bus transit for many people who live in South Madison's low-income communities. Alder Carter said at the May 16th meeting that 70% of South Siders use the bus as their primary means of transportation. Route "O," Alternative 4E follows the path through Bram's Addition and Capital View presented by Alternative 4B and also by current Route 13.

2) Local coverage/easy access to local bus service is more important than increased frequency of service to many people on the South Side, who will face the trade-off of walks of up to three-quarters of a mile to and from 15-minute bus service on South Park Street under the proposed redesign. For many, total trip time will become much longer than the trips they take under the current system when one factors in walk time. In fact, for seniors and people with disabilities, transit use without Alternative 4E may become impossible.

3) Local coverage provides essential interconnectedness within the community through access to the future supermarket on the Truman Olson site, South Park Street businesses, as well as food pantries, healthcare offices, and nonprofit and city/county providers of assistance in South Madison.

**The South Side supports eliminating duplicative routes along the E/W BRT corridor. However we insist that South Madison's disadvantaged communities should not be deprived of essential local bus service to fund the BRT. This goes for low-income areas on the North Side and elsewhere in Madison as well. The city delivered a promise to its citizens to meet the needs of all Madison residents and in particular to increase transit equity to peripheral low-income communities of color with the redesign. The City needs to uphold its promise and to allow its citizens a meaningful voice in the redesign.**

## ATTACHMENT A: SOUTH SIDE'S PROPOSED ROUTE "O," ALTERNATIVE 4E



### ATTACHMENT B:

To: Transportation Policy and Planning Board

From: South Madison Neighbors

Re: Impacts of the elimination of service provided by Bus Routes #13 and #4 on South Madison

Date: April 5, 2022

After reviewing the latest draft plan, dated March 5, 2022, and meeting with city transit planners, the undersigned residents of South Madison (representing Bay Creek, Bram's Addition, Burr Oaks, Greenbush, and Capitol View) wish to express our concerns about the proposed discontinuation of the service provided by Bus Route 13 and 4, which currently run through our neighborhoods.

#### AREA SERVED BY ROUTE 13

Currently, Route 13 forms a backwards "C" in South Madison and serves the moderate to low-income residential communities of the south portion of the Bay Creek, Bram's Addition and Capitol View Neighborhoods. Route 13 goes as far east as Rimrock Road and John Nolen Drive, as far south as West Badger Road, and as far west as South Park Street. The route also bisects Bay Creek along Olin Avenue; Capitol View along N. Rusk Avenue and Koster Street; and Bram's Addition along Bram Street, Fisher Street, and Buick Street. Part of the Capitol View neighborhood contains an area where WI DOT data shows a large portion of non-drivers.

The furthest reaches of Bay Creek's residential area are approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from South Park Street, necessitating a walk of up to 20 minutes or more each way. Portions of Capitol View would be  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a mile from the closest bus stop on South Park Street. The walkability of the area is variable due to the rise along Olin Avenue and Beld Street to Park Street and the absence of sidewalks along a portion of N. Rusk Avenue. Capitol View residents wishing to ride the newly proposed "G" route would need to walk to West Badger Road via N. Rusk Avenue, a 700-foot portion of which does not have sidewalk and crests a steep hill. There is no firm commitment from the city to install the missing sidewalk. Additionally, access to the proposed new bus service heading south on South Park Street will require residents of these neighborhoods to cross South Park Street with its heavy and rapidly dangerous traffic flow to ride the new "B" bus on South Park Street.

#### AREA SERVED BY ROUTE 4

Currently the southern portion of Route 4 bisects Burr Oaks along West Badger Road and then travels north along its western periphery on Fish Hatchery Road until it meets South Park Street at Parr Street. It then travels north on South Park Street to Erin Street, to Mills Street, and then to the UW.

The furthest reaches of Burr Oaks along Fish Hatchery are approximately ½ mile from South Park Street, necessitating a walk of up to 15 minutes each way. The non-grid-like and winding nature of many of the residential streets in this neighborhood, such as Sequoia Trail and Fish Hatchery Lane, will make for longer walks from the interior residential streets. Access to the proposed new bus service heading north will require some Burr Oaks residents to cross South Park Street.

