

Craig, Sondra

From: snowbenny@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2024 7:27 AM
To: ZZ Council Members
Cc: ZZ City Clerk External
Subject: 2025-2029 CIP #24-0744. line items #936/#937

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Dear Council Member.

This is in regard to the 2025-2029 CIP, # 24-0744, line item #937 Sidewalks on Farnam from 28th St. S to Cliffwood Lane.

I support the amended 2025-2029 CIP to removed line items # 936 and #937 by the Finance and Personnel Committee.

Taxes

- Taxes are extremely high in La Crosse. Reduce borrowing for the 2025-2029 CIP. Go under budget. The pressure put on taxpayer properties to deliver more revenue makes it difficult for those of us on fixed or low to medium incomes.
- Prioritize tax money maintaining and upgrading existing infrastructure, rather than adding new projects that will require more maintenance.

Communications

- Severe lack of communications and transparency for those taxpayer properties directly impacted by sidewalks.
- Face-to-face meetings with those taxpayer residents directly impacted by sidewalks to discuss and address concerns and other options before sidewalks are proposed. Communicate with USPS post cards not only electronically.

Safety

- #937, Farnam St. is in a 50-70 year old established low traffic neighborhood with no history of any pedestrian accidents. It is a low priority for Sidewalks.
- Focus on high priority areas- busy streets. Examine, maintain, and upgrade existing sidewalks, cross walks, and pedestrian signals.

Environmental

- #937, Farnam St. comes directly down from the bluff and at the boundary line between La Crosse and Shelby. Heavy rains can cause storm water run-off from Shelby and the bluff.
- Farnam St. is a corridor for pollinators including the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee.
- U.S. Fish and wildlife, DNR, and MVC strongly recommend reducing impact on Pollinators: increase greenspace-less pavement

-Cutting down tree canopy cover, replacing grasses and flowering plants that have a 50-70 year old established moisture absorbing ground cover with impermeable concrete is counter productive and destroys natural esthetic beauty.

Benita Socha, a taxpayer
Corner of Farnam St. and Cliffwood Lane
La Crosse, WI