From: traceymo@mindspring.com [mailto:traceymo@mindspring.com]

Sent: Monday, May 17, 2004 1:06 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Airport Rd Name Change

Hi-

I received a postcard in the mail asking for comment on the proposed name change of Airport Road. I live just off Airport Rd, and I do not think the name should change. Airport Road has a large number of small businesses right on the road and it would be too expensive for them to change all of their business material. I think the impact on our fragile economy would be too negative.

Tracey Moore 100 Black, Tie Lane Chapel Hill NC 27514

RECEIVED MAY 1 8 2004

Chapel Hill, NC. May 17,2004

To: Chapel Hill Town Council: Mayor Kevin Foy, Sally Greene, Ed Harrison, Cam Hill, Mark Kleinschmidt, Bill Strom, Dorothy Verkerk, Jim Ward, Edith Wiggins

I am writing to request that the Council let the name "Airport Road" stand as is. This road has held that name for a long time and is part of the history of Chapel Hill. Some would argue that should the airport close, the name would be obsolute However, it would be important to retain the name in memory of the airport's role as a World War two training center as well as serving as home base for AHEC Planes carrying medical personnel to provide health care to rural areas of the state. It also has personal history for me, having lived near the road and using it for approximately fifty years. I would hate to see the name gone.

There are other suitable ways to hohor Dr. King. Some examples of things that could bear his name:

- 1. The new aquatics center to be built at Homestead Park
- 2. The new community park to be built near Southern Village
- 3. A building could be named (or renamed) for him
- 4. A stature
- 5. A different road that does not have the historical significance of Airport Road.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Jincerely Clave M Lewis 3/3 Reade Down chapil Hill NC 27516

929-2636

RECEIVED
MAY 1 7 2004
BY: Jo

1818 Airport Road Chapel Hill, NC 27514 919.960.0900 Tel 919.960.4499 Fax

To: The Town Council of Chapel Hill

Fr: The UPS Store 1818 Airport Road Chapel Hill NC 27514

Re: Proposed name change for Airport Road

For the record: We are against changing the name of Airport Road in Chapel Hill. We are sure you are aware of the significant expense and inconvenience that would be imposed should we need to change our address on advertising, business cards, vendor accounts, invoices, etc. Additionally, our small business services customers include approximately 70 individuals that use private mailboxes in our store with Airport Road addresses. Changing the name of Airport Road would impose the same inconvenience and expense on each one of these patrons. And keep in mind that the majority affected are Chapel Hill residents, living and working in the vicinity of Airport Road, and most notably paying taxes and voting in your municipality.

For the record: We are white, American, a small business owner, and a banker. We study and respect the life and impact of Martin Luther King, Jr. Our two sons, ages 7 and 4, already know and appreciate Martin Luther King, Jr.. They recognize his face and at least two of his speeches. Jake and Luke have acquired their awareness of Dr. King not because of any street or monument named in his honor, but because their schools and their parents have discussed the Civil Rights Movement with them, they have watched video tapes of speeches, and they have read age appropriate books regarding Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life. I certainly cannot speak for the King family, but I will not hesitate to assume that the descendants of Dr. King would choose education, discussion, and enlightenment over a mere street name as the preferred means to honor the family patron.

For the record: Any person or group wishing to honor Dr. King, or any one else, in any manner, should do so at their expense, not the expense of the business people in the proposed area. Land could be purchased to locate an honorary park. A site could be designated to place an honorary fountain. Or the interested parties could host honorary readings of Dr. King's speeches. The possibilities are varied and many. The proponents of any memorial to Dr. King should demonstrate their collective passion for their ideas with efforts that do not cause others significant expense and inconvenience.

Sincerely,

Terry T. Foushee, Jr.

919-960-0900

From: Shirley Maddry [mailto:smmaddry@intrex.net]

Sent: Sunday, May 16, 2004 7:10 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Renaming Airport Road

Honorable Mayor and Members of the Chapel Hill Town Council;

I respectfully request that the name of Airport Road <u>not</u> be changed. Although we have never moved from our present address of 1577 Airport Rd. our mailing address has changed four times in the past. As Chapel Hill expanded our address went from Rt. 2 to Rt. 4 to Rt. 8 and finally to 1577 Airport Rd. Each time we have had to change our address on all correspondence, checks, drivers licenses, mail boxes, Social Security, US Government, State of North Carolina, etc. This may seem a small task to those who propose a name change, but it will present a great deal of inconvenience to all businesses and residences on Airport Rd.

I'm sure the Council can find a more suitable way of honoring Dr. King that will not **inconvenience** 800+ citizens of Chapel Hill.

