

Open House
Northport-Warner Park-Sherman Neighborhood Planning Process
Saturday, December 13, 2008

TRANSPORTATION

Overall

- We want community car.
- Don't have anymore dividers on residential streets like Anhalt Drive. During winter hard to see where sides are, during snow covered conditions. Could be a tall marker on each side.
- Speed bumps are not for easy reading on Sheridan Ave. Signs on side of road are not good enough. Bumps are too high.
- Aberg Avenue going under Packers toward North Sherman is dangerous and confusing. Before Packers, it's 2 lanes, past Packers it's 1. A single sign before Packers saying this but it's ineffective. Please do something with striping so drivers know how many lanes there are and where to go!
- Please stop planting (in median strip) coneflowers – you are breeding plant viruses as the dirt gets heated and compacted and the plants get stressed. Decorative grasses are better.
- Slow commuter traffic down and enforce low speed limits. Let them move here where jobs are if they don't like being in their cars that long.
- Is it possible for the City to paint Sheridan Dr. “table tops” with yellow or white stripes? Small terrace signs not as visible as a warning. Even driving neighborhood speed limit causes jolting!
- Need underpass by Oscars under Packers Avenue.
- In my immediate neighborhood (I live on Wheeler Rd. in the Cherokee condos, across from Blackhawk School), there is a continuous problem with speeding on Wheeler Rd. between Sherman Ave. and Comanche Way that I have observed in the past 18 months. The speed limit is 25 mph and people routinely drive 10-15 mph faster, or more. I urge that the City consider speed bumps and/or pedestrian islands on Wheeler in this area.

TRANSPORTATION

Preliminary Concepts: Packers/Northport/CTH CV

Question: Do you think a roundabout at the intersection of Packers Avenue/CTH CV/Northport Drive would improve traffic flow and safety?

- How about a traffic light, stop signs, something to regulate traffic by the trailer park on CV. Rush hour is very bad for crossing. This area is an accident waiting to happen.
- Perhaps something regulating the flow North of the trailer park on CV since traffic coming from Middleton and that direction in general has increased with growth out of Madison into outlying areas.
- Priority: Roundabout at Packers & Northport – yes!
- Area could possibly benefit from the consideration of roundabout.
- Roundabout. 3 lanes unworkable. 2 lanes probably won't work at rush hour. Unexpected light changes will be problematic.
- Packers/CV/Northport – let's join the 21st Century and put in a roundabout.
- Two intersections are bad: Packers/CV/Northport. A roundabout would work. Sherman/Northport better walking lights – more consideration given to pedestrians.
- Priorities: Bike lanes, roundabout at Packers and Northport – yes!
- Roundabout is a far better solution than the “intersection” that's there now. Some oppose it because it's new, but they can work very well.
- Research strongly suggests roundabouts improve traffic flow and lead to reduced accidents!
- Roundabouts confusing and frightening for many!
- No roundabout!!
- I think there is too much traffic to have a roundabout at Packers and Northport. Stoplights – 3-way – would be much safer.
- I hate roundabouts – they are dangerous.
- Disagree with roundabout.
- Prefer “T” intersection over roundabout.
- Work to keep pedestrians farther back from either a roundabout or t-intersection at Northport/Packers. Be aware of t-intersections increasing traffic congestion because of number of lights commuter move through.
- Sending traffic from Packers to International is bad idea. Keep as is and add roundabout on Packers.
- Packers merge to International for traffic change is not a good idea. We don't agree with it.
- Rerouting traffic from Packers to International – strongly disagree.

Preliminary Concepts: Northport Drive

- Lights and crossroads of Sherman and Northport work just fine.
- 3 lane to 2 lane. I don't mind. Even in rush hour traffic stays out of the 3rd lane because it ends in a turn-only and drivers won't let you merge out of that lane.
- Decrease 3 lane segments on Northport to two lanes in each direction – yes!
- If reduce speed and lanes on Northport/Packers, Sherman will become MORE of a speedway! Need to plan for both areas.
- Attractive fencing yes, but 2 lanes on Northport???

