

Matthias, Isaac L

From: Genevieve Carter <gcarter817@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 5:49 PM
To: All Alders
Subject: Autumn Ridge Path Funding

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Hello Alders,

Thank for your service to our community. I'm writing to highlight to you how significantly disconnected and segmented our Eastside neighborhoods are because of the presence of large, multilane highways with too few crossings. Look at the neighborhoods around the intersection of Highway 30 and North Thompson on Google Maps and you'll see exactly what I mean. The recently-approved Autumn Ridge ped/bike path and bridge project will be a key way to reconnect our heavily-separated neighborhoods.

Currently there is only one way to cross Highway 30 on a bike or on foot between Highway 51 and the Interstate: walking along or biking through two terrible, dangerous, high-traffic, single-lane roundabouts on North Thompson as it passes under Hwy 30. This design is not safe for anybody who isn't protected by their vehicle. You'll see that one of these roundabouts and much of North Thompson is on the City's High-Injury Network map: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/transportation/initiatives/vision-zero/vision-zero-projects>. I have experienced going through this dangerous roundabout first-hand; it is extremely unsafe for residents and children who bike and walk frequently through that area.

Our neighborhood has been waiting for seventeen years since residents worked with the City to add a much-needed connection over Hwy 30 to our old neighborhood plan. Over that time, traffic on this corridor of North Thompson and the roundabouts has increased with the development of new Eastside neighborhoods. I thank the Board of Public Works and the Council for approving this over the summer at the cost reflected in the proposed capital budget and supported by significant federal funding.

As a resident of the far-East side's Hiestand neighborhood, I see every day the need for more ways to connect neighborhoods around me to City resources, including bike and walking paths. It is extremely important to me that my neighbors and I have safe, reliable paths that connect us to other parts of the City.

Please vote against any attempts to delay or defund this badly-needed project that we are so excited to see happen.

Genevieve Carter
District 3 Constituent