

AGENDA # 2

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: LANDMARKS COMMISSION	PRESENTED: August 13, 2012
TITLE: 402 North Thornton Avenue – Designated Landmark (Tenney Park) – Removal/replacement of the Thornton Avenue Bridge. 2nd Ald. Dist. Contact: Kay Rutledge (27114)	REFERRED: REREFERRED: REPORTED BACK:
AUTHOR: Amy Scanlon, Secretary	ADOPTED: POF:
DATED: August 13, 2012	ID NUMBER:

Members present were: Stu Levitan, Chair; Erica Gehrig, Vice Chair; Christina Slattery, David McLean, Marsha Rummel, Jason Fowler and Michael Rosenblum.

SUMMARY:

Tom Maglio, Landscape Architect in the City Parks Division, briefly described the need for the new bridge. Maglio explained the Marston Street bridge condition no longer allows for heavy vehicular traffic and there is a need to allow maintenance vehicles on the island.

The Marston Street Bridge is the first clear span concrete bridge structure in Wisconsin and engineering firms would not give the approval for heavy vehicles without the dissection of the bridge to survey the structure. Parks staff decided they would rather restore the Marston Street Bridge and replace the Thornton Avenue Bridge as the back door to the island. Maglio noted that the Marston Street Bridge would be restored and maintained as a bike and pedestrian bridge.

Maglio explained that the State Preservation Office desired a design that would replace the existing bridge with one that is similar in simple concrete forms and details.

Tom Zalewski, representing Bloom Companies, Consultant to City, 5801 Research Park Blvd, Madison, WI 53719, registering in support and wishing to speak.

McLean noted that the approaches of other park bridges are more curved and tapered into the landscape, but this bridge is straight. Maglio suggested that the street paving could widen at the bridge approach.

Mr. Zalewski suggested that the bridge approach on the park side could be designed differently.

Staff suggested that landscaping could be used to soften the approach.

Rummel asked if there was a landscaping plan for the historic park and parkway. Maglio explained that there is a historic landscape plan that will be utilized to determine the treatment of the landscaping near the bridge.

There was general discussion about the design of the proposed bridge.

ACTION:

A motion was made by Fowler, seconded by Rosenblum, to approve the replacement of the bridge with the following conditions of approval:

- The new concrete shall match the existing concrete color.
- The approach to the bridge shall be softened.

The motion passed by voice vote/other.