#### **FACILITIES SERVING THE COMMUNITY WITHIN EASY WALKING DISTANCE OF TRANSIT SERVICES PROVIDED BY ROUTES 13 & 4**

The neighborhoods served by Routes 13 & 4 include significant numbers of low-income residents, including senior citizens and persons with disabilities, as well as are the following public services, facilities, and affordable accommodations:

- Madison CDA's Romnes Apartments, Journey Mental Health Center, Goodman Park/Pool, and Family Services (Olin Avenue);
- Park Village Apartments, Ridge Apartments, the Catholic Multicultural Center with its food pantry/free meal (Beld Street);
- Bram Hill Apartments (Bram Street)
- Boys & Girls Club (Fisher Street);
- Neighborhood House (S. Mills Street);
- St. Mark's Church with its food pantry and Friday noon meal service (Spruce Street);
- Madison Mobile Home Park (south of Honeysuckle and West of Rusk);
- Low-income housing complexes on Baird and Fisher streets, and naturally occurring affordable housing units scattered throughout;
- Centro Hispano and Burr Oaks Senior Apartments (West Badger);
- Sunshine Family Daycare (Catalpa Road);
- St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, Shenandoah Apartments, Wright Middle School, SSM Health's new clinic (Fish Hatchery);
- Goodman Library, Urban League, Access Community Health (South Park)
- The Arboretum (N. Wingra Drive); and
- Vilas Park and Zoo (Drake Street).

We believe that, while eliminating Routes 13 and 4 may not prove an inconvenience to those who have easy pedestrian or cycle access to Park Street—many seniors, people who have physical disabilities, and individuals who are of low-income, rely on bus service through the South Side neighborhoods for meeting their daily living needs and will experience the absence of bus coverage throughout South Madison as a life-changing and insurmountable burden. We feel the system redesign will create a hardship for the following groups of people.

#### **PEOPLE OF LIMITED PHYSICAL ABILITY/THOSE WHO HAVE A DISABILITY/THE ELDERLY**

The South Side has a large population of residents who experience health disparities due to race, age, or income. For citizens with limited physical/cognitive ability, the long walk to South Park Street to catch a bus will prove to be an impediment to accessing public transportation. Summer heat will make the walk exhausting and dangerous while winter temperatures and street conditions may make the route impassable and dangerous.

#### **PEOPLE OF LOW-INCOME**

South Madison enjoys a considerable amount of naturally-occurring affordable housing, much of which is located in Bram's Addition, Burr Oaks, and Capitol View. Many people of low-income who live here rely on public transit to get to work, to childcare, to doctors' appointments, and to purchase affordable food. For many low-income residents and people of color who live and work in South Madison, the elimination of Routes 13 and 4 will decrease their ease of access to work, childcare, shopping, doctors, etc. and increase their reliance on other more costly forms of transportation.

#### **FAMILIES AND YOUNG CHILDREN**

South Madison also has a large number of families. For young people arriving at Goodman Park or Family Services on Olin Avenue, and Vilas Park or Zoo on Drake via public transit, and perhaps eventually the Alliant Energy Center, the walk to and from Park Street may prove an impediment to getting to the pool, parks, or zoo in the heat of summer, or to the ice-skating and hockey ponds in the cold of winter. This will create inequitable access to utilizing free and affordable community recreation spots intentionally designed to remove barriers and increase access to all families in Madison.

### **AT ODDS WITH THE SOUTH MADISON PLAN**

In addition, the elimination of Route 13 is at odds with elements of the South Madison Plan. The recently completed South Madison Plan Update included a height map for South Madison as well as a proposed revised land use for the Olin Triangle. Both presume full-time public transit to the area. Conceptual plans for the east end of Olin Avenue and the areas surrounding the AEC also have presumed the availability of full-time public transit as a standing amenity that will serve the residents of the proposed new housing to lessen dependence on cars. For reference, the Olin Triangle will be 0.8 mile from the nearest full-time bus stop on South Park. We are additionally concerned about the impact of the elimination of public transit along Olin Avenue on development plans for South Madison and the impacts of additional car traffic in areas where bus routes have been eliminated. The city appears to be working at cross purposes to itself, weighing the merits of development proposals based on their proximity to public transit—even proposing changes to the land use map—when plans for eliminating access to adjacent bus service are underway.

