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Dear Transportation Commission,

I'm excited about the improvements Engineering has put forth to improve the W. Main bike corridor, especially the raised crosswalk and removal of parked cars near the Southwest Commuter path. That intersection always worries me when I bike there, since it feels like visibility is limited in the current design.

That said, I wonder why there is no plan to make fully protected bike lanes on W. Main, rather than the buffered lanes that the current proposal calls for. Protected lanes would make bicycling on the street much safer and more comfortable for all people who want to bike. As has been tragically demonstrated time and time again in Madison, paint is not enough to keep people on bikes safe. It's also a great block to implement protected lanes, since there are very minimal driveway access issues.

I am excited for the proposed changes to the street, but I think physically protected lanes would make the plan even better for minimal additional effort.

Cheers, Andrew Lail