

Paula Vandehey

From: lucas and Jaclyn Strasburg <ljstrasburg@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 17, 2014 8:48 PM
To: Paula Vandehey
Subject: feedback on resolution #18-R-14

Hello Paula,

I appreciate being able to give feedback via email since I am not able to attend the meeting on June 24. I read the resolution and other papers I received in the mail. I think it's great that we're trying to make our community a safer place to bike. I love to see areas like walking/bicycle paths where people can walk or bicycle safely to transport themselves. Something doesn't sit right with me about making the bike lanes in the street, though. I live on Oneida St. a few blocks south of Northland Ave. Currently there is parking on one side of my street. Myself and the majority of my neighbors have one lane driveways. This limits parking space and flexibility. Having the street for parking flexibility or for visitors to park on is very useful. I drove down my street yesterday and paid close attention to the side of the road and there were many cars parked there in the middle of the afternoon. Where will all those cars go if there is no parking allowed in the street? As of today, people can bike on my street and people can park their cars on my street. If resolution #18-R-14 is passed, then people will be able to bike on my street, but people will lose the freedom to park their cars in my street. I don't think it's a good idea to take away anyone's freedom in this case. I think the ability to park on the street on Oneida St. is too valuable to put a bike lane in its place.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jaclyn Strasburg
2506 N. Oneida St.
Appleton, WI 54911

Paula Vandehey

From: John/Mary Gosling <gosling@ntd.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 8:21 PM
To: Paula Vandehey
Subject: Greetings, here are comments and an offer regarding our increasing Bike paths.

Dear Ms. Vandehey:

Thank you for your service. Your commitment to the improvement and maintenance of our city is appreciated!

Since I cannot attend next Tuesday's meeting, here is what I would have said in open forum.

I thank the City for this bike lane expansion and am supportive of it, our entire family bikes and we have used existing bike lanes. I also appreciate the effort to improve the overall health and the local climate so breathing cleaner air in Appleton is realized.

I am sensitive to the concerns of others, both residents on the affected streets and to those who use them, especially by us – Pierce Park. Efforts need to be taken to address how the bike lanes will affect visitors of lesser mobility to events there. Also city enforcement efforts need to be increased because many people park on the park grass for these concerts. The car show and corporate, large events at the park will put stress on the bike lanes, nearby streets and the resulting pedestrian traffic to these events.

As a Volunteer, I would be willing to donate some personal resources (subject to agreement and compromise with you and the City) of time and outreach for data collection purposes – of local residents and those entities referenced above. As a trained Counselor, I possess the patience and vocabulary to deal with a wide variety of people and their emotions surrounding this issue. I suggest going door to door or a phone campaign, developing a "sensitivity/adaptive plan" to understand and address concerns of those impacted by the bike lanes.

Please let me know your thoughts on these points.

Sincerely,

John J. Gosling, MSE LPC
1102 W. Prospect Ave.
Appleton, WI 54914
(920) 734 2615 gosling@ntd.net

Paula Vandehey

From: Paula Vandehey
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 8:00 AM
To: 'Brian Schmitting'
Subject: RE: Bike Lane

Hi Brian,

No problem with asking so many questions!!

The section of Telulah Avenue between John Street and Calumet Street is scheduled to be reconstructed in 2018, so that section of roadway will have a design hearing in 2016 to determine if the roadway should be widened to accommodate some on-street parking along with bike lanes.

The section of Telulah Avenue between Calumet and Midway Road is not being reconstructed in 2018, so we are looking to "retrofit" that street for bike lanes in 2018 in conjunction with the road project to the north. The plan shows bike lanes on both sides of Telulah Avenue to provide north and south travel for bikes. If approved, there would be no parking on this section of Telulah Avenue (Calumet to Midway).

The cost to install the signs and pavement marking to denote the bike lanes would be budgeted in the 2018 budget, and not charged to the property owners.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Paula

From: Brian Schmitting [<mailto:brian@bdsfastener.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 7:49 AM
To: Paula Vandehey
Subject: Bike Lane

Paula,

How are you doing? I am just wondering about this Bike Lane. If the bike lane gets installed, are they going to be extending the road? Who is going to pay for that? Also, will it be on both sides of the road or just going south? Can you still park on the street? Sorry for so many questions but all these will help make my decision.

Thank you and have a great day!

Brian Schmitting

Paula Vandehey

From: Todd Keating <t-l-c-c@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 8:12 AM
To: Paula Vandehey
Subject: bike lane meeting tonight

Good morning-

As a property owner on Prospect Ave, we received the letter on the bike lane meeting tonight but cannot arrange things to make it to the meeting.

I do wish to share some concerns I have with you since I can't be there.

First, as I live on a corner directly across from Pierce Park I am very lucky that losing parking won't affect me quite as much as others. My concerns come from years of living on this street and for the last 7 years walking my kids to & from Jefferson school.

One concern is safety---cars are always speeding, and sometimes passing on this road. Cars try to go around the crossing guard almost daily, not to mention almost hitting her quite frequently. If they can't see the stop sign & cones she has, or know what they mean- how will they see bikes? Even with bike lanes, I'm not sure that I'll let my kids ride on Prospect.

Another concern I have is parking for events at Pierce park- including the city band concert. Numerous elderly people attend and when parking in the lot is full, park on Prospect. Our side streets are also often filled with parked cars. Some events held in our jewel in the park system are: Old car show, company picnics, charity runs, district school cross county meets, city band concert, kids events, including the one recently on riding all types of trucks & equipment, and more. I can't believe we'd take away parking from this awesome park (the in park -parking is not enough). This week it was fun to see Kangaroostaurant truck parked next to the park, and lots of people were then eating in & enjoying the park. This kind of usage will also be taken away.

