From: Walnut Grove Homes Association
To: Transportation Commission

Cc: Foster, Grant; Conklin, Nikki; vicepresident@walnutgrovemadison.org; secretary@walnutgrovemadison.org

Subject: N Westfield Rd Project: disappointed in action take

Date: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 6:55:49 PM

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Hi Ann, Alder Grant Foster, Alder Nikki Conklin, and the entire transportation committee,

I am extremely disappointed that the Westfield Rd at Walnut Grove Park project (#40) was taken off the table for approval in tonight's meeting during the Safe Streets agenda item based on one uninformed comment. Alder Grant Foster specifically expressed concern regarding islands and their effect on bike lanes. I believe he is unfamiliar with our neighborhood and park, as we already have an island on one side of our park and this request includes adding an additional island on the opposite side of the park where speeding and pedestrian safety issues are present. Although I understand that we are a bike friendly city, Walnut Grove is a neighborhood on the far Westside with no bike path running through our neighborhood or safe and easy ways to connect to city bike paths. Our biggest concern is for the people who live in this neighborhood and surrounding areas to be able to safely cross the street to access the city park.

At the 2/9 meeting, the commission expressed support for the project after reading young Anabelle's letter and hearing her speak. I am disappointed that the input not only from Anabelle, but also additional homeowners in our neighborhood and our HOA did not help the commission see the importance of this project.

Alder Conklin - I would like to request that you attend a future transportation commission meeting on our behalf, as Alders are allowed to participate in the discussion and the public who is directly affected is not permitted to weigh in during discussion (only during advance public comment).

I would like to reinforce that we are concerned about a city park with ZERO crosswalk signage at present, no parking lot, and a 30 mph speed limit on a purely residential steet. I feel extraordinarily disheartened that one comment that could not be rebutted due to process dictates the safety of the pedestrians in our neighborhood.

Thank you, Liz Fenster President, Walnut Grove Homes Association