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To: [Mayor](#); [Phillips, Robert](#); [Fries, Gregory](#); [Petykowski, Christopher](#); [Schmidt, Janet](#); [Wolfe, James](#); [Transportation Commission](#); [Board of Public Works](#); [council](#)
Cc: [Jana Stewart](#)
Subject: Lake Mendota Drive (LMD) Sidewalk Safety and Environmental Considerations
Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 9:01:37 AM

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Subject: LMD Sidewalk Design Safety and Environmental Considerations

Item # Agenda #70626 - Board of Public Works Meeting April 6th, 2022

Dear Mayor Rhodes-Conway, Leadership and staff of the City of Madison Engineering Division, and Members of the Transportation Commission, Board of Public Works, and the Common Council

I oppose the Lake Mendota Drive plan in its current form. I request that the City revise their plan to help balance safety, accessibility, and environmental concerns for this project regarding sidewalks. The city's proposed plan includes sidewalks on both sides of Lake Mendota Drive from Capital Avenue to Spring Harbor Drive while the other sections have sidewalks on only one side. I DO support having sidewalks on both sides from Norman Way to Spring Harbor Drive to provide safe access between the beach, school, boat landing, and park. However, I request modifying the current plan to install sidewalks on only one side from Capital Avenue to Norman Way. A single sidewalk from Capital Ave to Norman Way would still support the desired and adequate connectivity, accessibility, and safety for pedestrians from the intersections of Capital Ave and Norman Way to and along LMD. And this section is not any busier than other sections of LMD where a sidewalk on one side is proposed. Eliminating the second sidewalk from this section would provide additional benefits and help address some of the environmental concerns for Lake Mendota and Well #14 by reducing stormwater runoff and salt use due to reduced impervious surface, provide more space for green infrastructure, reduce impacts to tree health from adjacent concrete, reduce tree removal, and reduce heat island effects from reduced canopy. There would also be reduced costs to the city and homeowners for construction and continued maintenance. I request that the City place the single sidewalk for all sections of LMD on the south side or the non-Lake side of the street. There are fewer driveways and right of way courts on the south side making it less congested and a safer side for pedestrians using the sidewalk and there are no blind corners on the south side as there are on the north side or Lake side at Epworth Court and by Spring Court making it safer and a better outcome for everyone. Placing a single sidewalk (thereby less concrete) on the south side would also provide more opportunities to place green infrastructure along the north or Lake side to help mitigate runoff of water, nutrients, and other contaminants and help protect our drinking water, the natural and scenic beauty of Lake Mendota Drive, and the future health of Lake Mendota and the Yahara Lakes chain. Thank you for your review and consideration.

Jana Stewart

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