

To: Elizabeth Saunderson, PE
Civil Engineer – Multimodal Transportation

From: Linda Polulach
8503 W. Wisconsin Ave
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Cc: Ernie Franzen, David Lewis, Michael May

Re: Removing Parking Restrictions on both sides of Elm Spring Avenue

Date: September 21, 2025

I have been living in my Wauwatosa home since 1980; therefore, I have been a long-time resident of my neighborhood. Because I am on the corner of Wisconsin Avenue and Elm Spring, I have a good perspective on the traffic/parking patterns over the years.

I AM OPPOSED TO REMOVING THE ONE-HOUR PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON ELM SPRING FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- The letter I received in the mail states: "In response to resident **requests**," you are recommending a 90-day trial to remove the parking prohibitions on both sides of Elm Spring. Based on the wording, I assumed there were multiple requests to initiate such a change in current practice.
- However, the online packet of information included a **single** request for this change. That seemed contradictory to your initial wording of your letter to the residents of Elm Spring.
- The first five items on the Transportation Affairs Committee agenda are all focused on parking restrictions.
 - **Four** of the five items listed include the words "prohibit" and "restrictions."
 - **One** of the five items is a request to **remove** restrictions on Elm Spring.
- The request to remove parking on Elm Spring is an **outlier**, given the current period of growth at the MCW, Froedtert Hospital, and the increasing traffic on Wisconsin Avenue.

LISTED ARE MY FACTS:

- **Fact:** Wisconsin Avenue **has** a one-hour parking restriction on both sides of the street.
- **Fact:** To the immediate west of Elm Spring is Pleasant View, which **has** one-hour parking restrictions on **both** sides of the street
- **Fact:** To the immediate east of Elm Spring is Robertson, which **has** a 1-hour parking restriction on the East side of the street **and no parking** on the West side.
- **Fact:** Residents of Elm Spring would be the "pickle in the middle,"
 - There would be **limited** parking restrictions on our adjacent streets.
 - **Unlimited** parking on Elm Spring. YIKES—what would this mean for Elm Spring residents? "Open season for parking for anyone?"
- **Fact:** Drivers want to **avoid** the congestion and parking at the medical complex.
 - Vehicles currently parked on Elm Spring, near my home, are transportation services that provide transportation for patients. The drivers prefer not to park across the street; instead, they sit in their vehicles until their passenger(s) are ready for pickup.
 - To avoid parking at the medical complex, drivers will drop off a family member or friend for their scheduled appointments. The driver will park their car and wait for a notification for pickup.
 - In both scenarios, the driver is in their vehicle waiting. They may be there for more than an hour, but will always be ready to move the car.
- **Fact: Drivers observe parking regulations.** This I know from my experience.

LISTED ARE MY THOUGHTS AND FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

- Elm Spring would be the **only residential street** between Pleasant View and Robertson without parking restrictions.
 - How will this affect the **traffic** through my neighborhood?
- **Anyone** could have parking access for an unlimited length of time anywhere on Elm Spring.
 - Could this affect the **safety** of my neighborhood?
- Could unrestricted parking be transferred to **overnight parking**?
- Ninety days would **NOT** be an adequate time trial.
 - Once unlimited parking on Elm Spring becomes widely known, unintended consequences will become apparent.
 - This will take time for the 'word to spread.'

Removing the parking restrictions on Elm Spring will create a problematic situation for its residents **unless** parking restrictions are modified for its adjacent streets, Pleasant View and Robertson.

Since moving into my home, the residents of Elm Spring have accommodated the parking limitations in an urban setting. We enjoy the diversity, energy, and activity that Wauwatosa represents. However, I want the current parking restrictions to remain for the benefit of my neighborhood's residential atmosphere.

Thank you for addressing my concerns at the upcoming transportation meeting. I will be present.

Linda Polulach
Resident of Wauwatosa