

By Wei-yi Ma for the Ma Wei-yi Trust  
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Laguna Woods, CA  
April 26, 2020

City Clerk  
Jacqueline Beaudry  
Larcom City Hall  
Second Floor  
301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

**Re: District #61 Special Assessment Roll  
File # 20-0475 and 2019-034  
Resolution No 3 Establishing a Public Hearing for the Proposed Jackson Ave Sidewalk Gap Project**

Dear Ann Arbor City Council:

It concerns me that meetings and decisions made concerning the proposed sidewalk gap projects were held during the COVID-19 crisis. In the grand scheme of things this project is not high priority for the city of Ann Arbor. I am disappointed that these decisions were made when the entire country is pre-occupied with more important issues.

I would like to formally express my concern as to why the City Council rejected the proposal to reallocate funds from the Resident Driven Sidewalk Gap Program. In my review of the meeting minutes and the MLIVE article, "*Ann Arbor council rejects proposal to reallocate funds from resident-driven sidewalk program*" (<https://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/2020/04/ann-arbor-council-rejects-proposal-to-reallocate-funds-from-resident-driven-sidewalk-program.html>), I cannot understand the rationale for the votes in favor of the proposal. This program is ideal for sidewalk improvement opportunities that encompass **major** city street sidewalk improvement programs where ~ 50% of the burden of the sidewalk costs fall upon only 5 property owners. Clearly, this project is significantly more costly and expansive in scope than an average Ann Arbor neighborhood sidewalk repair or installment.

I would also like to state, that I personally obtain no benefit from the sidewalk as this property (3365 Jackson Rd) is currently undeveloped, and thus is inaccurately characterized in the City's powerpoint presentation (2019 Sidewalk gap elimination program File #2019-034) on page 7 outlining the key points of the project overview.

The third point that I would like to make is that I find the cost of the project, projected to be \$300,414, to be excessive. This undertaking appears to be far more expansive in scope than the

Ann Arbor City Clerk

April 26, 2020

Page 2

typical neighborhood sidewalk installation and/or repair. I would to have greater understanding of the work to be undertaken and like to see bids the City of Ann Arbor obtained for this work and the justification/criteria for selection of the contractor.

Please submit this letter to the May 18 City Council meeting to protest the special assessment.

Regards,

By Wei-yi Ma for the Ma Wei-yi Trust