

Hello Plan Commission,

I'm writing in support of agenda items 15-18, approving the West and Northeast area plans, and for the values represented within those plans, such as sustainability, mixed-use development, and transportation alternatives. I'm a high schooler who's spent my entire life growing up on the west side of Madison, and I believe these plans will improve the lives of current students, and generations to come. I, along with many of my peers, feel very anxious growing up in these times, and the necessity of confronting crises like climate change and housing affordability have added additional worries to the challenge of maturing into adulthood. It really is scary, but I know that we have the solutions. And I know ideas in these plans can improve the lives of youth now, such as helping students at Memorial High cross the road to safely get lunch at West Towne. Thus, I very much support these plans and hope that plan commission continues to push for these values in the future.

Sincerely,  
Harry Jin

**From:** [J Bennett](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Field, Derek](#); [Madison, Sabrina](#)  
**Subject:** 08/26/24 Plan Commission Meeting - Northeast Area Plan Agenda Items 15 and 16.  
**Date:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 3:33:27 PM

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Hello,

I am writing as a concerned long-time resident of the Burke Heights Neighborhood to express my strong opposition to the planned expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park. This expansion would significantly impact our community and the park's essential green space.

Sycamore Park is a vital recreational area, providing residents with a much-needed place to engage in outdoor activities and enjoy nature. The planned expansion would eliminate a well-used bike and pedestrian path crucial for safe and eco-friendly travel. Additionally, it would remove green space regularly used for soccer, volleyball, and other community gatherings. These spaces are invaluable to the well-being and quality of life of residents.

Another primary concern is the impact on the newly constructed BMX course and the family playground. Families with young children heavily use both, and expanding the road through this area would create a severe safety hazard. Increasing traffic through a park frequented by children and pedestrians is a risk we should not take.

I ask the commission to recommend the adoption of the Northeast Area Plan to the Common Council except for the planned road expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Judy Bennett  
810 Bewick Dr  
Madison WI

**From:** [Park Commission](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sycamore Park Road  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 9:19:06 AM

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Nicole Miller  
Pronouns: *she/her/hers*  
City of Madison Parks Administration  
330 E. Lakeside Street – Madison, WI 53715  
(608) 266-4711

After hours Park Ranger  
(608) 235-0448

## **MADISON PARKS**



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**From:** Travis Gruchow <[travis.gruchow@gmail.com](mailto:travis.gruchow@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 8:56 PM  
**To:** Park Commission <[pacommission@cityofmadison.com](mailto:pacommission@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Subject:** Sycamore Park Road

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I just wanted to give thanks to the 5 committee members for listening to the residents of the Sycamore Park surrounded areas and supporting the Northeast Plan with the exception of the road.

I just wanted to state that I am highly opposed to the road being proposed to run through the edge of Sycamore park. First of all from a parent lense of having kids in the park, the road is an unnecessary burden for those east of the park to have to cross as well as just an added danger to other kids playing within the park. It goes against the ideology of the zero traffic death mantra of the city of Madison. From a cyclist perspective I have to cross Sycamore Ave to get to the roundabouts under 30! With this added piece there is an added (unnecessary) road to have to cross again. And as a person who also drives I have never had a problem getting anywhere in the general area this road is being proposed. I was at a meeting in the park today that was highly attended by people from the neighborhood and there was exactly 0 people that were in favor of the road being

proposed. I would highly encourage you to deviate from this plan for that area please.

Thanks

Travis Gruchow

**From:** [Jessi A](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#); [Field, Derek](#); [Madison, Sabrina](#)  
**Subject:** Motion to remove Nakoosa Trail Extension from NE Area Plan  
**Date:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 5:46:03 PM

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Hello,

This email is being submitted on behalf of Mr. Wesley Roscoe of 730 Bewick Dr. He does not use email but desired to submit a written statement.

Statement is as follows:

I've lived here since 1966.

I've raised a family here and we love our Neighborhood park. I want other families and children to have the same opportunity mine did without having to dodge cars out in the field.