Shirley Maddry

From: TCOLLIERMD@aol.com [mailto:TCOLLIERMD@aol.com]

**Sent:** Sunday, May 16, 2004 3:47 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Renaming Airport Road

## Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my recommendation that the name of Airport Road not be changed. "Airport Road" is an apt name, given that it goes from the middle of town to, well, the airport! If you would like to name a street after Martin Luther King, let me suggest that there are more suitable candidates among street names that are less logical or even non-descript.

Thank you for inviting me to provide input on this matter.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Collier, M.D. Owner, 104 Mullen Court

From: Brian Biswas [mailto:biswas@mindspring.com]

Sent: Saturday, May 15, 2004 6:40 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Potential Airport Road Renaming

I have never felt the need to write to the Chapel Hill Town Council, but I cannot remain silent on this issue. I have lived in Chapel Hill for fifteen years (the Briarcliff neighborhood) and I am totally against renaming Airport Road.

A street's name is part of its history and identity. Changing the name would be like renaming a person in midlife. It would cause nothing but inconvenience to the many businesses along that road not to mention the rest of the town. Not only do you need to change street signs and business-related material (envelopes, letterheads, etc...), but also town maps, bus schedules, and town (and university) literature.

Indeed, I am against renaming ANY street in town for ANY reason. This is simply a waste of taxpayer money (and I hear that tax rates are going up). Please do not do this!

--Brian Biswas

From: Daniel Wieland [mailto:daniel.wieland.iwqz@statefarm.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2004 4:37 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Proposal to rename Airport Road

### To whom it may concern:

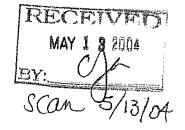
As a representative of the Michelle Carlisle-Kelly State Farm Insurance Agency at 1834 Airport Road, I would like to address our business' concerns with the proposed renaming of Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. As a small business we have spent years building a trusted and valuable customer base that identifies the quality of our business with the physical location of our office, among other things. The proposed renaming of Airport Road is an unnecessary change that would only cause problems for our office and other small businesses in the area. In addition to the convenience that would be lost in this change, please take into account the cost to our business to reprint thousands of business cards, envelopes, letterhead, and other items with our address printed on it. Please realize that the costs of this change of name are great, while the potential benefits that might be gained are insignificant in the grand scheme of things. Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Daniel Wieland for Michelle Carlisle-Kelly

# Kathy L. Davies, D.D.S., M.S., P.A.

P E R I O D O N T I C S



May 12, 2004

Chapel Hill Town Council 306 N. Columbia St. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27514

Dear Council Members,

I am unable to attend the May 24 public meeting. Please hear my opinions via this correspondence.

I am a Periodontist with a private practice at 900 Airport Road. It has come to my attention that the city counsel is considering a name change for Airport Road.

I have strong feelings that this name change should not take effect. I am a firm believer in the values that Martin Luther King Jr. stood for and am happy to see a street, preferably a new street, names after him. Airport Road is a landmark in Chapel Hill and has, I am sure, been in existence for enough years that great confusion would arise if the name were changed.

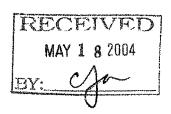
As an owner of a dental practice, a significant amount of time and expense is put into signage, letterhead, referral pads, business cards, envelopes, credit cards, billing statements to name just a few items that have the address of my business engraved or carved on them. I feel it is unfair and extremely irregular to request that all the businesses located on Airport Rd be put through the time and expense of changing all the above mentioned items.

I implore you to discourage the renaming of our city's most prominent street, Airport Rd.

Sincerely,

Kathy L.Davies DDS, MS, PA





David L. Kroninger, O.D. 910 Airport Road Chapel Hill, NC 27514 919-942-8531

May 11, 2004

William Horton, Town Manager of Chapel Hill Town of Chapel Hill 306 N. Columbia Street Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Mr. Horton and members of the Town Council of Chapel Hill,

I am writing this letter with regards to the renaming of Airport Road. I am opposed to this renaming for the reasons following. First, it is quite costly to all business owners and homeowners, and other residents whenever they have a change in address. All stationary, business marketing materials, pamphlets, signs, postal information, advertising and the like will need to be changed. It will be many thousands of dollars. In my office alone, I will need to notify 7,000 patients, several hundred vendors, one hundred or so insurance companies, along with many expenses I have not even thought of at this time. It will also take hours of time to do these address changes. Please do not forget this action affects many other people.

A second issue is that of one of Chapel Hill's main roads will now be very difficult to distinguish from the large M.L.K. Boulevard in Durham. I believe much confusion will exist within the two communities regarding where a specific business is located. I, as a business owner on Airport Road, do not want any confusion about my location by my prospective patients due to a road name change of this nature.

