

Pien, Janet

From: Janet Murphy [janetmusicrn@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, November 24, 2012 5:55 PM
To: Tolley, Sabrina; Pien, Janet
Subject: SW Path Lighting

I am unable to come to the hearing Wednesday Nov. 28th, but I would like to lend my support to lighting the SW Path. I must commute home in the dark in the spring and fall, and am alarmed by how many unlighted bikes and invisible pedestrians I come across.

My son had an accident on the path when a tree fell across it between his outbound and returning trips one evening. Despite having a headlight he did not see the large tree and ended up deep in the branches. He was lucky he wasn't badly injured, impaled or blinded. That a young man with good vision would miss a very large tree on the path is indicative of just how dark the path is at night. With thousands of bikes on the path every day, this is not a nature path. Bike commuting is increasing and I am proud of the way Madison has supported it.

I am also a supporter of dark skies, so please fund a lighting system that does not scatter light. I would also support the lights being off during very low use times (after midnight? deep in the winter?) if that would be helpful to balance the concerns of others.

Thank you for your consideration,
Janet Murphy