We already have primary roads; Sycamore and Commercial. In my opinion, this new planned road in the park would go nowhere and benefit nobody. It'll cost the city money in construction and maintenance.

I've lived here a long time and I've been through a lot of Alders and city plans. I was here when the cows were! I've served on our Neighborhood Association and I cant remember anyone who would want a road in the park the whole time I've lived here.

Dont chop away at the park land. It is has value to our neighbors and our children.

Thank you,  
Wesley Roscoe

**From:** [Robin Loos](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#); [Duncan, John](#); [Madison, Sabrina](#); [Guequierre, John](#); [Field, Derek](#)  
**Subject:** Nakoosa Trail Extension / Northeast Area Plan Comments  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 12:44:22 PM

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As a resident of the Burke Heights neighborhood, I'd like to request the removal of the proposed expansion of Nakoosa Trail Extension from the Northeast Area Plan.

As it stands today there are plenty of roads that connect or go around the existing neighborhood. There is no need to destroy green space to add yet another road. Especially through a park which has seen recent investments such as a repaved bike path, new mountain bike trails, additional trees planted throughout, and native prairie landscaping projects.

A new road would squander much of the improvements and make the park more difficult to access. People already speed through the neighborhood and ignore stop signs. Surely this road would be subject to the same driving patterns and behaviors.

There are plenty of roads that exist today that circumvent the need for the Nakoosa Trail extension. Sycamore and Commercial run parallel to the proposed road. If the concern is making sure people can get to Walmart, let them take the existing routes while the surrounding neighborhood remains safe from traffic passing through to get the week's rollback offer.

Such a road would limit accessibility from the Burke Heights Neighborhood. Today I can trust my children to ride their bikes down the dead end streets and take advantage of the play spaces, bike trails, and playground. There are several young families in the neighborhood so there are plenty of children gathering at the park for pick up games of soccer, chase, kickball, biking. You name it and these kids are likely making childhood memories down at the park. A road would limit their ability to safely access the park on their own volition.

The proposed road would bifurcate a soccer field that is currently used regularly throughout the warmer months. The Latino Futbol League of Madison regularly hosts games, cookouts, food trucks, and large family events right where the planned road would be built. As of yesterday, August 25, they had no knowledge their playing field was in jeopardy.

Not to mention the city can barely keep up with maintaining the current roads it has, relying on chip seal & patch jobs rather than actually repairing and fixing roads. And then there's the added complexity of police patrolling the road.

Let the surrounding neighborhoods enjoy the features & improvements of Sycamore Park without having to cross another road, saving the city the cost of maintaining a road, destroying green space, and making sure the park is safe and accessible.

Sincerely,  
Robin Loos

**From:** [Stefanie](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park  
**Date:** Saturday, August 24, 2024 5:24:53 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

My family is strongly opposed to the extension of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park. We live on Pulley Drive, and the fact that the road ends at the park contributes to a quieter and safer neighborhood. The park is used by bikes, pedestrians, soccer teams, and families. There has been a wonderful movement by neighbors to bring native plantings to the park and reduce the invasive species that have been allowed to take over the area. A road through the park would disturb the natural area and tranquility and create a safety hazard where there was none before. It would cut our neighborhood off from the park and bring no benefit to the surrounding neighborhoods as there are already roads all around the park. A road through the park would destroy green space and introduce more air and noise pollution. It is a terrible idea that would have a substantially negative effect on this neighborhood and the people who live here.

Thank you for your time,

Stefanie Lohmann

**From:** [Eric Gertner](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#); [Duncan, John](#); [Field, Derek](#); [Guequierre, John](#)  
**Subject:** NE Area Plan: please remove Nakoosa street extension  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 11:47:07 AM

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Hello Plan Commission and Alders Duncan, Guequierre, and Field.

This evening's plan commission meeting includes adopting the Northeast Area Plan, agenda items 15 and 16.

I ask that you adopt the Northeast Area Plan without the Nakoosa Trail street extension at Sycamore Park.

