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Steven B. Danner-Rivers

March 8, 2017

To: Property Owners, Residents and Businesses near W. Wilson Street

Re: Proposed Street Reconstruction Project and Public Informational Meeting

The City of Madison is proposing to reconstruct W. Wilson Street between Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and S. Hamilton Street in 2017, and has a planned future reconstruction of E. Wilson Street, possibly in 2019. City Engineering held a public informational meeting on the project on February 21, and presented the proposed project to the Pedestrian, Bicycle and Motor Vehicle Commission (PBMVC) on February 22. At that meeting, the PBMVC requested that another public informational meeting be held on the proposed Wilson Street projects to have further discussion of other potential alternatives of the street configuration.

A second public informational meeting is being held on the proposed W. Wilson St. reconstruction project at the date time and location noted below:

Monday, March 20 at 6:30 PM Room 351, City-County Building 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Potential alternatives for the design of W. Wilson St., including the trade-offs that will be considered for each are as follows:

1. Install widened sidewalk (approximately 3 ft. wider) on the south side of W. Wilson St., and the lane configuration will remain the same as existing (2 travel lanes and 2 parking lanes). This option provides for additional shared space for bikes and pedestrians, while maintaining the existing parking on the street. It will also require removal of 2 trees on the south side (131 & 111 Wilson St.), but the existing trees on the north side will remain. The new terrace on the south side will remain wide enough for new terrace tree plantings. However, this option does not provide for dedicated, separate spaces for bikes and pedestrians; they would need to share the widened sidewalk, as biking on the sidewalk in this area of W. Wilson St. is legal.

2. Install a dedicated, 6 ft. wide counter-flow bike lane adjacent to the sidewalk on the south side of the street, and maintain the existing lane configurations by narrowing the terraces and shifting the road to the north. This option provides for dedicated space for bikes and pedestrians, with an off-street bike counter-flow bike lane, so bicyclists can go both directions on W. Wilson St. However, this option doesn't provide any separation between the bicyclists and pedestrians. This option also maintains the existing travel and parking lanes. The narrowed terraces and road shift would require removal of all existing trees on W. Wilson St., and the narrower terraces would limit any new tree plantings to only smaller species.

3. Install an on-street counter-flow bike lane. This option would provide for dedicated and separated spaces for bicyclists and pedestrians (existing sidewalk would remain), which would allow for two-way biking on W. Wilson St. This would also allow for the existing street trees and terraces to remain. However, this option would require

removal of all of the parking on the south side of W. Wilson St., which includes 12 parking stalls and two loading zones.

These three options will be presented and discussed on that meeting on March 20, so that the input from the neighborhood, businesses and other stakeholders can be taken into account when making a final decision as to which option will be presented to the Board of Public Works and Common Council.

To request accommodations for special needs or disabilities or if you have any other questions regarding this project, please contact the Project Engineer, Jim Wolfe at 608-266-4099 or jwolfe@cityofmadison.com. This includes requests relating to the public meeting and also requests relating to the actual operations of construction.

Sincerely,

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Robert F. Phillips, P.E. City Engineer

RFP:jmw Cc by email:

Ald. Verveer Chris Petykowski Yang Tao