

## Hacker, Marsha

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**From:** Scott [scott@kreweofmadison.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 11:57 PM  
**To:** Phillips, Rob  
**Cc:** Cieslewicz, Dave; Rummel, Marsha; Hacker, Marsha; 'mnaboard'; Dan Frost  
**Subject:** MNA Positions on Williamson Street Reconstruction  
**Attachments:** 2010-11-23 Willy Street BPW.pdf

Rob -

Please find the attached letter from the Marquette Neighborhood Association board regarding positions on the Williamson Street Reconstruction. The letter is addressed to you and the Board of Public Works.

Thank you for all of the time and attention that you have been giving our concerns.

Sincerely,

Scott

**Scott B. Thornton**  
**President, Marquette Neighborhood Association**  
**[www.marquette-neighborhood.org](http://www.marquette-neighborhood.org)**  
1104 Jenifer St  
(608) 255-5969

*The Marquette Neighborhood Association is a public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to MNA are deductible under section 170 of the code.*

Keep up to date with what is going on in the neighborhood by joining the MNA discussion listserve, e-mail: [MarqNA-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com](mailto:MarqNA-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com)



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November 23, 2010

Rob Phillips, P.E., City Engineer  
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd Room 115  
Madison, WI 53703

Madison Board of Public Works

Dear Mr. Phillips and Board Members,

The Marquette Neighborhood Association (MNA) would like to thank you and your staff for the time and effort that you have put into the Williamson Street Reconstruction project. The meetings with concerned residents from the neighborhood and business associations have been productive and very helpful.

The MNA Board voted unanimously at our November 18, 2010 meeting to support the following positions in regards to the Williamson St. reconstruction. The Board further resolved to provide this resolution to Madison City Engineering, the Board of Public Works and make them available through posting of the meeting's minutes. The Board asks that the city implement these positions in their contracting for street reconstruction and as the project progresses.

**Positions:**

**Utility Undergrounding:**

- Within the next year, the City should develop a funding and scheduling plan for undergrounding utilities on Williamson St.
- Undergrounding efforts during this project should be conducted so that there is no need to reopen the pavement at a later date.
- The City and MG&E should have discussions now with property owners about hosting an electrical service pedestal so that correct locations for laterals can be established.

**Street Trees:**

- Alternatives to tree removal must be explored for the 32 trees marked for removal in the current plan.
- The City Forester should work with the neighborhood to develop a tree plan for the street with emphasis on replacing lost trees with canopy type trees wherever appropriate. Shade tree species should not be precluded because of existing overhead utilities.
- Strong stipulations for existing tree protection must be written into the contract for reconstruction. Stipulations must emphasize protection, not simply replacement.

**Pedestrian Safety:**

- Pedestrian safety must receive priority in design of intersections.

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- Curb radii should focus on pedestrian safety, not on ease of vehicular turning. Corners must not be "softened".
  - Islands at un-signalized intersections should be designed so as to not interfere with parking, not be excessively long, and be at least 3 feet wide.
  - A small raised island suitable for placement of a pedestrian crossing sign, that does not interfere with the adjacent driveway, should be implemented at the west side of the Brearly St. Intersection.
  - Visibility/detectability of pedestrian crosswalks must be maximized through signage, colored street markings, textured pavement, overhead signage and other mechanisms.

Lighting:

- Street lighting should be optimized and not maximized. Lighting should be consistent with safety, aesthetics, and efficiency. The design needs to be within the financial limits of the existing assessment.
- Electrical outlets for community events should be provided on selected light poles in the 800, 900, and 1000 blocks.

Other:

- The proposed width of 44 feet west of Baldwin is supported as a compromise.
- The design of the rebuild should not preclude, or make difficult, future changes to the street if parking is established 24/7.
- Amendments to the contract must be an option, should the need arise.
- There must be contract stipulations for minimization of inconvenience to businesses and residents (e.g. timing of work, parking of contract employees).
- Loss of parking on the street should be minimized by combining parking-precluding features, such as fire hydrants and pedestrian islands, to the extent possible.
- Benches for pedestrians, surfaces for public signage or art, bubblers, and outdoor seating fence inserts should be considered for each block. Feasible locations must be identified.
- A target of 25% rainfall infiltration/capture, that uses a combination of approaches such as biovaults, rain gardens, deep-root systems, soil amendments, and cisterns, should be established for this project.
- A complete plan for the Blount / Williamson St. Intersection and adjacent streets that incorporates traffic calming, neighborhood gateway features, integration with the Blair St. reconstruction, and safe and efficient management of pedestrian, bicycle, and auto traffic, must be developed.
- The scheduling should ensure that the reconstruction be completed in the 800 - 1000 blocks in time for the Willy St. Fair, the third weekend in September.

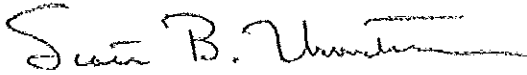
The Board further supports the following meetings:

1. between now and December 1, 2010, a meeting and site visit with the neighborhood, the City and MG&E to discuss tree removal and placement;
2. between now and finalization of plans for conduit placement, a meeting between the neighborhood, MG&E and the City to discuss location and placement of electrical service pedestals and electrical service undergrounding in general;

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3. between now and completion of the street reconstruction, a meeting between the neighborhood and the City to discuss funding sources for completion of electrical service undergrounding; and
  4. between now and completion of the street reconstruction, a series of meetings between the neighborhood and City Forestry to develop a Williamson St. tree plan.

Should the current timeframe for reconstruction in 2011 preclude the implementation of these positions, the MNA Board continues to support additional time to develop a more complete and integrated reconstruction plan. As stated in our October 2010 correspondence, the MNA Board supports a 2012 reconstruction for to allow for additional planning so that the street can meet its full potential as an important corridor in the city and in our neighborhood.

Sincerely,



Scott B. Thornton, President  
On behalf of the Board of Directors  
Marquette Neighborhood Association

Cc: Mayor Dave Cieslewicz  
Alder Marsha Rummel  
Marsha Hacker, City of Madison  
MNA Board  
GWABA Board