Two reasons:

**1) Better & safer area access for non-car users.**

I'm one of the Burke Heights residents asking for better connectivity through the Pulley / Commercial / Hwy 30 on-ramp intersection but specifically for non-car users. I can't imagine my kid or my parents navigating that intersection safely on foot or by bike.

By car, the proposed road isn't much benefit - the neighborhood is already connected. There are through roads immediately north (Sycamore Ave.) and 2 blocks south (Commercial) of the proposed road, plus Conlin 1 block south if you don't mind an extra turn. Those also all show that east-west roads in the area tend to have speeding problems, no matter the traffic volume.

At the same time, Burke Heights and Sycamore Park already have good, safe, bike/ped connections internally and soon also over Hwy 30. Adding yet another through road in or along the park would only reduce safe access in the area.

**2) Respecting previous, more equitable neighborhood and park user input.**

The recently-adopted Sycamore Park Master Plan had excellent and sustained outreach to users from the diverse surrounding community. That plan recommends an off-street bike path and keeping the existing soccer field in the SE corner of the park.

In contrast, people don't seem to have gotten the same level of outreach for the area plan with the proposed road there instead.

One example: the road would either cut through or go immediately beside a soccer field that's used every single warm weekend for Latinx club play. You should talk with them rather than take my word for it, but they didn't know about the proposed road and didn't want it.

We've heard the same surprised reaction from every other neighbor and park user we've talked to.



Planners have mentioned residents' requests as support for the road, but it's not what we've been asking for.

The Board of Parks Commissioners voted to approve the Northeast Area Plan with the exception of the Nakoosa Trail street extension. I urge you to do the same.

Thanks for your time and thanks for all your work making this city a great place.

-Eric Gertner (821 Pulley Dr.)

**From:** [wendtbrianm](mailto:wendtbrianm)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Northeast Area Plan  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 11:50:39 AM

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Hello,

Brian Wendt here, of 821 Bewick Dr. My wife and I have attended multiple sessions hosted by the city but have just recently learned that there is an addition of a street through Sycamore Park in the plans.

**I wish to once again express my strong opposition towards the extension of Nakoosa Trail and ask that you remove the planned street from the Northeast Area Plan**

I feel that tearing up any portion of the park and inviting road traffic to run through the park as well as through one of the soccer fields is an unsafe and terrible idea. People enjoy utilizing the park because it is free from traffic and noise. I am also concerned that the many many kids who access the park with each other on foot, bike or other means will be put at higher risk of danger because of the traffic zipping through.

People speed on N. Thompson, they speed down Sycamore, the cars on Commercial Ave (25mph) have a tendency to keep up with the cars on HWY 30 (55mph). I've also witnessed vehicles to include both yellow school busses and Madison Metro traveling at or above 55mph on Commercial ave. This is confirmed by "pacing" vehicles traveling on Commercial Ave while I'm on HWY 30. Just a couple of years ago we had to ask the city to erect stop signs on Conlin in an attempt to slow down people cutting through the neighborhood yet I can't tell you how many times I've come through and watched people just zip right past those stop signs without a care in the world. It will be the same if a road is run through the park. People will speed on through and it will be both unpleasant and unsafe for the kids and residents who are enjoying nature and recreation. I encourage all of you to come look at the park and this "right of way" and get a good understanding of just how close the road would be to the park as well as the residents who live at the end of each road, Pulley, Bewick, Redland and Ziegler.

Lets talk about the south west corner of the park where Nakoosa Trail ends at a right turn in to Ziegler Rd. That last section of Nakoosa trail has 5 apartment building and the residents of them have the option to pay for parking that's located off the street. However, many of those residents are parking on the street, both sides of the street. The amount of cars that are parked on the street there already causes a traffic jam where at times you might have to pull over where you can to let traffic pass to avoid an accident because that traffic is generally going at a rate of speed above the speed limit. The corner of Nakoosa and Ziegler is also a main access point for cyclists and families utilizing the park and with the addition of the pedestrian bridge going in by Ziegler and Commercial, Ziegler now has the paint

markings for cyclists to show that it's the main route. I can tell you from experience that the corner of Nakoosa and Ziegler is dangerous for cars because of the excessive speed but I can only imagine how dangerous it's going to be for cyclists and pedestrians if Nakoosa Trail is extended through the park.

