

From: Jeff Bauer
To: Furman, Keith
Cc: Tom Kneubuehl; Faith Fitzpatrick; Herman Felstehausen; Stewart Ellison; Scallon, Peggy; Mark Redsten; Sandra Larson; Patrice Kennedy; Heather Crade; pbovette@wisc.edu; khumbu04@hotmail.com; chuck.candy@mendotaspring.com; Wolfe, James; nelsorp1813@gmail.com; emetzloff@yahoo.com; Mayor; springharborpresident@gmail.com; Phillips, Robert; ccarpenter@royle.com; alicatraz@sbcglobal.net; kaywired@aol.com; Petykowski, Christopher; Mohelnitzky, Hannah; Engineer; Transportation Commission; Beth Bauer; gerard.nussbaum; Tom Bauer; Linda/Bob Nelson; King Aymond; Inez Brunner; Kim McBride; Marilyn Myers; Joyce Y Rosevear; Brian Le; Linda Layman; ARLENE KOZIOL; Jessica Harrison; Kendall Harrison; Herman Baumann; Kathy Schlimgen; Dave George; Brian Grabia; ROBERT H FILLINGAME; Lisa Abraham; Pat McBride; tomasz Zal; Kate and Dave Eberhard; Derrick Buisch; Sara Braas; LISA A STEINKAMP
Subject: Re: LMD Reconstruction
Date: Saturday, February 12, 2022 2 09:56 PM

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Keith,

Thanks for your prompt reply with reference to specific slides in the PowerPoint presentation. Upon reviewing the text, I couldn't find any evidence that safety, accessibility, and equity are "non-negotiable." A few bullets describe general program goals that have evolved over time, but nothing specifically identifies immutable foundations for Madison's rules and regulations. Plans have obviously evolved with updated information and new priorities. Several bullets note the need to consider options and make feasible improvements. Some exceptions in implementation are also identified. One slide states that policies are to be followed "to the extent possible," confirming that Madison's future should not be cast in one-size-fits-all concrete. Therefore, you do not need to ask City staff for citations that show policies cannot change. They clearly have in the past and will in the future, especially as exceptions to existing rules become impossible to ignore over time.

Hence, I ask you to acknowledge that many LMD residents—I'll bet you dinner it's a majority—want the redevelopment project to reflect new realities that are not encompassed by current policy. We firmly believe that environmental protection, watershed management, Native culture preservation, and climate change are critical to the future of Lake Mendota and Lake Mendota Drive, but slides 19-27 don't mention them at all. Existing concepts of safety must also be updated to reflect new technologies and social practices. Compromises need to be crafted when new clashes with old. Defending old goals as immutable is offensive to people in Spring Harbor who are acutely aware of dynamic challenges requiring creative solutions.

So please respond constructively to your constituents who are asking you to revise the timetable. Slow it down. Build citizen input into the planning process *before* presenting the street design to the Transportation Commission and Board of Public Works at later dates. We simply do not believe that the existing timetable allows enough time to incorporate collective neighborhood wisdom into revisions, nor do we take any comfort in your hope that we will like the plan when it is revealed to us at a public information meeting. Spring Harbor has dozens of people with top-level professional expertise in areas that need to be addressed in the planning process. Get them involved now, while constructive collaboration is still possible.

In that vein, I close with input from my professional perspective as an economist. Today's dire economic challenges got no mention in the information you sent. The slides assume a normal economy, which is totally unrealistic in 2022. How will the LMD plan deal with staggering inflation in construction costs and delays caused by supply chain failures? Are a realistic budget and timetable even possible? Have city officials taken into account the rapidly declining likelihood that federal funds will be available for this project? Perhaps most importantly, have you thought about voters' backlash when the final tax bill hits the mailbox? It will be brutal. The project will cost a lot more than projected a few weeks ago by the Engineers Office, and disposable income all along LMD will be a lot less due to inflation and shrinking nest eggs. Need I say more? The economic downturn is another compelling reason to slow down right now and do this right, in consideration of *all* the changes taking place.

Jeff

On Feb 8, 2022, at 9:25 AM, Furman, Keith <district19@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

It's unclear to me what legal authority you're questioning, so I'd appreciate you be more specific and I'm happy to consult with City staff on getting that answered.

As far as policies, that's outlined in the slide presentation from the 1/11:
[PowerPoint Presentation \(cityofmadison.com\)](#)
Page 19 – 27.

-Keith F.

