From: <u>Bachmann, Christy</u>

To: <u>Hacker, Marsha; Phillips, Robert</u>

Subject: FW: 2/1/16. Update of Jenifer Street Reconstruction News. Attachments.

**Date:** Tuesday, February 02, 2016 10:26:56 AM

## In case you were not copied see below

From: Gary Tipler [mailto:garytip8778@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2016 10:52 PM

Subject: 2/1/16. Update of Jenifer Street Reconstruction News. Attachments.

2/1/2016

MNA Traffic Committee

Jenifer St Reconstruction UPDATE for MNA E-Newsletter

Neighbors,

The MNA Traffic Committee proposed Recommendations for revising the City Engineering plan for the Jenifer Street Reconstruction. The committee found the City plan lacking in several areas, so proposed several recommendations to improve the street for the near future in the primarily in the areas of tree preservation, future tree planting abilities, and traffic calming.

The current City Engineering plan didn't have any improvements for traffic calming (slowing traffic), nor street tree preservation, nor permitting future canopy trees to be planted in front of about half of the properties. It also didn't adequately address damaging vibration. It did offer a slight pedestrian safety improvement by extending pedestrian walkways 3 feet from their existing curb locations. Differing from last year's proposal, the plan removed a traffic calming modest narrowing of two feet, and retreated from five-feet-deep extensions of pedestrian walks. In addition, presently all of the ash trees including healthy well-branches trees are to be removed under the existing plan.

The Recommendations were approved by the MNA Board and will be addressed as part of the street construction project review by the Board of Public Works that oversees such projects on Wednesday, February 3, at 5:30 in the Common Council chambers of the City County Building, 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. (Recommendations, also attached.)

In the past few weeks, many of the challenges and subsequent recommendations of the MNA Traffic Committee have been embraced by the Street Tree Committee in their recent work pertinent to saving the canopy trees. The plan would protect some of the existing ones slated to be removed, but more importantly it maps out a proposal to preserve the option of future canopy trees being planted anywhere on the streets by undergrounding the high-voltage wire – the one for which severe pruning and short trees have come to be part of our urban landscape. By undergrounding it, the existing trees can be preserved

As proposed by City Engineering, there will be an alarming loss of a significant portion of the tree canopy (over 40 trees). The plan calls for the recent routine reconstruction practice of removing canopy trees beneath high voltage lines and replacing them with smaller, shorter tree varieties. In addition, all the ash trees, including healthy and well branched ones, are to be removed to simplify construction. The Street Tree Committee of the Marquette Neighborhood Association and interested neighbors have developed an alternative plan to preserve and enhance as much of the existing canopy as possible, but also to permit the perpetual ability to plant full height canopy trees. Help is needed to support this plan, which you received a bit earlier today.

In addition, the other components of the Recommendations include safety measures to support narrowing of two feet overall, and pedestrian walk extensions (bump-outs). (attached)

Please write: City Engineering staff, Rob Phillips, , 266-4090, Marsha Hacker, 264-9277 and Alder Marsha Rummel. Please copy us, as well. <a href="mailto:rphillips@cityofmadison.com">rphillips@cityofmadison.com</a>, <a href="mailto:mhacker@cityofmadison.com">mhacker@cityofmadison.com</a>, <a href="mailto:mhacker@cityofmadison.com">mhacker@cit

Information page: <a href="http://marquette-neighborhood.org/jenny-street-reconstruction/">http://marquette-neighborhood.org/jenny-street-reconstruction/</a>

If you'd like to join the work of the MNA Traffic Committee please contact me. Thank you for your help.

Gary Tipler Chair, MNA Traffic Committee