

David Siebenaller

2130 S. 60th Street
West Allis, WI 53219-1568
(414)541-7674

February 11, 2009

Mayor Devine & Common Council Members
7525 W. Greenfield Ave.
West Allis, WI 53214

RE: Reconstruction North/South Alley between S. 59 St., S. 60 St., W. Mobile St. & W. Grant St.

Honorable Mayor & Council Members:

We live in the above affected block and wish to express our **support** for this needed project.

While the economic times are not good, the need for this alley to be reconstructed has become critical. Beyond the general deterioration of the asphalt and underlying concrete base, there is a lack of "pitch" which prevents the water from draining out of the alley.

The "ponding" at the north end (the end with the catch basin) has become so bad that we are repeatedly having water back up into our garage.

The water no longer drains into the catch basin, but trickles to one side of it, over the sidewalk and into Mobile St. Attached are photos showing the significant ponding after a small rainfall – not the "Great Flood of 2008".

Last winter (2007-08), the lack of drainage backed the water up behind our property to the point that the ruts caused by vehicles breaking up the water/ice were 11 inches deep. We tried to back out and our car "bottomed out" on the ice leaving no drive wheels touching the ground and us blocking the alley. We had to call the police to assist getting my elderly father out of the car and back into the house to wait for a tow truck to drag the car off. (The officer backed his squad out of the alley afterwards to avoid becoming stuck.)

When W. Grant St. was reconstructed in 2007, the elevation of Grant St. and the sidewalk were raised and now the water no longer drains into Grant St. but also "ponds" at the south end of the alley. This makes it dangerous to stop when it freezes and is hidden by snow.

Again, though we are in difficult financial times, we feel that now is the time for this project, especially with the imminent reconstruction of our street (60th).

Respectfully,

David Siebenaller

Is e-mailed: Mike Lewis
2-16-09 Mayor

Fig. 1.

Looking north to W. Mobile St.



Fig. 2. Looking north toward W. Mobile St. Note water passing to right of catch basin.