Moving on to a connection to Jana Lana. I can't seem to understand how a connection to Jana will make it easier to access N. Thompson. Lets pretend that the extension of Nekoosa Trail is already there and I take a right off of Nakoosa onto Jana and head over to N. Thompson, I then need to take a left onto N. Thompson or even a right, either which way is going to pose a danger because of once again, the rate of speed of vehicles traveling on N. Thompson as well as the raised curb portions added on N. Thompson right there which by the way have already played a part in vehicle collisions there because they essentially block the turn lane on to Jana or in to Prentice Park causing you to have to abruptly position your vehicle in the center of N. Thompson and wait to make a turn. While you wait to make that turn, traffic also needing to make that turn stops the flow of vehicles both on N. Thompson and those waiting to turn out from Jana. It's a mess. We've already reduced the speed limit between Sycamore and Highway 30 on N. Thompson and again that has had no effect on how fast people actually drive on N. Thompson. Recently on that stretch we had a drunk driver at 4:30 in the afternoon on a Friday leave the road and hit a power line pole knocking out power for thousands of people over here and shutting down E. bound HWY 30 due to power lines coming down over there from that crash. Now, if I took a left turn on to Jana and traveled down to Sycamore where I turn right to go to the intersection at N. Thompson, that could pose a better solution to accessing N. Thompson with the use of a traffic controlled intersection. However the addition of traffic flow on Jana still poses unnecessary risk to adults and children trying to get to the park. Again, living right here on the edge of the park, I can see Jana from my yard and when I frequent this park, I can tell you that the traffic over there is already traveling in excess of the speed limit. I don't ride my pedal bike on the road over there because I'm concerned that I might get hit by someone speeding down Jana.

Sycamore Park is highly utilized, easily accessible with exception to current traffic flow, and plenty visible. A road through the park is a detriment any way you slice it, not a benefit.

Please take out the planned street from the Northeast Area Plan. My wife and I as well as many other neighbors have put in a lot of leg work just this last week in the neighborhood and we have not come across anyone in support of a road through any portion of Sycamore Park. The residents of this neighborhood would like the city to work with the state and county to come up with a plan that focuses on better traffic flow at the intersection of Commercial and Pulley with the on ramp to HWY 30 and this is not what we believe to be a solution.

Again, please come look at the park and not just at the map that's been provided and ask yourself, how close is to close for a road essentially in a park with children, pedestrians and cyclists because that's what this plan is, it's a road going right through a park. We are also well aware that it's just a plan and not a project starting tomorrow but plans turn in to projects so let's work together and remove this extension of Nakoosa Trail from the plan.

Thank you,  
Brian Wendt

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Kerry McAllen](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to extension of Nakoosa Trail  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 10:49:29 AM

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Good morning members of the Planning Commission,

my name is Kerry McAllen, and I am the president of the Burke Heights Neighborhood Association (BHNA). I am in opposition to the extension of Nakoosa Trail to Jana Lane through Sycamore Park. As president, I have had several neighbors tell me they are also in opposition and none who support this road.

For Burke Heights residents who participated in the public engagement process, this road extension recommendation is a surprise to which, until the last Parks Commission Meeting, we'd been unable to provide any feedback, because the idea is unwelcome. I am pleased the Parks Commission approved the Northeast Plan with an exception to the road extension through Parks land.

The City of Madison has a wide vision of alternative transportation such as bicycling and walking. This is codified by two major capital investments in the Burke Heights Neighborhood this year: The Autumn Ridge Bike Bridge over Hwy 30, and singletrack/pump bike trail in Sycamore Park.

Common themes for all aspects of the northeast plan from residents is that we want safer neighborhoods, and more park (green) space. After investing millions of taxpayer dollars in the two major capital projects, a road connecting Nakoosa Trail and Jana Lane would create a barrier to use of these two infrastructure investments, diminishing the impact of both projects to the cycling community and pedestrian traffic, reducing the value of the capital investment and it will further fragment the bike path system. Second, a road here would create additional and unnecessary safety issues for those using the new bicycle bridge and those who presently use the park and popular dog park.

