



NOW SHOWING: TRANSPORTATION

Description:

Many people living on the Northside walk, bike and take the bus to their favorite park, store, workplace, friends' house and other destinations. The major road corridors are expansive widths of pavement that carry a higher volume of fast moving vehicles making it difficult to move around on foot or bicycle, and sometimes even in a car. Corridor planning that recreates Northport Drive, Packers Avenue, County Highway CV and North Sherman Avenue as gateways and showcases to the Northside will address aesthetics, land use, redevelopment, pedestrian and bicycle access, safety and movement, and pedestrian and bicycle connections to downtown and other major destinations.

Why it's important:

- On an average weekday, approximately 18,000 vehicles travel on North Sherman Avenue from Trailsway Street to Northport Drive (2006 City of Madison Traffic Engineering Division).
- There are approximately 250 children living in the Packers Apartments and 180 children in the Northport Apartments located near the intersection of Northport Drive and Dryden Drive, and an average of 38,000 vehicles per average weekday travel past these residences (2006 City of Madison Traffic Engineering Division).
- Many people cross Northport Drive at Dryden Drive to access the Health Clinic, business locations such as McDonald's and the Northside Town Center, and the Warner Park Community Recreation Center.
- Warner Park is a major draw for many area residents who must cross the major thoroughfares of Northport Drive and North Sherman Avenue to access the park and Warner Park Community Recreation Center.

What do you think?

What is your vision for North Sherman Avenue?

Do you think a roundabout at the intersection of Packers Avenue/County Highway CV/ Northport Drive would improve vehicle flow and safety?

Will pedestrian and bicycle improvements proposed for Northport Drive and North Sherman Avenue encourage more kids from the Northport/Packers Apartments to ride their bikes and walk to Warner Park Community Recreation Center?

In order to improve safety and aesthetics along Northport Drive, would you be willing to sacrifice one traffic lane where there are currently three lanes in each direction?

Preliminary Strategies (Place a star on the scale from 1-5 indicating preference)

Consider widening North Sherman Avenue using Warner Park property to provide enough space for a beautifully landscaped median that serves as a pedestrian refuge, a wider sidewalk along the Park, and mark high visibility pedestrian crossings.



Explore and consider options for reinventing North Sherman Avenue from Commercial Avenue to Sherman Middle School as a "Main Street" improving streetscape design, marking high visibility crossings, and considering bike lanes.



Explore options for redesigning the intersection of Packers Avenue/County Highway CV/Northport Drive as a roundabout or t-intersection with high visibility crossings for bikes and pedestrians.



On Northport Drive, consider decreasing three lane segments to two lanes in each direction while maintaining a dedicated right turn lane; mark bike lanes; add bumpouts and parking; mark high visibility crosswalks; widen terrace along sidewalk; and replace existing chain link fence on median with more attractive fencing. (Note: Replace free-flow right turn lane from Northport Drive onto North Sherman Avenue with a dedicated right turn lane coordinated with a traffic/pedestrian light and high visibility pedestrian crossing.)



Consider options for improving bicycle connectivity throughout the area and to other parts of the City through such methods as marking additional bike lanes on major and minor road corridors and adding bike path connections including the Hartmeyer and Sherman Flyer bike paths.



Evaluate bus stop crossings and consider where to retrofit with accessible ramps, high visibility crosswalks, and other amenities.

