



Monona Bay Neighborhood Association

To: Members of the Madison Common Council, the Madison Plan Commission, and the Community Development Authority

From: Monona Bay Neighborhood Association

Re: Supporting the Amendment of the Triangle Monona Bay Neighborhood Plan to restrict motor vehicle access on the northern section of the proposed public N/S street bisecting the Triangle

Date: January 19, 2021

Via: email

The Monona Bay Neighborhood Association (MBNA) strongly supports Alder Evers proposed amendment to the Triangle Monona Bay Neighborhood Plan that would restrict motor vehicle access on the northern section of the proposed public N/S street (now known as La Mariposa Lane) bisecting the Triangle. We encourage the Community Development Authority, the Plan Commission, and the Common Council to approve this amendment. There are several key reasons MBNA takes this position.

History of the Plan MBNA was heavily involved in the development of the Triangle Monona Bay Neighborhood Plan, its former president serving as vice chair of that effort. Throughout the process, members of the planning committee and virtually all residents (including CDA and Bayview residents) who participated in meetings voiced opposition to treating the Triangle campus as a place where connectivity could be defined in terms of cars and streets.

There was widespread frustration from those participating in planning meetings that they were not heard. Many noticed that unwelcome streets proposed by the Plan Department in the adjoining, whiter, and better heeled portion of the neighborhood were withdrawn by planners based on neighborhood objection while those proposed on the less privileged Triangle were not. That was inequitable. By the end of the Plan Committee meetings, all but one member of color had ceased participation.

Local Preference Residents consistently expressed a desire for pedestrian, bicycle, and wheelchair pathways, because these are the forms of transportation they use when moving around their neighborhood. Comparably few Triangle residents even own vehicles and vehicles are used, it is nearly always for destinations outside the Triangle itself.

Safety Because the location of the proposed lane would allow traffic to use it as a cut-through, avoiding the traffic lights at the intersection of West Washington Avenue and Regent/Proudfit Streets, residents foresee traffic neither originating in nor traveling to Triangle destinations overwhelming the safety of the current neighborhood. We don't put roadways through school playgrounds; we shouldn't place a through street here.

Regard for Neighborhood Residents consistently experience discomfort associated with football related traffic. Tailgating on Braxton Place, cars roaming around looking for non-existent parking, and illegal parking in resident spaces combine with drunken and rowdy behavior that disrespects both residents as individuals and the place they call home. A fully connected N/S route would certainly increase football goers moving through the Triangle, unnecessarily exaggerating those negative impacts on the neighborhood.

Sufficiency of Arterial Access The Triangle is framed by three major arterial roadways. (Park and Regent streets and West Washington Ave.) Any future redevelopment of the Triangle, including the upcoming CDA redevelopment, can provide direct

access to any building sites via driveways directly off those arterials. La Mariposa Lane is not required for general site access and restricting use of its northern extension does not substantially limit redevelopment options.

**No Impact on
Non-Residents**

Restricting motor vehicle access on the northern section of the proposed public N/S street does not impact members of the wider community. No logical routes of travel depend on its creation; the nearby arterials are already designed for those community members traveling through the area to other destinations. Accepting the proposed amendment does no harm to non-residents.

Please honor the effort to make planning in the City of Madison more equitable. Hear the will of our neighborhood. Support Alder Evers' proposed amendment to the Triangle Monona Bay Neighborhood Plan restricting motor vehicle access on the northern section of the proposed public N/S street bisecting the Triangle.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Wilson

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