The City's recommendation to extend Nakoosa Trail is redundant. The Sycamore Dog park is highly utilized by surrounding neighbors and patrons who drive a vehicle. The park equipment, shelter and soccer fields are, and have been, highly utilized throughout the warm months with the present access and visibility. Sycamore Park is very well accessed via Sycamore Avenue with a parking lot and street parking which borders the north limit of the dog park owned by City Engineering and parkland owned

by the Madison Parks Department. Jana Lane provides superior park visibility, street parking, and access along the east limits of Sycamore Park. Another road would nearly encircle the entire park, limiting safe and easy bicycle and pedestrian traffic to the park. It seems appropriate to allow the new Autumn Ridge Bike Bridge to bring cyclists and pedestrians to increase the access to Sycamore Park rather than building another road for cars.

I understand that Alder Fields had weighed in on the connectivity issues to the planning commission by pointing out, “The Burke Heights neighborhood just south of Sycamore is very poorly connected to the portion to the east on Thompson Drive, relying on a single, difficult intersection linking the two areas (Pulley Drive, Commercial Avenue, Hwy 30 on ramp).” I would like to point out that Thompson Dr. is connected to other neighborhoods not only by Commercial Avenue, but also by Sycamore Avenue and Lien Road That is, I’m certain, accidentally left out by Alder Fields.

Lastly, it has come to my attention that there is an ethnic minority soccer league that uses the fields in Sycamore Park but were not included in the public engagement process to consider the idea of this road extension and the impact it will have on how they might continue to use the park.

I am happy to answer any questions now or in the future.

Thank you for your time.

Kerry McAllen  
President  
Burke Heights Neighborhood Association

[Reply](#)   [Reply all](#)   [Forward](#)

**From:** [Dean Bennett](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Field, Derek](#); [Madison, Sabrina](#)  
**Subject:** 08/26/24 Plan Commission Meeting - Northeast Area Plan Agenda Items 15 and 16.  
**Date:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 9:32:24 PM

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Hello,

I am writing as a concerned long-time resident of the Burke Heights Neighborhood to express my strong opposition to the planned expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park. This expansion would significantly impact our community and the park's essential green space.

Sycamore Park is a vital recreational area, providing residents with a much-needed place to engage in outdoor activities and enjoy nature. The planned expansion would eliminate a well-used bike and pedestrian path crucial for safe and eco-friendly travel. Additionally, it would remove green space regularly used for soccer, volleyball, and other community gatherings. These spaces are invaluable to the well-being and quality of life of residents.

Another primary concern is the impact on the newly constructed BMX course and the family playground. Families with young children heavily use both, and expanding the road through this area would create a severe safety hazard. Increasing traffic through a park frequented by children and pedestrians is a risk we should not take.

I ask the commission to recommend the adoption of the Northeast Area Plan to the Common Council except for the planned road expansion of Nakoosa Trail through Sycamore Park.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Dean Bennett  
810 Bewick Dr  
Madison WI

**From:** [Athena Salzer](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Duncan, John](#); [Field, Derek](#); [Guequierre, John](#)  
**Subject:** Please Remove Nakoosa Trail Extension w/ Northeast Area Plan  
**Date:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 10:22:21 PM

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Greetings Planning Commission and Alders Duncan, Field, and Guequierre,

I am writing tonight in regards to Agenda items 15 & 16 as they relate to Adopting the Northeast Area Plan.

**I do not support this Nakoosa Trail street extension of the plan and would love to see it removed from the plan prior to approval.** While I am largely in favor of the Northeast Area Plan and am very grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the creation of the plan via numerous public input meetings, an extension to Nakoosa Trail that runs along the south edge of Sycamore Park was added to the plan later.

