

From: [Shannon Stahl](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Concerns about Pontiac, Boston, Nokomis, and Rosewood Reconstruction
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I just returned from our Summit Woods Neighborhood Annual Meeting at the Sequoia Library. I was hoping to learn from neighbors about their perspective on the Pontiac Trail project, projected to start next summer. While it is clear that our road needs to be rebuilt, I also sense little effort to respond productively to individuals from our neighborhood.

I attended the first virtual meeting when the city presented the project, and I had the impression that they wanted to hear from the members of the neighborhood. Although members of the neighborhood spoke up and many of us filled out the survey, the second virtual meeting where the detailed plans/options were presented suggested that most of our feedback/input completely ignored our input.

Specific concerns:

- there is an insistence on sidewalks on *both* sides of the street - we currently have none. Sidewalks are valuable, but the cost/benefit is much greater for one sidewalk and the impact of a second sidewalk is likely to be net negative. The feedback at the virtual meetings and at the annual Summit Woods Neighborhood meeting this evening (Tuesday, October 14) seems overwhelmingly in favor of only one sidewalk.
- the options presented are giving us two street widths - one that prevents street parking and the other that will require removal of many of our large trees.

Many individuals conveyed concerns about the two-sidewalk plan and asked why we needed sidewalks installed on both sides of the street (we currently have none, except in isolated areas where there is one sidewalk). I am deeply concerned about the loss of trees and canopy in our neighborhood that will result from this project. I also have concerns that elimination of parking (which seems to be the likely option since it will reduce the loss of trees) will present a major hardship for the neighborhood, since there is inadequate parking in many driveways and will be even less once sidewalks are installed. Including parking presents other issues. In short, I don't get the sense that city has adequately listened and responded to the feedback from the neighborhood. This street is almost entirely a "neighborhood use" street - not a public thoroughfare. So, it seems essential to be responsive to the neighborhood, rather than impose a generic plan defined to cover the many other general use areas in the city.

Essentially, it feels like this project is being pushed on us with negligible engagement/input from the community. I am unfortunately traveling/out-of-town next Wed (October 22) for the Transportation Commission meeting, when it sounds like some of this will be discussed. I feel like it is essential to have an in person meeting scheduled where we can discuss this as a neighborhood with city officials.

-Shannon Stahl (943 Pontiac Trl)