

## Harnish, Sharon L

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**From:** Liz Haynes <lizhaynes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 18, 2022 3:05 PM  
**To:** Transportation Policy Board  
**Subject:** July 18 meeting, agenda item 4 (speed on shared use paths)

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To the transportation policy board,

I am staff at UW Madison and an avid bike commuter. Prior to moving to Madison six years ago, I rarely biked at all. It was the numerous convenient and safe bike paths in Madison that allowed me to learn to love biking, and to eventually choose it as my preferred method of transportation. If we want to encourage more folks to commute by bike, blanket restrictions such as speed limits (especially if they can carry heavy fines or points on a driver's license) are not the way forward. This would particularly hurt users with a longer commute that would not be possible or plausible without an ebike. Educating all users on safe path etiquette is important, and perhaps this could be work done by local bike advocacy groups and neighborhood associations. If the paths are carrying too much traffic, it is a sign of their success, and it seems the best way forward would be to widen the paths, create additional pedestrian-only lanes, and possibly install traffic-dependent warning signs in heavy use areas (such as a sign that would blink a heavy traffic warning if it detected more users than normal passing it).

I feel that the conflict and desire for punitive measures at play in the busiest sections of the path are a result of too many people fighting over too few resources. Expanding the path where we can and giving pedestrians protected space should hopefully improve everyone's experience.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Liz Haynes