Alder Keith Furman, 19th District, Madison, WI
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Subscribe to my blog: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district19/blog/>

From: Jeff Bauer <jeffreycbauer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 7, 2022 1:37 PM
To: Furman, Keith <district19@cityofmadison.com>
Cc: Tom Kneubuehl <tkneubuehl@gmail.com>; Faith Fitzpatrick <fafitzpa@gmail.com>; Herman Felstehausen <hffelste@wisc.edu>; Stewart Ellison <snellison@att.net>; Scallon, Peggy <Peggy.Scallon@rogersbh.org>; Mark Redsten <mredsten@cleanwisconsin.org>; Sandra Larson <petdoc53597@yahoo.com>; Patrice Kennedy <gpatricekennedy@gmail.com>; Heather Crade <crade5@sbcglobal.net>; pbovette@wisc.edu; khumbu04@hotmail.com; chuck.candy@mendotaspring.com; Wolfe, James <JWolfe@cityofmadison.com>; nelsorp1813@gmail.com; emetzloff@yahoo.com; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; springharborpresident@gmail.com; Phillips, Robert <RPhillips@cityofmadison.com>; ccarpenter@royle.com; alicatraz@sbcglobal.net; kaywired@aol.com; Petykowski, Christopher <CPetykowski@cityofmadison.com>; Mohelnitzky, Hannah <HMohelnitzky@cityofmadison.com>; Engineer <engineer@cityofmadison.com>; Transportation Commission <TransportationCommission@cityofmadison.com>; Beth Bauer <elizabeth607@ecentral.com>; gerard.nussbaum <gerard@zarachassociates.com>; Tom Bauer <tomhaybauer@gmail.com>; Linda/Bob Nelson <lnelsonrp@gmail.com>; Robert Nelson <nelsorp1813@gmail.com>; Leslie Herje <khumbu04@hotmail.com>; Chuck & Candy Gates/Schrank <chuck.candy@mendotaspring.com>; Alice Erickson <alicatraz@sbcglobal.net>; Jeff Bauer <jeffreycbauer@gmail.com>; Patricia Boyette <pbovette@wisc.edu>; King Aymond <kingaymond@hotmail.com>; Inez Brunner <inezbrunner@gmail.com>; Steve/Heather Crade <crade5@sbcglobal.net>; Kim McBride <kasmcbride56@gmail.com>; Marilyn Myers <Mm2tv@aol.com>; Sandy-Phil Larson Simon <petdoc53597@yahoo.com>; Joyce Y Rosevear <rosevearj@tds.net>; Brian Le <le@urology.wisc.edu>; Linda Layman <linda.layman56@gmail.com>; ARLENE KOZIOL <arlenekoziol@mac.com>; Jessica Harrison <jyharrison@gmail.com>; Kendall Harrison <kharrison@kglaw.com>; Herman Baumann <hermwired@aol.com>; Kay Schwichtenberg <kaywired@aol.com>; Kathy Schlimgen <kaschlim@gmail.com>; Dave George <davegeorge603@gmail.com>; Brian Grabia <bgrabia@sbcglobal.net>; ROBERT H FILLINGAME <rhfillin@wisc.edu>; Lisa Abraham <lisfabraham@gmail.com>; Pat McBride <pem@medicine.wisc.edu>; Tomasz Zal <Tzal@elephasbio.com>; David

R. Eberhard <doctorwine@hotmail.com>; Frank Bauer <bauer45f@gmail.com>; Derrick Buisch <dbuisch@education.wisc.edu>

Subject: Re: LMD Reconstruction

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Keith: By Reply All, please provide all the City's specific policies and procedures "as related to safety, accessibility, and equity that is (sic) not negotiable," plus an explanation of the legal authority on which your intransigence is based. Thanks. Jeff

On Feb 6, 2022, at 4:17 PM, Furman, Keith <district19@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

Sandra,

To be clear, a survey records the current conditions of the street. It's not a reconstruction plan. There has been planning of this project for some time when it relates to budget [approvals] and capturing data (traffic, survey, etc).

A redesign plan cannot be put together without that work. Engineering, and its partners, is currently working on the plan using the survey work (as well as multiple on-site visits) as the basis for the engineering plan designs. That as well as the City's policies and procedures and resident feedback will influence the design.

I stand by my statement that a plan doesn't exist. When it does, everyone will get an opportunity to see it and discuss it. The good news is the plan should be ready for discussion soon and the next public information meeting date will be confirmed once that's it's clear when it's done.

I understand there is a lot of frustration that the City's policies and procedures as related to safety, accessibility and equity is not negotiable. If it's possible to include sidewalk(s) without impacting the tree canopy, that will be part of the plan. Many people have sent in their concerns and suggestions, and wherever possible, those are being incorporated into the discussion and possibly design. People have suggested no sidewalks at all, alternatives to sidewalks, alternative types of sidewalks, concerns about the environment, water quality, curbs and effigy mounds.

There is a major difference between a park design and a street reconstruction. There are multiple street reconstructions every year in Madison. Again, to be clear, there are policies and procedures for these projects that will be followed. That does include public input, but not voting on safety, accessibility and equity.