### **THE NEED FOR MORE PARATRANSIT**

Finally the new system redesign would seem to create the need for more paratransit, required by law for those with disabilities, who are a protected class. We are concerned that without additional funding to provide additional paratransit service, people will not have access to this needed service. We are also concerned that there will be individuals who do not fit into one of the three categories to be eligible for paratransit, who may still be disadvantaged because of the redesign—i.e. people who can no longer walk the distance to and from a bus stop. It should be noted that paratransit service must be scheduled at least a day in advance.

### **IN CONCLUSION**

The transit system redesign is just the first step toward a regional transit system planned for realization by 2050. Certainly, bus service running up and down Madison's major arteries presents advantages; but, as laid out in the draft plans, the cost of achieving this goal is the elimination of some essential local bus service.

We feel that Madison should be looking at ways of preserving local bus service to the neighborhoods of South Madison currently served by Routes 4 and 13, routes on which transit-dependent residents rely. For example, might it be possible to retain much of the service provided by Routes 13 and 4, by running service through Capitol View, Bram's Addition, and Bay Creek to Park Street and then through the Greenbush and Vilas Neighborhoods to the UW. Thanks for your time and attention to our perspectives.

Douglas Alexander	<a href="mailto:douglasWI1957@gmail.com">douglasWI1957@gmail.com</a>
Roxanne A. Allison	<a href="mailto:101KosterSt">101 Koster St</a>
Barb Bailly	<a href="mailto:sewjung14@gmail.com">sewjung14@gmail.com</a>
Mary Elizabeth Bathum	1137 Erin
John Beeman	<a href="mailto:jbeeman53715@gmail.com">jbeeman53715@gmail.com</a>
Sarah Beghin	<a href="mailto:sarah@cmcmadison.org">sarah@cmcmadison.org</a>
Russ Bennett 201 Bram St.	<a href="mailto:bennett.russ@gmail.com">bennett.russ@gmail.com</a>
Andria Blattner	<a href="mailto:ablattner22@charter.net">ablattner22@charter.net</a>
Kate Blood	<a href="mailto:katemtblood@gmail.com">katemtblood@gmail.com</a>
Dianne Boardman	1422 Chandler
Erica Bouska	<a href="mailto:ericabouska@gmail.com">ericabouska@gmail.com</a>
Mark Bridges	1714 Sheridan
Clarence P. Cameron	<a href="mailto:clarowl@charter.net">clarowl@charter.net</a>
Robin Chene	<a href="mailto:chenerobin@yahoo.com">chenerobin@yahoo.com</a>
Kevin Clark	<a href="mailto:jokirklandclark@gmail.com">jokirklandclark@gmail.com</a>
David Clausen	2005 Sundstrom

