

February 7, 2007

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in regards to the property assessment for street reconstruction on Coldspring Avenue in Madison, Wisconsin.

I am the property owner for 4217 Bainbridge Street and am very distressed over this assessment. As a family, we are already experiencing a financial hardship. With this assessment, I feel we will lose the financial battle we have struggled with for the past five years.

When this topic was mentioned during the proposal for a gate on Coldspring Avenue, we were told that we would not have to fear an assessment. As a resident in this area, we adamantly voted against reconstruction and the creation of a diverter or gate at Coldspring Avenue and Bainbridge Street. Unfortunately we were out voted by other area residents, most of which are unaffected by the inconvenience and eye sore of this project.

Our property has been targeted by disgruntled people as if we were to blame. Little do they realize that we also opposed this project.

The street rapidly deteriorated during the construction of the new Monona High School, due to heavy equipment access, etc.

I don't understand why so few are responsible for this reconstruction. Those of us affected have been targeted by the city and others in so many ways. From being the scapegoat for an unhappy community for the gate project of which I objected to, as well as deterioration for a road that occurred during the building of a High School that our children can not attend without special arrangement.

As a struggling artist, I barely can put food on my table and fear this assessment will create a bankruptcy in my future.

We are being assessed for the construction of a road that we barely have access to. The assessment includes 14 feet of pavement that is well beyond our property line, not to mention that it is road that we are restricted from using. We bought this property for the corner lot and natural feel of the neighborhood which included the absence of curb and gutter. We no longer feel we are a corner lot because the gate is now an extension of our corner and we are unable to access Madison or Monona from Coldspring Avenue unless the gate is unlocked. We are plagued with graffiti and waste and often feel we are on the edge of a ghetto environment. The assessment is now the icing on the cake. To be financially responsible for an issue that we didn't create.

Please hear my plea and reconsider the large assessment that we are being burdened with.

Thank you so much for your time.

Sincerely,

William and Kae Taylor, 4217 Bainbridge Street, Madison, WI. 608-221-8491