

From: Holding, Greg
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2014 9:04 AM
To: Kaplan, Jim
Cc: Rooney, John
Subject: Sidewalk Deletion Request

Mr. Chairman-

I am not be able to make it to your committee meeting tomorrow, as I have one scheduled at the same time. If I cannot, I would be grateful if you could express my concerns to the committee regarding my communication asking to delete sidewalks from the coming Maryland Ave. project:

This item was passed through committee and council without me hearing a word from the residents who live there. However, now that preliminary engineering has begun, the homeowners realize just how far a new sidewalk would penetrate into their yards. (Yes, I realize that the right of way is not their yard, but try to see it from the perspective of a homeowner who has maintained the lawn in that right of way for decades.) In addition, concerns were raised about shoveling snow in the winter.

I inspected the area, and noticed that this will be an unconnected block of sidewalk in an area largely free of sidewalks. If this were part of a larger project to put in a complete sidewalk network in that neighborhood all at once, I would not oppose it. However, as it is, it will be an isolated section. I question how useful it is when pedestrians on either side of it must walk in the street. I understand the concept of "complete streets," but really feel sidewalks have to be cohesive and should be planned for in larger chunks than one block at a time.

On behalf of the people on that block, who called and emailed to request the sidewalk be removed, I ask the committee to recommend deletion of the sidewalk. I explained to the residents that we would not be considering deleting the street.

Regards,

Gregory T. Holding

Alderman of the 11th District

Chairman - Committee on Public Safety and Licensing

City of Racine, WI