

NAME	COMMENTS
1. Michael Lokensgard	Seems like overkill to sidewalk that stretch. Curb/gutter at close to existing width and asphalt rather than concrete would seem more that adequate for that stretch. I realize that the street improvements are no longer specially assessed, but that doesn't justify overbuilding. Why would the rebuild here need to be any different than the rebuilding of Mary Street between Eldorado and North a few years back? That was a similarly low-traveled street that lacked curb and gutter. If I recall, the original design for that rebuild was a little overdone (like this one), but the street was eventually reconstructed largely as-was, with just the addition of curb and gutter. Seems like the same thing ought to happen here.
2. Kim Luke	No need for a sidewalk there. Absolutely no need. Keep the trees!!!
3. Amy Flom	Definitely no. Charming little street with no traffic
4. Terri Wirth	I suspect traffic is very light in that wee stretch of the road. No need for a sidewalk that removes the charming trees. DPW overkill for sure. Save some \$\$, please.
5. Chuck McKee	I, too, walk there a lot. I have never been in a situation in which a sidewalk would be useful. Save the money and the trees.
6. Chip Noffke	Absolutely no need for that much deconstruction, I grew up there, amazing how for the past 53+ years it was fine. Can that short section use some improvements, yes. But to this level. There are many other streets in Appleton that I would like improved 1st.
7. Lesley McKee	Don't do this. We need those trees.
8. Brain Tracy	Really unnecessary to add a sidewalk there, please don't.
9. Lou Ann McCucheon	No!!!
10. Tia Rebecca	No! Vote for trees!
11. Jen Kamm	As someone who lives very close to this...this proposal seems very strange given the little traffic on that stretch. However given the amount of traffic and speeds people drive on Leminwah down to Peabody...THAT is where we need a side walk. (And...a stop sign at the intersection of Leminwah and pacific!)

12. Kevin Wirth	Living nearby, we walk this often. Rarely have cars driving by as we walk. This isn't a problem that needs fixing and certainly not at the expense of the trees.
13. Karen Bruno	I live nearby and definitely don't think this is necessary. Save the \$ and the trees.
14. Mary Lokensgard	I am usually pro-sidewalk, but there's absolutely no need to add one in that place - I walk back there multiple times a month at all different times of day, and can't remember the last time I saw a car driving on that stretch. The street needs repair, but the money would be better spent on a busier street. And PLEASE stop cutting down perfectly healthy trees in the downtown neighborhoods.
15. Jennifer Gaines Bates	Not necessary. Trees please.
16. Bonnie Spencer Funk	I'd prefer trees too.
17. Justis Clayton	The street is so sparsely populated that I don't think it needs a sidewalk. My family walks over there often and we don't feel unsafe walking in the street.
18. Sara Rabideau	No thank you. Never needed a sidewalk on that stretch!
19. Nina Cook	It would be sad to lose the trees to have a sidewalk that would rarely be used.
20. Robin Janson	No! Trees are the reason we walk there!
21. Ryan Gebler	I'm a District 2 resident and helped fight to keep the trees on Tonka Street 8 years ago. I say definitely keep the trees. There is no need for a sidewalk.
*22. George Rehfeld	I am one of the residences who would be effected by the sidewalk addition and find this grossly appalling! For one thing, your sidewalk would literally end in my driveway, why? Why would you destroy a tree my family planted over 40 years ago, why? What reasoning would the City of Appleton have for destroying such a beautiful and pristine area, why? How about the City of Appleton reappropriates these funds for a much better and more needed cause?
*23. Becky Stahl	I am an Owaissa street resident, just a block down, and walk this area often. It has very little traffic. I much prefer the trees to the sidewalk. If the homeowners who live directly on this particular section feel differently, I would defer to them.

24. Brain Pritzl	There are plenty of streets where a sidewalk makes sense -- this is not one of them.
25. John Luke	<p>Waste of money. Trees have a dollar value as well in dispersing rain/extending road life, dispersing rain/preventing storm drains from being overwhelmed, keeping commercial & residential cooling costs in check, etc. That figured heavily in the Tonka St project that ultimately left the trees in place. Seems like Municipal Services has a very short memory.</p> <p>The present road width works. Why alter it? The lack of sidewalk does not create problems or generate complaints. Why add it? It seems like Municipal Services is trying to provide a solution to a problem that doesn't exist.</p>
26. Brenda Johnsen	Keep the trees!!
27. Christine Williams	10 trees TOO much to lose. Leave the area as is.
28. Jill Edwards	<p>I am a resident of nearby Winona Ct. We were faced with same situation a few years ago. We are SO happy that additional sidewalk was not added at that time on our quiet court and we were able to keep the trees, and the street was only widened slightly and made of asphalt with curb added. It helped keep a more park like feel to our street. Much different than the original plan to widen it substantially and continue the sidewalk on BOTH sides of the street, with loss of BIG trees and shrubs. As a quiet street, it is safe to walk and access without danger, as is that portion of Owaissa/Opechee.</p>
29. Jason Brozek	<p>I'm not a D-2 resident, but I run in this area all the time. Owaissa is such a quiet street that I'm not sure I've *ever* seen a car on it. From my perspective, the trees are immensely more valuable than a sidewalk.</p> <p>That said though, are there ADA requirements about sidewalks when streets are refinished? The street wouldn't be terribly accessible to wheelchair users or others with mobility challenges when it's snowy or icy.</p>
30. Mary Beth Pritzl	Keep the trees! Skip the sidewalk. I bike and run in this area a lot. The sidewalk is not needed.
31. Anna Troge	Keep the trees please! I walk there often and the little traffic there is always drives slow enough to feel safe without a sidewalk.
32. Kara Sullivan	I am a D2 resident and know Owaissa Street well. I also believe that a sidewalk would be overkill here, a street that receives very little traffic. The cost benefit analysis doesn't work out. The negligible benefit of having the sidewalk does not outweigh the

