

From: [Foster, Grant](#)
To: [McGuigan, Patrick](#)
Subject: FW: Monona Court
Date: Friday, February 21, 2020 3:33:07 PM

Grant Foster
District 15 Alder
Madison Common Council
608-285-2519

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district15/blog/>

From: Angie Lent <angielent@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 3:19 PM
To: Foster, Grant <district15@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Monona Court

Hi Grant-

I'm reaching out regarding the upcoming Transportation Commission meeting on 2/26 as I will be unable to attend.

I live at 604 Morningside Ave, in the Lake Edge Neighborhood. I oppose reverting Monona Court to a two way street.

This street is hardly more than an alley with a name. I frequently walk my dog there or include it on my running routes as there is very little traffic. I've encountered a lot of my neighbors doing the same. There is really not room for two vehicles to pass each other and leave room for foot traffic.

Thank you,
Angie Lent

From: [Foster, Grant](#)
To: [McGuigan, Patrick](#)
Subject: FW: Monona Court Change - Oppose
Date: Friday, February 21, 2020 3:36:50 PM

Grant Foster
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From: Patrick Mastin <patrick.mastin@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 1:31 PM
To: Foster, Grant <district15@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Monona Court Change - Oppose

Hello,

I recently learned of the proposed change to Monona Court to a two way street. Monona court is not wide enough to support 2 way traffic. It will turn into a thoroughfare instead of being used as an alleyway. With school children, bikers, walkers, etc using Monona Court so frequently, it will be dangerous to have two way traffic on it. At the very least, speed bumps should be installed to ensure traffic is moving slowly and it is not being used as a thoroughfare. Thanks for listening and for your service to our community!

Sincerely,
Patrick Mastin

From: [Foster, Grant](#)
To: [McGuigan, Patrick](#)
Subject: Fw: Monona Ct. one way vs. two way proposal
Date: Sunday, February 23, 2020 7:28:03 AM

Grant Foster
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From: Eric Zitske <ezcancam@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 16:39
To: Foster, Grant
Subject: Monona Ct. one way vs. two way proposal

Hello Grant,

I recently learned about yet another petition to turn Monona Court back into a two-way street. I am not certain I can make it to the Transportation Meeting so I wanted to be sure and share my thoughts with you.

I firmly believe this comes down to a matter of convenience for a handful of people versus the safety of all in the neighborhood.

As a matter of backstory, this is not the first time this issue has been petitioned. There is a grudge held by John, a neighbor at 4118 Hegg Ave. against my aunt Judy at 4119 Hegg Ave. because she worked hard to get the alleyway made one-way, for reasons outlined below. John felt very inconvenienced by this and, as my aunt explained to me, he even threatened to sue her over her efforts. He has tried before to lead the charge to change the alley status to two-way and now that you are the new Alder, he wants to try again.

There are several problems with making the alley two-way, as many of us who are neighborhood parents are all too aware.

The alleyway sees many pedestrians at multiple times of day, including families walking kids to and from Monona Grove Nursery School (located inside the church on the alley), as well as families walking to and from Allis School, and church traffic. I have been one of those families for years and I have seen several close encounters between buses and cars and walkers in and

around the alley. There are also elderly walkers and dog walkers and many bikers who use that alley pathway as a safer path through as there are few sidewalks in the neighborhood. Making the already narrow alley two-way would make the situation much more dangerous, which is one main reason the alley is one-way now.

Buses and pick up parents headed to and from Allis School used to go both directions on the alley. This led to traffic congestion and confusion and unsafe conditions for drivers and pedestrians, especially at the intersections of Monona Ct. and both Buckeye Rd. and Hegg Ave. Buses and cars would often drive several feet into the lawns on either side of the alley to get around each other, tearing up gardens and yards. In winter, this was especially unsafe with ice and large snow plow drifts along the roadsides blocking access and sightlines. Sometimes vehicles would have to back up down the alley the opposite way they had come from while maneuvering around people and other vehicles. This was not surprising since it's an alley and clearly not realistically wide enough for two-way traffic.

