

From: [Helen Hartman](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Sidewalks on Lake Mendota Drive
Date: Thursday, February 3, 2022 12:29:36 PM

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Hello, and thank you in advance for reading my message.

I am a resident of the Indian Hills neighborhood. I understand there is a push to put sidewalks on Lake Mendota Drive. I walk there frequently with my dog and I've never felt threatened by traffic. It's relatively wide and there's plenty of room for cars, bicycles, and pedestrians. I feel safe, even after it snows.

On Next Door Neighborhood, a conversation is occurring about this. The vast majority of residents are vehemently opposed to it for a lot of legitimate reasons; however, in the spirit of cooperation, several people who are involved in this issue have proposed potential alternatives to putting sidewalks and curbs on both sides of the road. Concerns range from protecting our trees, especially the large canopy trees; runoff from the additional non-permeable areas (this is right next to Lake Mendota!); People's gardens/yards; Changes the rural feel of the area; and more reasons.

Apparently a city planning meeting was held recently to discuss this project. Many residents are deeply unhappy with our alder person, who is pushing this project, because they believe he isn't listening to their concerns. It seems that way to me as well. He didn't inform the neighborhood about the recent transportation meeting so the viewpoints and suggestions of many people went unheard.

I believe it is important for you to engage in conversation people in the neighborhood. If you have access to Next Door Neighborhood, I suggest you look at the conversation thread about this. You'll get a pretty good idea of what folks are thinking.

Thank you.
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