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From: Sara Lazenby

Date: 8/20/18 11:56 AM (GMT-06:00)

To: [Plan Commission members] "Ahrens, David" <district15@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Milwaukee Street Area Plan - NO to extending Buckingham and Dawes.

Hello,

I was just made aware by some neighbors that after all of the public presentation sessions that were held (and I attended one), a new addition to the plan was added at the last minute that would greatly alter the usability of Eastmorland park as well as the safety of our neighborhood. Due to this late addition now, at the final hours before you vote, I'm compelled to write to you and ask that the extensions of Buckingham Ln and Dawes Street are removed from this plan. They weren't part of the initial presentations, and weren't widely communicated. For my family, they'd greatly alter our usability of Eastmorland Park, as well as bring in more cross-traffic to a neighborhood that already (even to the admission of the designers of the special area plan) has plenty of thoroughfares to get through the neighborhood.

Our family uses Eastmorland Park in several ways. One, we use both playground structures extensively. Both during family time and in daycare walks for my younger son, the structures in Eastmorland provide a safe space for them to play, free of traffic concerns that other parks (like red park on Walter, for example) provide. The addition of a street cutting through Eastmorland would mean this is yet another park that is not a safe haven for young children, as well as the removal of a structure geared towards younger kids in our neighborhood, and the extension of Dawes would mean that the newer portion of the playground equipment was now bordered by a higher traffic street. Second, a group of neighborhood kids started a weekly kickball game this spring, bringing 20+ kids to the park to play on the old ball diamond. This park was chosen for this because of the lack of traffic and the proximity to parent homes for bathroom uses and the like. We had neighbors commenting on how wonderful it was to see this space utilized by kids. In addition, the bike paths offer low-traffic space for young kids to learn how to ride in our neighborhood.

The extension of Dawes and Buckingham additionally creates traffic concerns as these are now "easy" ways to connect from Dempsey to Walter (in the case of Dawes) or from Milwaukee Street through to Paus, Tulane, etc. The majority of the intersections this would impact are uncontrolled, without marked pedestrian crossings, and increased traffic because of convenience creates traffic hazards in residential neighborhoods.

The addition of several new streets (connecting Dawes, Connecting Buckingham, Corporate drive, etc.) at the last minute is quite frankly a slap in the face to the residents who have dutifully participated in this planning process, attended meetings at inconvenient times, and worked to provide their feedback. This will not increase the usability of Eastmorland Park, in fact it will decrease it for the young families living in the neighborhood. Please vote to remove this from the Milwaukee Street Area Plan or not approve the plan until it is removed.

Thank you,

Sara Lazenby

Eastmorland Resident.