

Originally sent via e-mail

Context: The writer lives on a private road that is badly in need of repaving. Because the street is a private road, according to City by-laws, the people living on it have to underwrite the costs of having the City repave the street and replace the sidewalks. However, the writer is trying to persuade the City to contribute half the costs. (In fact, some of the writer's neighbors are not in a financial position to pay anything.) Has the writer done a good job of convincing the Aldermen and City Engineer that the City should pay half?

Hello Aldermen Sanderson, Hersch, George, and City Engineer Tarrona

We have formed a Morrison Street Study Group to explore the possibility of repaving Morrison Street with the City underwriting half the expense and the residents underwriting the other half. The group represents six homes, and we are seeking ways to make this project more palatable to our neighbors with limited resources who may not be able to contribute to the repaving. Unlike the neighborhoods in which private streets were recently repaved, in our neighborhood, a number of residents are on fixed incomes, which does not give them financial flexibility.

We believe the Morrison Street project has specific circumstances that need your consideration. In addition to the issues noted above, we feel the City should contribute to the repaving of Morrison Street for the following reasons:

1. The apartment complex, which was built under the auspices of the City, creates additional traffic. Residents of that apartment complex also park on Morrison.
2. Overflow cars from the City-approved local office building also park on Morrison when their lots are filled.
3. School busses go up and down the street rather than driving on Orchard Street, which is a public road. We believe the heavy bus traffic has contributed to the deterioration of the street.

Give the above, we ask that you consider one of the following compromises:

- An reduction in the price of repaving.
- An alteration in the sidewalk requirement. This would include a "no sidewalk" or "sidewalk on only one side" provision for lower Morrison where sidewalks do not already exist. Given the "character" of our neighborhood, residents may be more comfortable paying less and getting a good street rather than pay more and getting a top-of-the-line great street.
- A possible "hardship" amendment similar to the one that was offered to the resident of Balmoral Park for the recent sewer connector project.

Thank you for your time on this issue and everything you do for the City's residents. We hope to hear from you in the next few weeks as to what we can do together to move this project forward.

Andrew Multoony, representing the Morrison Street Study Group

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