TRANSPORTATION

Preliminary Concepts: North Sherman Avenue

- I strongly believe it is time to reconfigure the street into 3 lanes, with a left-turn center lane, and designated bicycle lanes in both directions. Previously I lived on North Thompson Drive near East Towne. I observed as North Thompson Dr. was converted into this same configuration -- 3 lanes, left-turn center lane, and designated bike lanes along the curb. North Thompson Dr. is one of the busiest roads in that area of Madison, and along with the roundabouts that were added near the Hwy. 30 overpass, the traffic problems, which were getting worse were significantly reduced, and bike lanes were accommodated without inconveniencing automobile drivers. I would seriously consider bicycling downtown more often if there a safe, dedicated bike route from the North Side to downtown Madison. Currently there really is no direct way, and unless there is a way to have an off-street bike path, N. Sherman Ave. probably is key to this solution.
- Brentwood resident for 44 years. Light at Trailsway = VITAL!
- I love the proposal for two travel lanes and median at the entrance to Warner Park on Sherman. What a beautiful gateway to the Northside!
- Reduce speed on Sherman Avenue!!!
- Can we lower the speed limit on Sherman?
- Adopt 3 lane, 2 bike lane configuration from Northport to Johnson on North Sherman.
- Like the main street idea for Sherman.
- Remove/bury power lines along North Sherman Avenue.
- Add recs/strategies for better ped and bike on Sherman Ave. Consider Sherman bike lanes.
- Bike/mixed-use on North Sherman is great, but we can't just funnel the same number of cars into fewer lanes.
- Corner of Sherman and Trailsway very slippery, treacherous in winter, crowned too high, struggling to bus.
- Connect Trailsway with Windom with an S-shaped road connection into corner of Warner Park, see map.
- A possible compromise on the 2 or 4 lanes on North Sherman is to have 2 lanes and a third lane during rush hour.
- A priority: bioswale in median and using part of Warner Park for a median.

TRANSPORTATION

Walking and Biking

- Priority: Bike lanes!
- Bike paths!!!
- I like the idea of providing a pedestrian friendly entrance to WPCRC, especially if it runs from the sidewalk by the bus stop back to the center. That high hill that's now there is a barrier, and means someone coming off the bus, unless they're athletically gifted, has to walk way around to access the center! Why didn't someone think of this when the center was built? :) That seems to be happening with so many things in this city lately . . . Like removing great bus shelters on the square and State Street only to put up fewer and less useful ones.
- Consider adding mountain bike trails on Northside. While living in Pittsburgh, had access to high quality mountain bike trails out my back door; enjoy Madison, but resent having to drive to find quality trails like Blue Mounds or Kettle Moraine.
- More bike paths & bike access, especially access to downtown and access across Aberg Avenue and Northport Drive.
- Ped & bike improvements. Yes! It's dangerous to cross or bike on the main roads. If it were safe, people would walk. If it were safe, people would bike.
- Need more dedicated bike lanes and connection to the rest of the bike lanes in the City.
- Consider establishing a bike path to parallel the RR line which runs past Warner Park.
- Build an off-road bike path along the east side of Packers to connect to path at Bridge's Golf Course.
- A street that is safe for everyone (i.e. peds and bikes), not just people in cars. Something aesthetically pleasing.
- Safety issues are most important. Pedestrian crossings, speed of traffic. Bike lanes will/should be secondary matter.
- Connect Northside to MATC via ped/bike path.
- Agree that we need to make the Northside more pedestrian and bicycle friendly.
- Sidewalks on the east side of Packers to the shopping center.
- Where is there a comprehensive plan for bike path development that gets cyclists from Tenney Park to Sherman school area?

Buses

- Need "eyes on the street" around the transfer point.