I assure you that my statements are unbiased. I do not want the road name changed to honor Jimmy Carter, or Thomas Jefferson, or any other person. I feel many other ways could be utilized to honor Dr. King without impacting those who work or live on Airport Road. Why not name a new road, or a city park, or the public library instead of a longstanding-named road, descriptive of what it is, Airport Road? This way the impact would be negligible on the individuals concerned.

Sincerely

David L. Kroninger, O.D.

From: HowardStewart194@aol.com [mailto:HowardStewart194@aol.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2004 7:33 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Rename Airport Road

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am opposed to the proposal to rename Airport Road. I was born at 407 Hillsboro Street (before you changed that to Hillsborough) and lived there until 1954.

I lived with my grandfather since my father passed away in 1937. My grand father, Fred H. Sparrow operated a dairy from that address for many years. Airport Road has been airport road for as long as I can remember. It means a lot to me for past memories of those times, like driving a team of Mules with a hay wagon and mowing the runways of the airport for winter food for the milk cows.

Chapel Hill should remember the old times as well as the future.

Please do not change the name of Airport Road.

Sincerely,

Howard L. Stewart

-----Original Message----From: Deborah Cracker [mailto:dcracker@nc.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2004 1:31 PM
To: Town Council
Subject: Proposal to Rename Airport Road

Opposed to! Deb Cracker

From: David Ripperton [mailto:dripperton@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2004 12:05 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Proposal to Rename Airport Road

I will not be able to attend the public meeting, May 24, 2004 regarding the Proposal to Rename Airport Road. However, I wanted my views known. My family has lived on Whitfield Road for over 40 years. The road was known at Piney Mountain Road at that time. I have wonderful images of a red dirt road lined with loblolly pines, winding toward my parents house. I have always regretted the fact that the road was renamed Whitfield Road. It has never seemed right to me. I feel that renaming Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard would be inappropriate as well. I believe there are many other ways to honor Dr. King's memory. Why change the precious memories that we hold onto?

David Ripperton 2618 Whitfield Road Chapel Hill, NC 27514 929.7713

From: Arthur Marks [mailto:skrams@earthlink.net]

Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2004 8:17 AM

To: Town Council

Subject: Renaming Airport Road

We are unable to attend the 24 May meeting that shall discuss the proposal to rename Airport Road as Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

We have no problem with renaming Airport Road, especially as it is very likely that within the next five years or so it will no longer lead to Horace Williams airport.

However, if it is to be named why should the renaming result from a single petition. Instead, the town should solicit proposals from the citizenry as a whole. Not failing to acknowledge King's contribution to American life, at this time he has been many times honored, including a street in Chapel Hill with his name, at the same time there may well be a more suitable name for the road, one that resonates better with Chapel Hill and its residents. I expect you would get suggestions to call it Dean Smith Blvd. or the like, but at the same time a call for suggestions may also produce some real viable possibilities.

Perhaps the final choice may rest with a citizens' committee.

What I do not see the need for is to jump at this one proposal, for if others knew that the Council would take it seriously, they too would gave or could have sent forward their recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

Judith and Arthur Marks 211 Friendly Lane Chapel Hill, 27514

skrams@earthlink.net

From: Yvonne Duke [mailto:yduke@earthlink.net]

Sent: Monday, May 10, 2004 8:08 PM

To: Cal Horton

Subject: Renaming of Airport Road

Dear Council and Mayor,

We received your postcard soliciting comments about the proposal to rename Airport Road. We are against this proposal for a number of reasons:

1) There is still an Airport off Airport Road;

2) It would be disruptive and expensive for those who live or have businesses on Airport Road. The Town should not be burdening small businesses in this manner.

3) It makes more sense to give the "Martin Luther King Jr." name to a new road, or to a road with no name. Two possibilities are: 15/501, 54.

4) Renaming Weaver Dairy Extension is another possibility. Being a relatively new road, if few people have this address, renaming would be minimally disruptive.

5) Ideally, the majority of people living on a thoroughfare should be happy with the name. Streets seem to be named after: families who live or lived in the area (Weaver Dairy), idealized places/states of mind (Camelot Ave., Fortune's Ridge Dr.) or sentiments (Harmony Road; Fidelity Street). Naming any road after a political figure may offend or escalate demands. What will be done if a group wants Chapel Hill to name something "Ronald Reagan Way" or "Scalia Court"?

It seems that this may not be the right time to rename any current road in Chapel Hill; waiting would be preferable.

