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To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Item # 70626 Transportation Commission
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Transportation Commission, Wed April 13, 2022 5:00 PM
Agenda item #5 70626: Final approval of roadway geometry of LMD

If it's not broke, don't fix it. The vast majority of area folks agree the only thing broken on Lake Mendota Drive is the pavement. We want to retain its current look and feel which is a pretty seamless connection to Shorewood's end of LMD. Yes we all agree that a good paving job needs to be done, but the rest is fine. There are so many reasons to slow this project down and take another look at what is needed: cost to residents, cost to our salt infused drinking water, cost to the lake pollution, cost to the loss of Native American History, cost to the trees that will be removed. Lake Mendota Drive is NOT hazardous and if anyone spent time out here, they would recognize the safety and peacefulness with the walkers, bikers, baby strollers, runners, dogs, etc. There aren't accidents here BUT there will be accidents once you narrow the roadway as it is very dangerous to bike on a narrow road with cars and that is what the future will be. Cars will not be able to give bikers their 3 feet of space. Now there is plenty of roadway for everyone. Have you seen the Middleton HS xc boys team running down the road – that will be impossible with the new design – no space and runners do not run on sidewalks. Have you seen the UW sports teams running down LMD – well that will be another group of folks that will no longer access the road. My husband and I have been running with our blind buddy for almost 15 years now over in the Kenosha area – we do not run on sidewalks as it is hazardous (too narrow, hard to mix with people and dogs, sidewalks have cracks, terribly icy in the winter). We run in the street and at times we run Lake Mendota Drive. We will no longer be able to run LMD with the new road.

BUT if you want to be BOLD, BRAVE, PROGRESSIVE and do something incredibly wonderful that Madison can truly be proud of – please pay attention to the PDF sent in by Maureen Rickman. If money is to be put into this project, this is the key.

And if it is insisted by Alder Furman (who targeted our Lake Mendota Drive signs in a VERY petty fashion rather than REPRESENTING his constituents) that a sidewalk is necessary, then you need only look as far as Shorewood for a solution. See attached pictures of Edgehill Drive. This is one of the busier roads in Shorewood as it leads to the school, but it is safely used by walkers, school children etc. And nowhere are sidewalks needed on both sides – a total waste of money. The one stretch where a single sidewalk WOULD be useful is from Minocqua Crescent to Spring Harbor Drive along the edge of the park.

Please take the time to do the right thing for our neighborhood and please listen to what we are saying. This is not just a handful of folks, this is a huge group of 200 that signed the petition to slow this project down.

I've been listening to other projects waiting for our agenda item. It's unfortunate what I'm hearing

quite a bit is that the city is not listening to its residents. Please show me wrong and listen to our message.

Thank you for listening
Alice Erickson
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