

**From:** Kevin Hundt <kevinhundt0@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 6, 2025 5:36 PM  
**To:** ZZ Council Members; ZZ City Clerk External; Washington-Spivey, Shaundel  
**Subject:** 25-1053

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I am writing in opposition to the proposal to upgrade the 2nd Street Cycle Track.

It is a standard failing of the City's resolution-drafting process to not include relevant details in the proposal. The information on Legistar is (again, as is normal) completely lacking in information about how the price tag was reached. In particular, the \$200,000 price tag for design work is shocking. It might be reasonable, but the relevant documentation showing why that is necessary is absent. The rest of the hundreds of thousands of dollars of proposed spending is also not really explained. This proposal should be rejected, or at least delayed, solely on that basis, until it is included in the proposal. All proposed resolutions should have a full accounting of the rationale for all expenditures, not just a single line saying hundreds of thousands of dollars are needed.

There has also been some poor communication about how much of this would be covered by the City and how much by a federal grant (for example: <https://www.wiznews.com/2025/10/05/la-crosse-committee-approves-2nd-st-bike-lane-improvements-of-up-to-626000/> first says the grant is paying 80%, but then says the "Wisconsin DOT" would pay for 52% of it).

Speaking of which, we absolutely cannot trust that this federal grant will exist in two or three years: <https://apnews.com/article/trump-transportation-infrastructure-grants-hostile-cars-37495f299378ac0980a3dea5b450e004>. This sounds like exactly the type of project that this federal administration is targeting for cancellation. We would be fools to spend \$200,000 on design work only for the grant to evaporate afterwards. Given this administration's hostility to "blue cities", it would be just like them to wait for us to spend the money before cutting the grant, just to make us waste it. We should not open ourselves up to an easy attack like that.

Finally, I have always disliked the Cycle Track, because, speaking as a bicyclist who has not owned a car in about 20 years, I've seen the track as unnecessary, poorly-positioned, and of little utility. Front Street and Riverside Park have always been good ways of getting across downtown while avoiding traffic. I've been banging the drum for a connection between the south-west corner of the La Crosse River bridge and the bike/ped path below it for years (to no avail), which would allow easier access to Front Street from the north, and is needed regardless of these Cycle Track upgrades. The public comments in support of these upgrades should be included in the proposal.

However, I think there's a very specific and fatal reason why these upgrades should not be funded, which I feel stupid for only just realizing today, prompting this letter: the Wisconsin DOT is adding bike lanes to 3rd and 4th street. All of their plans include bike lanes. Those bike lanes will be happening no matter what. That means any bicyclist who wants to get across downtown can take Riverside, Front Street, 3rd, 4th, or 5th/6th/7th/8th with either very little traffic or bike lanes.

Please do not approve this resolution. This is a completely unnecessary and pointless expenditure. This is a huge amount of money that we could be spending on things like ending homelessness or preventing evictions. If this is approved, it will make every future bike/ped project harder, because it will make city residents think bike/ped infrastructure is an expensive waste of money. Do not do this.

Kevin Hundt