

Historic Water Tower Neighborhood Resolution
CSM Proposed Skywalk
November 9, 2015

The HWTN presents the following resolution:

Whereas, City planning experts generally oppose skywalks in part because they reduce the vibrancy of neighborhoods and retail areas by taking pedestrians off the streets,

Whereas, The proposed Columbia St. Mary (CSM) skywalk over N. Prospect Ave would change the character of our residential neighborhood and create a visual barrier, no matter how well designed,

Whereas, The proposed skywalk could reduce visibility for drivers and endanger pedestrians, near a school and a number of stores and offices, and would encroach on a public sidewalk,

Whereas, No projected data has been made available on who or how many people might use such a skywalk, despite repeated requests about this use of public space,

Whereas, Building a skywalk in this area could set a precedent for approving additional skywalks and turning over more public space to private enterprise,

Whereas, CSM has previously agreed in writing not to build a skywalk over N. Lake Dr and instead built a tunnel beneath that street,

Whereas, HWTN strongly supports CSM staff and patients having access between buildings, as it did in the N. Lake Dr case,

Therefore, Historic Water Neighborhood opposes the proposed skywalk and encourages the City of Milwaukee to deny any needed approvals for such a plan and encourage an underground alternative.