Jody Clowes	<a href="mailto:jclowes72@gmail.com">jclowes72@gmail.com</a>
Margaret Cooper	<a href="mailto:megastar7531@gmail.com">megastar7531@gmail.com</a>
Stuart Cotter	<a href="mailto:stuartcotter@gmail.com">stuartcotter@gmail.com</a>
Lynnee Cotter	<a href="mailto:stuartcotter@gmail.com">stuartcotter@gmail.com</a>
Shirley Crocker	<a href="mailto:shirleyacrocker58@gmail.com">shirleyacrocker58@gmail.com</a>
Sonja Darlington	<a href="mailto:darling@beloit.edu">darling@beloit.edu</a>
Abby Davidson	<a href="mailto:abby.s.davidson@gmail.com">abby.s.davidson@gmail.com</a>
Amelie Davidson	<a href="mailto:amelie.davidson@gmail.com">amelie.davidson@gmail.com</a>
Dave Davis	<a href="mailto:davis_da@charter.net">davis_da@charter.net</a>
Amy Diestler	501 Lisa Ann Drive
Tom DeChant	<a href="mailto:tdmadtown@charter.net">tdmadtown@charter.net</a>
Sheryl Dhuey	<a href="mailto:sdhuey@madison.k12.wi.us">sdhuey@madison.k12.wi.us</a>
Veronica Diaz	9 Fallview Ct. 8B
Ellin Doyle	<a href="mailto:medoyle@wisc.edu">medoyle@wisc.edu</a>
Becky Eberhardt	959 Clarence Ct.
Sarah Elmore 206 Potter St.	<a href="mailto:sselmore@sbcglobal.net">sselmore@sbcglobal.net</a>
Steven Elmore	<a href="mailto:sselmore@sbcglobal.net">sselmore@sbcglobal.net</a>
Marianne Ewig	711 S Orchard St
Sharon Fallon	<a href="mailto:Sharfallon@aol.com">Sharfallon@aol.com</a>
Barb Fahrenkrug	<a href="mailto:barfahrenkrug@gmail.com">barfahrenkrug@gmail.com</a>
Merry Farrier-Babanovski	<a href="mailto:farrier@wisc.edu">farrier@wisc.edu</a>
Lynn Felhofer	<a href="mailto:felhofer.lynn@gmail.com">felhofer.lynn@gmail.com</a>
Terri Felton	<a href="mailto:tfelton@tds.net">tfelton@tds.net</a>
Sandy Fowler	<a href="mailto:baycreekfowler@gmail.com">baycreekfowler@gmail.com</a>
Julet Frazier	<a href="mailto:501 Diving Hawk Trl">501 Diving Hawk Trl</a>
Paul Gibler	<a href="mailto:tdmadtown@charter.net">tdmadtown@charter.net</a>
Barbara Gilligan	<a href="mailto:bjgillig@charter.net">bjgillig@charter.net</a>
Elizabeth Gokey	<a href="mailto:emgokey@gmail.com">emgokey@gmail.com</a>
Brandi Grayson	<a href="mailto:bgrayson@urbantrriage.org">bgrayson@urbantrriage.org</a>
Laura Green	<a href="mailto:laura@cmcmadison.org">laura@cmcmadison.org</a>
Heather Grogan	104 W Lakeside St
Jenny Hayes	<a href="mailto:letsdisco79@yahoo.com">letsdisco79@yahoo.com</a>
Kim Hagerich	<a href="mailto:1514 Sheridan Dr">1514 Sheridan Dr</a>
Sophie Hannauer	<a href="mailto:skhannaur@gmail.com">skhannaur@gmail.com</a>

Ryan Hartkopf	
Cathryn Hatle	cmhatle@mail.com
Matt Hegge	Mathew.hegge@gmail.com
Mary Hopkins	22 Fordem Ct.
Anne Hoppe	
Keilyn Howard	
Mark Howard	Capitol View
Lisa Howser	
Alyssa Ivy	
Jennifer Jarosik	<a href="mailto:jjarosik2@gmail.com">jjarosik2@gmail.com</a>
Larry Jensen	1618 Jenifer St
Charles Jones	540 W. Olin #310
John Juozevicius	1 S Park St
Jan Karst	<a href="mailto:jrkarst@yahoo.com">jrkarst@yahoo.com</a>
Linda Ketcham	linda@emum.org
Joanne Kirkland	<a href="mailto:jokirklandclark@gmail.com">jokirklandclark@gmail.com</a>
Helen Kitchel	226 Potter Street
Susan Koch	susie72805@gmail.com
Joe Koss	joe.koss.me@gmail.com
Dominic Ledesma	1123 Colby St
Karen Lenhardt	540 W. Olin
Theodora Lightfoot	dory@uwalumni.com
Sue Linton	suelinton20@gmail.com
Robert W. Lockhart	<a href="mailto:robtowl@gmail.com">robtowl@gmail.com</a>
Matt Lohmann	225 Potter Street
Mike Mack	MKiemack@hotmail.com
Lisa Manion	<a href="mailto:1114 Starlight Dr">1114 Starlight Dr</a>
Rabbi Bonnie Margulis	
Denny Marsh	
Eric Marx	
Steve Maurice	<a href="mailto:steve@cmc.org">steve@cmc.org</a>
Cynthia K. McCallum	dotckk@gmail.com
Jessica McCann	<a href="mailto:jessimac@gmail.com">jessimac@gmail.com</a>
Tom Mc Cann	jessimac@gmail.com

