
From: Marcy Minix <marcy.minix@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 9:49 AM
To: Dennis McBride; Dennis McBride; Brad Foley; Derek Collins; Ernst-Ulrich Franzen; Amanda Saso; Rob Gustafson; Joe Phillips; Indy Stluka; Robin Brannin; Amanda Fuerst; Melissa Dolan; Scott Small; tplanning; Board of Review
Subject: [External] Tosa Vet Memorial Location

Dear Board of Zoning Appeals, Design Review Board, Mayor McBride and Alderpersons,

I am writing to oppose the proposed location of the Wauwatosa Veterans Memorial on Harwood and Milwaukee. To be clear, I am not opposing the memorial. I am opposing the proposed site. I live at 7116 Milwaukee Avenue and am completely familiar with the location.

Currently, this small plot of land has a grove of three maturing trees, a taxpayer funded Bubblr rack, a bus stop and Tosa East student parking. It is a busy intersection with all manner of transportation- foot, bike, auto and bus traffic. At this moment, it is well used and well suited for the size of the plot. I'm perplexed as to why or how anyone would see this as "an unused [city-owned] lot" or imagine that the project would be aesthetically pleasing in such a small space. The location is not "unused" or undeveloped. It is a vibrant green space in the middle of residential housing.

My concerns are thus: traffic, scale, access and cost.

Traffic at this corner backs up, sees accidents and many near-misses and has limited parking. Without even knowing the true impact of the St. Bernard's apt development, the residents in this area deal with parking issues and backups regularly. Has the committee considered the impact of additional foot and vehicle traffic to this 5 pts intersection? Alice Street must be included in the intersection considerations as it is used for overflow parking for both the village and Tosa East. Has the lack of parking been addressed at all? Have we learned nothing from the impact that the Wauwatosa Troll had on the immediate neighborhood?

Looking at the artist's rendering and working on a memory I personally had with the veteran committee at Tosa Fest a couple of years ago, this is not a memorial of a small scale. Will the committee considering scaling back to perhaps a rectangle monument with one flag? Will the trees be saved or are we cementing over the green space that has been created? As the current rendering has flags involved, what will the light pollution impact be to the surrounding houses? Has there been an updated rendering?

This space is surrounding by residential properties. There is only street parking available and no real handicap access that allows for handicap parking or drop off. I question the value of this project in the space as access is challenging to those needing ramps, parking or short distances to travel. Do they intend to have any public events? Do they want people to visit this memorial or is it just a nice thing to have?

As to cost, who will be paying for the infrastructure costs? Removal of trees if necessary, relocation of the Bubblr bike rack, any sidewalk costs or electrical costs for the lighting? What does their budget of \$225,000 actually pay for? What will the taxpayers have to contribute?

When this project was located in Hart Park, next to a parking lot and loads of ramps and wide sidewalks and in the same space as city sponsored activities, it seemed like a great idea. It showed respect, honor and appreciation for Wauwatosa veterans. It provided a space for patriotic events. The current proposed location with the current rendering has not been thoroughly considered nor have the consequences been thought through.

I implore the board and the city to find an alternative location and reject seeing the triangle as an unused lot. In addition to the practical applications of parking and bus stops and the Bublrr station, it is a meeting place for neighbors, a green space along a city walk and a cheerful gateway to the village.

Sincerely,
Marcy Minix
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