

Historic Madison Coalition
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Simplified Extract of Proposed Connector
Passing Behind the Cemetery,
Turning to Cross the Railroad, and Entering
The District at Kolb St. and Oil Mill/Pennington Rd.



The Draft transportation plan for the next 20 years in Madison ("Madison on the Move") proposes to cut a bypass of downtown through the Historic District. See P. 48 of the Draft Plan, P. 55 of the PDF:
https://madisonga.com/DocumentCenter/View/5075/DRAFT_City-of-Madison-Transportation-Plan_031925

Please come speak your opposition to this plan at the Town Hall at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 5, at the City Meeting Hall, 160 N. Main St. Speakers will be limited to just a few minutes each. If you can't come or choose not to speak, please write your city representatives at the following addresses: fperriman@madisonga.com; cpreid@madisonga.com; rickblanton@madisonga.com; ejoyce@madisonga.com; bwagenhauser@madisonga.com; jmalanowski@madisonga.com; jklimm@madisonga.com; dgilbert@madisonga.com.

This plan is costing the City taxpayers \$75,000. While some parts offer positive suggestions, the part that decimates the District is not one of them. It will turn the District into the de facto southwest bypass, dumping that traffic onto historic, narrow residential streets - not just the hordes of traffic today, but the onslaught expected for the next 20 years, with industrial and other development poised within Madison and Morgan County.

This plan, if adopted as it stands, will bring traffic heading south on Hwy 83 behind the cemetery and into the District by way of Kolb and Oil Mill/Pennington Rd. This plan will turn Old Post Road and Academy Street into one-way racetracks to and from town, and all the cross streets will be flooded with vehicles trying to get in and out from Main Street. On-street parking is planned for these streets, too, to fix the downtown parking problem that was supposed to be addressed with a parking deck downtown. Bike lanes are suggested for Old Post Road, too, a road already barely wide enough for one car to go around someone with a stroller or a dog. Dixie Highway is designated to become a Major Collector, entering from and exiting to Main Street at Walton Street.

Traffic on Main Street will not be lessened. Cars and trucks will simply push through the Historic District destroying its integrity. After the grass and curbs are ruined by parking, a demand for widening the historic narrow streets will inevitably follow. Service trucks for the residents will have nowhere to park safely if parking is in use for downtown events and shopping. Homeowners will have to risk exiting their driveways with parked vehicles obstructing their sight lines, increased and faster traffic flows, and walkers and bikers trying to navigate what's left of the road. Striping and instructional signs to accommodate the "plan" would change and detract significantly from the historic appearance of the District, and the inevitable daily litter and garbage will fall to the homeowners to police.

This is a residential neighborhood. These are our homes. Our families deserve to feel safe in our neighborhood rather than being sacrificed because no one has bothered to find an appropriate solution for the City's traffic problems before now. The Madison Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and has a local historic district designation. The Madison Historic District is the historic tourism engine that generates over \$61 million a year for Madison, adding significantly to the City's coffers, and helping keep taxes down. This "plan" disregards all of this.

Please come to the Town Hall, or write your City representatives, to ask them to delete this section of the plan as they carefully consider the future of our city.

Please send an email to the Historic Madison Coalition if you would like to receive updates on this and other actions affecting the Madison Historic District: hmc@historicmadisoncoalition.org.

The Historic Madison Coalition is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization formed to increase awareness of the irreplaceable and economically vital historic assets of Madison, Georgia, with special emphasis directed to the protection and preservation of its Historic District.