I continue to remain open to discussions and feedback, but I don't believe it's my job to let the loudest voices or majority decide safety decisions. No project process does that. People welcome to continue to advocate for what they'd like to see. In addition to continuing to send e-mails, there will be many additional steps in the process that allow for public feedback:

- Late Feb. or Early March: Second Public Information Meeting (held virtually)
- o Post card to be mailed prior, and registration link will be on project page
- 3/9/2022: Street Design for LMD to Transportation Commission (estimated date)
- 3/16/2022: Street Design for LMD to Board of Public Works (estimated date)
- 4/8/2022: Mail Estimated Assessments, Public Hearing Notice for 2022 Project (estimated date)
- 4/20/2022: BPW Public Hearing on 2022 Project (estimated date)
- 5/10/2022: Common Council Hearing on 2022 Project (estimated date)
- 8/1/2022: Begin Construction on 2022 Project (estimated date)
- Winter 2022: Start public meetings for 2023 reconstruction project

I live on Lake Mendota Drive. I'm incredibly familiar with the street. The success of this project is very important to me as well.

Thanks for your feedback and feel free to continue to send your questions and suggestions our way.

-Keith F.

Alder Keith Furman, 19th District, Madison, WI

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Subscribe to my blog: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district19/blog/>

From: Sandra Larson <petdoc53597@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, February 6, 2022 2:33 PM

To: Furman, Keith <district19@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: Patrice Kennedy <gpatricekennedy@gmail.com>; Heather Crade <crade5@sbcglobal.net>; pboyette@wisc.edu; Jeff Bauer <jeffreycbauer@gmail.com>; khumbu04@hotmail.com; chuck.candy@mendotaspring.com; Wolfe, James <JWolfe@cityofmadison.com>; nelsorp1813@gmail.com; emetzloff@yahoo.com; Mayor <Mayor@cityofmadison.com>; springharborpresident@gmail.com; Phillips, Robert <RPhillips@cityofmadison.com>; ccarpenter@royle.com; alicatraz@sbcglobal.net; kaywired@aol.com

Subject: LMD Reconstruction

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2/6/2022

Alderman Furman:

I have been following with great interest your ongoing discussion with our neighbor, Jeff Bauer, concerning the LMD reconstruction. Let me state upfront that I am very unhappy to have had to learn about something so significant to the fabric of my neighborhood by seeing surveyors working in my yard. This was the first time I had any indication that the city was planning significant changes to the main passage through the area and the jewel of not only the neighborhood but the entire city-Lake Mendota Drive. When I asked the surveyors what they were doing, they responded they were surveying the area for the city-to redo the street. Now, you are claiming that after all this legwork has been done, that the city has no plan, either proposed or in place, for this project-the one we were able to find out about in the city's 11/5/21 online update where it was stated that no street design alternatives had been developed but public input opportunities would be available later this winter. But then, at the time of the January 11 meeting after carefully and thoughtfully filling out and submitting two surveys, it became crystal clear, at least to me, many decisions had been already made and no one running the meeting cared how members of the neighborhood felt about those decisions. When residents were asked to give feedback, to what we didn't know because there is "no plan", our input was (not so) politely ignored when it didn't seem to align with what had apparently been decided on by others (whatever that is, we don't know because we haven't been privy to earlier discussions in the suspected, decision-making process).

I find it difficult to believe that the city has begun this complicated, extensive, topographically challenging, environmentally and historically sensitive project with no (even preliminary) plan in place. Indeed, the Mayor, in her letter on January 20, responding to Jeff Bauer stated, "This is a project on which our Engineering, Traffic Engineering, Sanitary and Storm Water Utility have been working for some time". So, which is it, Mr. Alderman? Is the city beginning a project going in blind, admitting to making significant incorrect estimates of auto traffic volume and speed and likely on-street parking also, with no proposed plan, getting the entire neighborhood significantly riled up and then ignoring the strong and consistent feelings of the residents involved? As you stated in your email to Jeff on January 31 that there is no secret, developed plan-"the plan for Lake Mendota Drive reconstruction doesn't exist yet". It seems to me you are trying to defend a position that is directly contradicted, in writing, by the Mayor.

I also read with great interest, as I'm sure many others did, the article in the Feb. 2, 2022 Wisconsin State Journal - "Council invites design contest for waterfront". Where are OUR design teams with their master plan competition? The Lake Monona time frame for plan selection is by Sept.1, 2023. Why are we on a rushed, 2-month time frame when other projects are allowed to develop over a 2-year time frame? But, I hope, in fact, that at the upcoming public informational meeting promised in late Feb/early Mar, we will learn there is, indeed, no proposed plan, and that you and city planners will utilize that meeting to listen to our input, involve a few local residents in developing a neighborhood-friendly plan, maybe even consult with some master design professionals, and THEN come back to all of us with a plan that LMD residents can more fully, and literally, buy into.

Please, listen to your constituents. We live here. We know the patterns of use by cyclists, joggers, dog walkers, strollers, school children, and a myriad of others. We see them every day. We greet them. We also can foresee significant challenges many of the anticipated proposed changes would make to the way we use our property. We live here every day. We have a lot to say about how our neighborhood looks, feels, and may be potentially forever changed. We are quite passionate about this and grieves us to imagine what we may lose.

Sandra Larson petdoc53597@yahoo.com

Phil Simon

█ Lake Mendota Drive