	loss of the old growth trees on this street. I also agree with Mike Lokensgard. There are multiple projects around town that exemplify DPW overkill. Let's not make this one an overkill project and waste valuable tax dollars better spent elsewhere.
33. Kristi Ross-Clausen	Leave the trees. Why the street widening? They are already wide enough especially given the little traffic.
34. Jessy Glaser	No need for a sidewalk there due to lack of car traffic. I walk there frequently and love the beauty of this area. Please save the trees.
35. Ade Denae	No need for a sidewalk! I love walking with my dog down that street, have never seen a car when we've been walking, and the trees are so beautiful.
36. Karen Park	They took out 2/3 of the trees in Erb. Let's preserve as many large trees as we can.
37. Wendy Osero	I live just around the corner from this, and we walk around this block. There is so little traffic on this road, I don't see why the cost of a sidewalk and a loss of trees is necessary. Most times we walk on this road, we don't encounter a single car.
38. Laura Farnum O'Shea	No, please do not extend the sidewalk. Save the trees on this quiet street. Car and foot traffic is very minimal and a sidewalk that no one uses is unneeded expense.
39. Amy Ongiri	This is on my biking route and there are hardly ever cars so I dont think there is a need for a sidewalk. The trees are beautiful and immensely valuable so I dont see the need for this.
40. Ronna Swift	This sidewalk is NOT needed. The short road to the south toward the apartments rarely has a car on it and the stretch across from the cemetary has a good sidewalk. Do NOT cut down any trees. Who is requesting this?
41. Polly Snodgrass	Please don't take any more trees
42. Jill Swenson	There is sidewalk on the opposite side of Owaissa. None needed here. There is so little foot traffic here
43. B.	I walk that area and have no issues with there being no sidewalk. There is rarely traffic and cars must drive slow around the corners. Unless there are unhealthy trees, I'd save them.
44. Alisa DiSalvo	Leave the trees

November 7, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Members, Municipal Services Committee
City of Appleton, Wisconsin
100 N. Appleton Street
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Paula Vandehey
Director, Public Works
City of Appleton, Wisconsin
100 N. Appleton Street
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Re: Opechee and Owaissa Street Reconstruction, City File Nos. 20-1567 and 20-1568

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing in opposition to the proposal(s) to reconstruct Opechee and Owaissa Streets currently before the Municipal Services Committee. While nobody would question that the surfaces of these streets have deteriorated to the point that replacement is required, the proposed design is overkill, to say the least.

The proposal would widen streets that do not need to be widened, install a sidewalk where none is required, and result in the removal of at least 10 trees, according to the plan which has been shared by our Alderperson on his Facebook page. The comments on the proposal from residents of the neighborhood, including at least one within the immediate project area, have been uniformly negative.

Adding curb and gutter where it does not currently exist may be warranted by concerns over storm water runoff. Widening the street and adding a sidewalk, however, and the wholesale removal of trees on the east side of Owaissa Street that would be required, does not seem justified by traffic counts. I am generally a supporter of sidewalks and the "walkability" of neighborhoods, but in this particular instance, extending a sidewalk from one current dead end to another dead end further south doesn't make sense.

It would also seem more economical to resurface the streets with asphalt rather than concrete, given their nominal traffic counts. As the City has a limited public works budget, why not try to save a few dollars on this project and spend them instead in locations where they will impact a much larger number of pedestrians and drivers?

The unique geography of this neighborhood has created circumstances under which rigid adherence to City policy and standards for street design and construction is impractical. In recognition of that fact, there are several examples of similar streets in the neighborhood where reconstruction projects were redesigned to strike a better balance between vehicular and pedestrian needs and neighborhood desires, including the retention of trees. Such projects include the reconstruction of Winona Court, Mary Street between Eldorado and North Streets, and Tonka Street between Pacific and North Streets.

Please consider a similar path here – there's simply no demand for Owaissa and Opechee Streets to be rebuilt as proposed.

Thank you very much.



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cc: Vered Meltzer, District 2 Alderperson
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