It is my understanding that this extension was added to address the lack of connectivity between the Burke Heights Neighborhood and surrounding communities. In fact, I was one of the people who brought up lack of connectivity to the rest of the city at the public input meetings. HOWEVER, Burke Heights is already reasonably connected to the rest of the city for car traffic. Our lack of connectivity is really about people not traveling by car, and this is very important as Madison grows and ideally creates less car-centric spaces for citizens to get around.

We have the new ped overpass currently being constructed over HWY 30 - we are very excited about that and look forward to a new way to get in/out of the neighborhood on bicycle. Similarly, the new mountain bike trails that just got built in Sycamore Park are going to draw in more people to the park, many of whom will make their way here via bicycle. Additionally, the park is already regularly visited and used by residents from surrounding neighborhoods.

A new road through Sycamore Park will largely just create a corridor for higher speed, pass-through traffic. We already have 2 main east/west roads - Sycamore Ave immediately adjacent to the park and Commercial Ave immediately adjacent to the south of Burke Heights.

**Creating a road that runs the south edge of the park only serves to decrease safe access for those not arriving to the park by car, negating the initial intent for this proposed road.**

The recent Parks commission meeting voted to approve the Northeast Area Plan with the exception of the Nakoosa Trail Street Extension. I would strongly urge you to please do the same!

Thank you for your time and commitment to improving our city!

Best regards,

Athena Salzer  
Burke Heights resident



821 Pulley Dr.

**From:** [George Angelo](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Eric Gertner](#)  
**Subject:** Public Safety Issue with proposed roadway through Sycamore Park  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 12:46:18 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Planning Commission,

Please share this at the NE Area Plan meeting tonight. Pink is the proposed bike and pedestrian path.

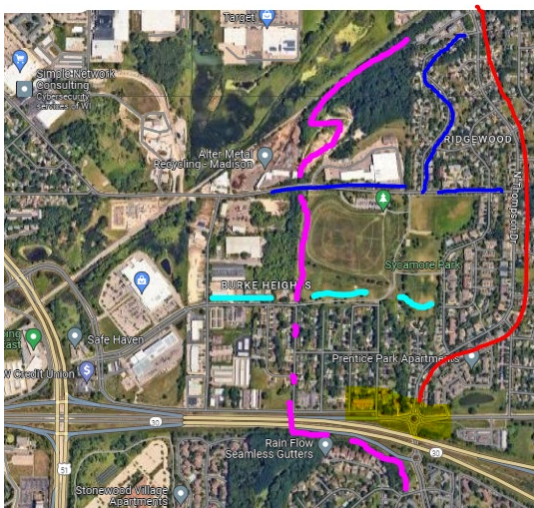
Roadway through Sycamore Park, shown in cyan, would add a level of danger being address by the bike path and bridge over Aberg/Route 30.

Other new city roads, like service lane along E. Washington near Chick-fil-A, are being eliminated for the very same reason of public safety.

Question: Origination of traffic causing high volume on Commercial Ave. ?

Recommendation 1: Route that traffic to Route 51 and 30 intersection.

Recommendation 2: Lower speed limit on Wayridge Drive to 20 MPH or less... current high-speed traffic believing this is a shortcut to Sycamore Ave. May be a response to the 25 MPH change to N. Thompson this past year. More roads, like the one proposed through the park, only divert speeders which is harder to patrol and more dangerous to children at play.



**George Angelo**

1205 Wayridge Drive, Madison, WI

**From:** [Travis Gruchow](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Sycamore Park Road  
**Date:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 8:48:26 PM

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Hello Planning Commission,

I just wanted to state that I am highly opposed to the road being proposed to run through the edge of Sycamore park. First of all from a parent lense of having kids in the park, the road is an unnecessary burden for those east of the park to have to cross as well as just an added danger to other kids playing within the park. It goes against the ideology of the zero traffic death mantra of the city of Madison. From a cyclist perspective I have to cross Sycamore Ave to get to the roundabouts under 30! With this added piece there is an added (unnecessary) road to have to cross again. And as a person who also drives I have never had a problem getting anywhere in the general area this road is being proposed. I was at a meeting in the park today that was highly attended by people from the neighborhood and there was exactly 0 people that were in favor of the road being proposed. I would highly encourage you to deviate from this plan for that area please.

