

From: [J W](#)
To: [All Alders](#)
Subject: agenda item 89385-public works improvements
Date: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 9:55:08 PM

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Greetings,

I'd like to share some brief questions & thoughts related to reaching a compromise for the Gary St. extension of the public works improvement project in our neighborhood.

My question:

Was a traffic/bicycle/pedestrian study done for the block of Gary St. east of Elinor when considering the addition of a sidewalk?

If so, how may I access the results?

My thought:

I am very much in support of the Urban Forestry Department's initiative to increase mature tree protection zones in construction areas. If this initiative passes, what will it mean for our mature trees near this street reconstruction project?

I know that the street, storm & sewer reconstruction is necessary and will definitely impact the root system of the mature Sycamore tree on our property. My worry is that adding the construction of a sidewalk, to the root damage that will be caused by the street reconstruction, will only cause more unnecessary harm & stress to the tree. There is most definitely not a sufficient tree protection zone in this case, and the addition of the sidewalk will just be added harm.

I appreciated that engineering & streets compromises have already been made in the design to try and protect the mature trees on our block, and a sidewalk on one side of the street only, was an exception to the standard. Yet based on the thoughts & questions listed above, I would still like to extend the sidewalk compromise to also include the preferences of the majority of residents on our block; Can the Gary St. sidewalk construction simply end at Elinor St.?

Thank you all for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
Mary Welch
810 Gary St.
Madison