Since being one-way, the alley has been much less congested, safer and more orderly with vehicle traffic flow and pedestrians, and with much less damage to yards. The newly reconstructed Buckeye Rd. has ample room for buses and cars to pickup and drop off and allows for more managed bus traffic as well as safer pedestrian access as the alley is now.

The only advantage to making Monona Ct. two-way is for the convenience of the few people who live along the alley who don't want to have to drive around an extra block or two.

The affected residents are not being denied access to their garages or being unreasonably put out. And no neighbor I know has ever called in a complaint against another neighbor cutting down the alley the wrong way for half a block to sneak into their garage when no one else is around.

Regardless of another petition, there are a good many of us who strongly believe that the continued safety of our neighborhood pedestrians and school kids and bicyclists far outweighs the slight inconvenience of a few or the personal vendetta of a disgruntled neighbor. I know other neighbors have stories and pictures as well that I hope they will share with you.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or for more information. I can tell you in all honesty as one of a community of nearby parents that this is definitely a safety issue at its heart.

Thanks too as always for your informed and thoughtful communication with all of us. It is great to know you are committed to doing your best for our (and your) neighborhood.

Kind regards,

Eric and family

--

Eric Zitske

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From: [Foster, Grant](#)
To: [McGuigan, Patrick](#)
Subject: Fw: Monona Ct
Date: Sunday, February 23, 2020 7:30:34 AM

Grant Foster
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<https://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district15/blog/>

From: Judy Welsh <cldoosjw@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 17:16
To: Foster, Grant
Subject: Monona Ct

I live on the corner of Hegg Ave and Monona Ct and am vehemently opposed to switching to two way for the following reasons:

1. It is too narrow for two vehicles to pass each other without driving off the pavement. My section of the court is between Buckeye Rd and Hegg Ave, the most heavily traveled section because of Allis school and the church. Unlike other blocks, my yard is not fenced or planted with bushes/shrubs to prohibit cars from driving on the grass. I was nearly hit by a car while standing on my side talking to someone on the other side.
2. People who don't live on the court have less say than people on the court. The standard procedure of the City of Madison traffic engineering is to give priority to those most affected. It doesn't matter how many signed a petition.
3. The two primary opponents of one way ignore the one way policy anyway. One of them contends the city owns part of the land one either side of the court and people have the right to drive in the grass.
4. People accessing the church and school have accepted the one way policy.
5. Since the court became one way it is more like a bike path for people to enjoy.
6. Two way can result in problems previously experienced, e.g. school buses, large trucks and even an occasional city bus driving through the court.
7. Even allowing a test period is a mistake.

I am constantly astonished this is such a big deal to a few people. It's only a ten foot stretch of pavement and is not a major thorough fare. It isn't as though they have to pack a lunch to go around the block to get to a "regular" street. I do it everyday and it only takes a few more seconds.

Please DO NOT support this proposition.

From: [Foster, Grant](#)
To: [McGuigan, Patrick](#)
Subject: Fw: Monona Court
Date: Sunday, February 23, 2020 8:00:16 AM

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From: Vicki Taylor <vikxtaylor@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 23, 2020 7:52
To: Foster, Grant
Subject: Re: Monona Court

We live on major ave and used that route to get to monona dr to avoid the intersection at lake edge because that light doesn't always change for us to turn left until 2 or 3 cycles

On Sun, Feb 23, 2020 at 7:27 AM Foster, Grant <district15@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

Thanks for the feedback, Vicki.

You're the first person to suggest changing the direction of the one way. Can you share more about why you'd recommend this change? Thanks!

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From: Vicki Taylor <vikxtaylor@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2020 16:01
To: Foster, Grant
Subject: Monona Court

Hello. We are in favor of either making Monona Court 2-way again or making it 1-way the

opposite of the way it is now.

Thanks for asking for input.