Andy Meessmann	bikeitorwalkit@gmail.com
John Merrill	
Michelle Miller	mmmille6@yahoo.com
Jessica Montez	jmontez@wisc.edu
Logan Mrozenski	
Janelle Munns	janellmunns@gmail.com
Lisa Nelson	
William Newman	2037 Rutledge St
Doug Noot	<a href="mailto:dnoothomes@gmail.com">dnoothomes@gmail.com</a>
Susan Nossal	smnossal@gmail.com
Jane Ocejo	
Carla Oppenheimer	croppenheime@madison.k12.wi.us.
Joanne Pedder	jmpedder@charter.net
Sara Phillips	
Ms. Pia	ofasomadisonpiakj@gmail.com
Colleen Potter	dcpotter2@charter.net
Paula Proctor	pproctor@att.net
Manuel Ramminger	manuel@ywammadison.org
Jeffrey Richter	jjrichter@charter.net
Judy Robinson	judysotheremail@mail.com
Cheryl Roeben	<a href="mailto:roebencheryl@aol.com">roebencheryl@aol.com</a>
Carrie Rothburd	crothburd@gmail.com
Hedi Rudd	hedi@rootedwi.org
Andrew Ruis	<a href="mailto:andrewruis@gmail.com">andrewruis@gmail.com</a>
Megan Saucke	saucke@surgery.wisc.edu.
Martin Saunders	834 W Lakeside St
Barbara Schroeder	bjsgolfs@ameritech.net
Brianna Schumann	Brianna.k.schumann@gmail.net
Harry David Snook 1014 Lowell St.,	tontoadam@yahoo.com
Jessica Snyder	cssnyder@charter.net
Mary Rosemary Sprenger	2211 Woodview Ct APT 2 <a href="mailto:respreng@uwalumni.com">respreng@uwalumni.com</a>
Morel Stackhouse	706 W. Lakeside morel@morelstackhouse.com
Robert Stoffs	<a href="mailto:rkstoffstoffs@gmail.com">rkstoffstoffs@gmail.com</a>
Deb Stuinien	dsutinien@hotmail.com

Charlene Sweeney	<a href="mailto:sweeneyc2814@gmail.com">sweeneyc2814@gmail.com</a>
Gretchen Twietmeyer	<a href="mailto:gtwiet@gmail.com">gtwiet@gmail.com</a>
Daniel Thurs	<a href="mailto:dpthurs@gmail.com"><u>dpthurs@gmail.com</u></a>
Donna Vukelich-Selva	522 Piper Drive
Christina Wagner	<a href="mailto:cwagnerz@yahoo.com"><u>cwagnerz@yahoo.com</u></a>
Nola Walker	<a href="mailto:nola.walker@wisc.edu"><i>nola.walker@wisc.edu</i></a>
Mark Weerda	<a href="mailto:mark.weerda@gmail.com">mark.weerda@gmail.com</a>
Stefan Westman	818 W Lakeside St
Jessica White	<a href="mailto:701.W.Olin.Ave"><u>701 W Olin Ave</u></a>
Gregg Willard	<a href="mailto:g_williard@yahoo.com"><u>g_williard@yahoo.com</u></a>
Kimberly Wolf	305 Thompson Dr.
Daina Zemliauskas-Juozevicius	<a href="mailto:auradain@tds.net">auradain@tds.net</a>
Laura Zirngible	<a href="mailto:jollygiants@gmail.com">jollygiants@gmail.com</a>
Margie Zutter, RSVP of Dane	<a href="mailto:mzutter@rsvpdane.org">mzutter@rsvpdane.org</a>
SMPC, Executive Committee	<a href="mailto:smpc@southmadison.org">smpc@southmadison.org</a>
Greg Jones, NAACP of Dane County	<a href="mailto:naacp36ab@gmail.com">naacp36ab@gmail.com</a>
Kaleem Caire, One City Day Care	Fisher Street
Hedi Rudd	<a href="mailto:hedi@rootedwi.org">hedi@rootedwi.org</a>