Thanks

Travis Gruchow

**From:** [Darlene Ruskowsky](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Sycamore Park Road  
**Date:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 10:20:45 PM

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To whom it may concern,

We are Peter and Darlene Buckner at 813 Pulley Drive, Madison, WI. Pulley Drive ends at Sycamore Park. We enjoy the park as it is, going for walks and watching the kids play soccer and our Grandkids love the playground. We've enjoyed our quiet neighborhood, although there has been more people speeding down are street due to the dog park and I'm sure there will be more with the new bike run. Putting a road in will only make for more traffic and having to worry about kids and elderly who walk here alot getting injured or worse. Also the soccer field, where will the kids play? This just isn't a good plan.

We would like to recommend the Northeast Area Plan with the removal of the Nakoosa Trail Extension. No road!

Thank you,  
Peter and Darlene Buckner

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Jody Anderson](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Sycamore park(Northeast Area Plan)  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 10:14:24 AM

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Good morning, my name is jody I live on the corner of Nakoosa and Ziegler I would like you to remove the Nakoosa Trail extension. It would be very dangerous to put a road through this area especially since they just put in a new bike trail for mountain bikes.let alone all the dog walkers, and walkers. I have lived here for 16 Years and have seen alot and the thought of a road scares me for the safety of the people of this neighborhood. So again PLEASE remove the Nakoosa Trail extension .

**From:** [shotscarver@aol.com](mailto:shotscarver@aol.com)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Sycamore park-new Nakoosa trail  
**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 7:51:18 AM

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I am a resident of Burke Heights and walk my dog daily through Sycamore park. Please remove the extension of Nakoosa Trail from the Northeast area plan. It would take out much green space and some beautiful mature trees. It would also be running alongside the brand new mountain biking trails, actually very close to them. The existing bike paths were redone a year ago and provide a nice walk or bike ride through the park. Save money by not cluttering up the park with a roadway for cars.  
Janet Carver

**From:** [Nicholas Davies](#)  
**To:** [Plan Commission Comments](#)  
**Cc:** [Martinez-Rutherford, Dina Nina](#)  
**Subject:** Yes to NEAP, but w/o Nakoosa Trail extension  
**Date:** Sunday, August 25, 2024 1:16:35 PM

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Dear Plan Commission,

I have been following along with the progression of the Northeast Area Plan, living not far from the planning boundary in Eastmorland.

While I approve of most of the plan's recommendations for the area, residents in the Burke Heights neighborhood have recently become aware of the proposal to run a new road through Sycamore Park, and expressed their concerns about this.

I want to support their calls to remove that street connection from the plan. Extending Nakoosa Trail would effectively open what is today a pedestrian/bike route to high-speed cut-through car traffic.

There is already a project underway to add a bike/ped bridge across route 30, as part of the Autumn Ridge Path. This will shift bike/ped traffic away from the Commercial/Thomson intersection. However, extending Nakoosa Trail will also shift car traffic away from the Commercial Ave frontage road, bringing these modes back into conflict for no good reason.

Moreover, we need to look at any new road construction through the lens of the climate crisis, and how making car travel more convenient (compared to today, and compared to other modes) incentivizes vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and therefore climate impact, as well as various kinds of pollution (air, light, noise, water). In addition, city parks are a haven for wildlife and biodiversity, and bringing cars to and through that environment will end up with that wildlife being killed.

There is an equity concern here as well, with Burke Heights being traditionally a lower-income neighborhood that the city is proposing to ram a new road through, with all the attendant risks of that, from childhood asthma to vehicular violence. This is not being done at the neighborhood's wishes, but rather against them, and the road extension will only enable people coming from outside the neighborhood to speed through it quicker.

I understand that this tide of feedback is coming late in the process. But (hopefully) not too late to make further changes, when the requested change is this clear and community-supported. Please concur with the Parks Commission's recommendation on this.

Thank you,

Nick Davies  
3717 Richard St