

September 11, 2024

Recommendation to place on file the Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Committee recommendation for a 90-day trial to close all slip lanes at the intersection of North Avenue & Wauwatosa Avenue due to denial of the trial by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Submitted by:

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Department:

DPW – Engineering Division

A. Issue

WisDOT has denied the request to perform a 90-day trial to close all slip lanes at the intersection of North Avenue & Wauwatosa Avenue

B. Background/Options

Wauwatosa Avenue is a state highway (STH 181). In May 2024, the Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Committee recommended to the Transportation Affairs Committee (TAC) that a 90-day trial to close all slip lanes occur at the intersection of North Avenue and Wauwatosa Avenue following the conclusion of the SS4A grant data collection. TAC directed Engineering staff to work with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) on a 90-day trial to close the slip lanes.

WisDOT has denied the request for a 90-day trial to close the slip lanes at Wauwatosa Avenue and North Avenue. Per the WisDOT Final Project Scoping Project Manager for the future STH 181 project, in an email dated September 4th:

After internal discussions, they [WisDOT Operations] have concluded that they do not support the trial, as they feel that the significant number of vulnerable users make this location inappropriate for testing. Having said that, they are not ruling out the alternative that removes the right turn slip lane and converts one through lane to a shared through/right lane. Our direction is to take three alternatives through the public involvement and the environmental process.

C. Strategic Plan (Area of Focus)

NA

D. Fiscal Impact

NA

E. Recommendation

Place on file the Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities Committee recommendation for a 90-day trial to close all slip lanes at the intersection of North Avenue & Wauwatosa Avenue due to denial of the trial by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.