Is it possible to look at Spencer St as an alternative route? Its a much quieter street, safer and no park and on the same route. I let my kids ride on that street now. It doesn't have nearly the volume of traffic, since it doesn't connect with 41. I don't think it

gets semis on occasion, nor the volume of work trucks. If this isn't an option- why not? Have all these things been reviewed or only that Prospect is on the "route"? So far the streets that have been turned in to bike lanes do not seem to have the volume or types of traffic. Prospect is only 1 of 3 streets that come off of hwy 41 and go thru town.

Sincerely,
Lori Keating

Dear Alerdermen Martin, Konetzke and Dannecker,

We recently received a disappointing letter from the city informing us that the three of you have submitted a resolution to have bike lanes put on the street in front of our house. Not only this, but your intention to take away ALL on street parking.

We have always held a negative view of bike lanes, not because we dislike bicyclists in any way, but because we understand that a stripe of paint on the street is not going to make our loved ones who may be out for a ride safe from an inattentive motorist.

Since receiving our letter in the mail we have done quite a bit of research on bike lanes. One fact that seems to come up time and time again is that an experienced cyclist can navigate any street in any amount of traffic without a bike lane. The fact is that bike lanes are not needed. What is needed are streets that are wide enough for bikes and cars to ride side by side (which ours is). By painting a line on the street you are giving inexperienced bike riders a false sense of security. In fact it is just the opposite. We were riding home from Memorial Park Monday night and I decided to use the bike lane that is on Capitol one block east of our house. What I discovered is that when the bike lane is present it seems that cars do not feel the need to move over and give the bikes the extra space that they tend to give them when the line is not chalked on the street. This made it incredibly stressful for my youngest child. He was very distressed and kept yelling to me that he couldn't stay in the line. He was worried about the cars being so close to him and felt if he went even a fraction of an inch outside of the line he would be hit. In my research I found a website that was collecting signatures from people who were in favor of the bike lanes on Mason Street. Time and time again I saw the comment from parents saying "thank you so much for wanting to put these bike lanes in. I will feel so much better knowing my child is safe riding on the street now." This is scary to me! A line on the street is not going to protect your child! My husband was actually hit by a van while riding his bike 9 years ago. I can tell you and he will tell you that a bike lane would not have saved him! It was a moment of inattentiveness by the driver of the van and by my husband. My husband glanced up to read a street sign and didn't see the driver make a left hand turn into him. He spent four days in the hospital and has permanent scarring on his face, and he will tell you that bike lanes are NOT the answer.

If only it were that simple. In today's society we are always looking for the easy fix. A painted line on the street will not make bikers safer. What we need are laws requiring cyclists to take safety classes and pass tests to be allowed to ride their bikes on the streets. Folks who drive cars must take "drivers education". Why aren't cyclists required to do this as well? We feel that a bike lane just encourages novice bikers (who should not be in the street at all) to get in the street feeling a false sense of security.

How many council members live on streets with bike lanes? Much less bike lanes that have taken away all on street parking. From my quick search it would appear that none of them do. This leads to the second issue we have with the proposal. We need on street parking. Many homes on this residential street have shallow driveways that cannot accommodate many cars. Frequently we will have visitors who need to use on street parking when they come to visit. It would be very inconvenient to park down the block and around the corner. Not to mention the fact that the people around the corner probably don't want to support our over flow parking. Also, many of the homes along Capitol are pretty size-able

and generate a good amount of tax revenue for the city. By adding bike lanes and completely removing on street parking, the home values along Capitol will drop. I expect when living in a small city to have on street parking. Therefore, when someone is looking to purchase a home on Capitol it is doubtful they will be drawn to the street due to it having bike lanes. However, it is highly probable that they would walk away due to NO on street parking. You can expect to see a trickle effect on the homes behind Capitol as the home values fall along Capitol. The city really needs to think this through.

Finally, our street is the same width as the street one block east that already has bike lanes AND PARKING ON ONE SIDE. I find it curious that they have this parking yet you all are proposing NO PARKING for us. Why is this? I also find it very curious that time and time again you have met major resistance from home owners along the streets you have painted bike lanes and yet nobody seems to listen and nobody seems to care. This is very disappointing!

We ask that you please reconsider the painting of the bike lanes on our street and focus our hard earned taxpayer money on other projects that could truly improve our city. Bike lanes are nothing but a false sense of security.

Respectfully,

Matt and Trina Nolan (1108 East Capitol Drive)



"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Engineering Division
100 North Appleton Street
Appleton, WI 54911
TEL (920) 832-6474
FAX (920) 832-6489

6/20/2014

I am on continuous oxygen & it's difficult for me to attend this meeting so I am sending you this written feedback.

June 16, 2014

** CORRECTION **

Dear Property Owner:

The meeting for Resolution #18-R-14 regarding proposed bike lanes will be held on Tuesday, June 24, 2014; not June 25th as was incorrectly included in the last letter. The meeting will be held in Committee Room 6A, Sixth Floor, City Center at 5:30 pm. Sorry for the incorrect date for this meeting.

Please feel free to attend this meeting to share any feedback you may have on this Resolution. If you are unable to attend and wish to share your feedback, you may contact me at 832-6482 (email: paula.vandehey@appleton.org).

Sincerely,

Paula Vandehey

Paula Vandehey, P.E.
Director of Public Works

*You're asking for
a lot of accidents
due to:*

1. Excessive traffic on street w/ a lot of speeders.
 2. On city & school bus routes.
 3. Kids coming & going to 3 different schools.
(McKinley, Horizon, Appleton East).
Some on bikes, some in (or) driving cars.
 4. A lot of walkers & joggers - both on street & sidewalks.
 5. Many residents pulling in (or) backing out of driveways.
- Marilyn M. Tidland
2600 S. Tehalah Ave.*