

From: [Toni Brown](#)
To: [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Planning Division Staff Update - Comments on Agenda Item #77560
Date: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 2:39:05 PM

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To Members of the Transportation Commission and Staff,

I am writing regarding the above-referenced agenda item to be included in this evening's Transportation Commission meeting. I ask that a copy of my email be incorporated into the public record, voicing my opposition to the proposed Sauk Creek greenway bike path. I live near Sauk Creek Woods and, like my neighbors, I enjoy walking the woods for the peace and tranquility it brings in a city that is offering less and less green space and more cement. I fail to understand why all of a sudden the city's 'hair is on fire' to mow down thousands of trees and push through a bike path when, for decades, the City completely ignored the woods when they should have been maintaining it. The woods is home to an ecosystem of plants and animals that will be lost should a brightly lit path be built. What should instead be addressed is the creek erosion, rectifying the damage that's been done from the city's lack of maintenance and removing invasive tree species along with the dead wood. This should be at the forefront of the plan, NOT installing a bike path that leads nowhere and duplicates existing paths. It doesn't seem to consider the current global climate crisis and is being pushed through by one of the city planners (Ben Zellers) and the city bike office representative (Renee Callaway). Before pursuing their pet project, it would've been nice if they'd asked the residents what they thought.

We pay extremely high taxes in Madison (this is coming from someone who lived in New York City for 20 years!) – our tax dollars are earmarked for something the surrounding neighborhood doesn't even want! I am asking that the bike path be removed from the West Area Plan as it's neither needed nor wanted... a majority of the residents in the surrounding neighborhood overwhelmingly DO NOT WANT IT.

Thank you for listening,

Toni Brown

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