

**From:** [Nino Amato](#)  
**To:** [Transportation Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Madison Transportation Commission - LLegistar File # 79278 Complete Green Streets Project Checklist Review & Opposition to Bike Path in Sauk Creek Woods Greenway  
**Date:** Monday, August 14, 2023 11:32:32 AM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

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Dear Transportation Commission Members & Staff:

**The Proposed Bike Path for Sauk Creek Woods & Natural Habitat Greenway Defies Our City's Environmental Sustainability Plans** - since the construction would require the removal of hundreds of mature trees in Sauk Creek Woods — that would result in the immediate and long-term increase in Madison's CO2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions, as well as increasing our city's urban heat.

**Today's Climate Crisis & The Urgency for the City of Madison to Reduce CO2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions!**

**The proposed Bike Path for the Sauk Creek Woods Greenway is not only environmentally harmful, it is unnecessary**, given the current nearby marked-bike lanes on Westfield Road — which is 1000 feet east of the proposed Bike Path (Primary Bike Path) and the High Point Road Bike Path, which is a “Secondary” bike route.

***It is also important to note, that Westfield Road is a much safer biking route, especially given the recent installation of the speed bumps and predestine crossings that are now completed on North Westfield Road, across from the Walnut Grove Park.***

Furthermore, the Madison Common Council and the City's Sustainability Plan, strongly supports increasing, protecting and maintaining our urban trees throughout Madison.

Equally important, Madison's urban trees play a vital role in combating today's climate crisis, through nature-based carbon removal (CO2 Sequestration), which turns CO2 Greenhouse Gas emissions into clean oxygen, while lowering the urban heat rates throughout our city neighborhoods.

**A Unique 26.4 acre Urban Wooded Greenway & Natural Habitat (See City Engineering Photo Slide Below)**

The Sauk Creek Woods & Natural Habitat Greenway is a dense 26.4 acre woods, with 5,595 trees (City Engineering Estimates) which would be negatively impacted by the proposed Bike Path — and the construction and tree removal for a new surface bike path would also increase the stormwater runoff in several neighborhoods on the west side of Madison.

Therefore, the proposed Bike Path would run counter to the newly developed Stormwater Management Plans currently under review - and the cutting down of hundreds of trees — violates Madison's long-standing environmental values.

In closing, the proposed Bike Path for Sauk Creek Woods, not only runs counter to our City's environmental values and national reputation as a "Green City", it is fiscally irresponsible given the \$25 million 2024 budget gap and given the current primary and secondary marked bike lanes that already exists on Westfield and Junction Roads.

Thank you for your consideration and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 608-514-3317.

Respectfully submitted;

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\* SNTs Represents Residents in the Sauk Creek, Walnut Grove, Tamarack Trails, Oakbridge, Wexford Village and Wexford Ridge Neighborhoods.