Best regards,

Yvonne Duke, Rick Duke 503 Westminster Dr. Chapel Hill, NC yduke@earthlink.net

**From:** jirbhj [mailto:jirbhj@earthlink.net] **Sent:** Monday, May 10, 2004 3:52 PM

To: Town Council

**Subject:** Rename Airport Road?

Chapel Hill has long and loudly proclaimed and prided itself on its uniqueness, village atmosphere and openness to ideas, both old and new. The airport road has been with us as Airport Road for as long as I have been here and longer than that for sure. Its name is both a tradition and unique to our town. It is non referential to anything other than itself and its town. Changing its name to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard does not honor Mr. King (we already have a street named after him anyway) but rather dishonors the traditions of our town, we would no longer be unique, but just another town with just another street named after MLK Jr. Sincerely, Barry and Jennifer Jaeger

From: David Berry [mailto:mdberry@conninc.com]
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2004 2:14 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: renaming Airport Rd

Mr. Mayor: Town Council:

Since I do own property on Airport Rd. Chapel Hill. I like the current name.Re-name something else after ML King. Do not change the name of Airport Rd. Leave it alone.

Change something else.

David M Berry

From: Day McLaughlin [mailto:dmclaughlin@chccs.k12.nc.us]

Sent: Monday, May 10, 2004 8:51 AM

To: Town Council

Subject:

Re renaming Airport Road:

I have no problem with naming a street after Dr. King.

I do not think renaming Airport Road after him makes sense.

- · The costs to the businesses on Airport Road could be high.
- There would be confusion for out of town people trying to find the businesses or residents.
  - And, the airport is not necessarily gone.

Thank you for your time.

Day McLaughlin

From: Donny Lofland [mailto:djlofland@yahoo.com]

Sent: Saturday, May 08, 2004 9:40 AM

To: Town Council

Subject: regarding renaming of Airport Rd

Hello,

I appreciate to desire to honor a great and positively influential individual in our country's history; but, I find the renaming of roads to be disruptive to existing residents, visitors, and the business community. I would also question whether people would confuse an MLK Jr. Blvd in Chapel Hill with MLK Jr. located nearby in Durham. (For example, I as a local resident am forever confusing the Chapel Hill Rd with Old Chapel Hill Rd and it seems like there is another local rd with Chapel Hill in the name --- very confusing). I am not passionate in my opinion and will adapt no matter what, but I would prefer that we avoid road naming confusion whenever possible.

If the Town Council absolutely wants to rename Airport Rd and is set on honoring influence black leaders (which is fine), then would you consider another name that might lead to less confusion. For example:

W.E.B. DuBios - <a href="http://www.duboislc.org/html/DuBoisBio.html">http://www.duboislc.org/html/DuBoisBio.html</a>
Booker T Washington - <a href="http://www.ushistory.net/toc/washington.html">http://www.ushistory.net/toc/washington.html</a>

As an aside, if you go with a less known leader, you might inspire more individuals to brush up on their history ... everyone knows of MLK Jr., but few people outside of students taking American history probably have knowledge of others.

Just my opinion ... I appreciate your time, Donny Lofland

Do you Yahoo!? Win a \$20,000 Career Makeover at Yahoo! HotJobs

From: Mike Bryan & Tara Nutley [mailto:tmnutan@yahoo.com]

Sent: Friday, May 07, 2004 3:48 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Proposal to Rename Airport Road

My "vote" is not to rename Airport Road.

Further, I'm amazed that this issue has risen to a level of importance meriting postcard public meeting announcements sent to residents. That the discussion has progressed this far and been given such priority is embarassing to the Town. Where were the meeting announcements for the new building/zoning code document, the Carolina North plans, the free transit plan, or any of the numerous other issues the town has been working on that actually have impact on the day-to-say lives of residents?

There are countless Boulevards, Avenues, Roads, etc. all over the country named after him already- what does Chapel Hill add to his legacy by joining the oversaturation? Only an uninformed or insensitive person would deny Dr. King's importance in American history, but renaming Airport Road after him is unnecessary, costly, and, silly.

Michael Bryan

From: Erika Griffin [mailto:egriffin@cimginc.com]

Sent: Friday, May 07, 2004 2:43 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Airport Road

Please do NOT rename Airport Road. It places an undue financial burden on small businesses on Airport Road due to an address change, and a ridiculous expense for our town to change signage. In addition, Chapel Hill is a unique and original place to live. WHY on EARTH would we rename the road to something so common and overdone!!!

Erika Griffin
Mortgage Banker
Corporate Investors Mortgage Group
1526 E. Franklin Street, Suite 201
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-929-6116 phone
919-929-6146 fax
egriffin@cimginc.com
www.cimginc.com

From: Suzanne Haff [mailto:shaff@nc.rr.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 06, 2004 4:42 PM

To: Kevin Foy

Subject: Fw: Airport Road Response

Dear Mayor Foy,

I received the postcard requesting a response to the renaming of Airport Road and these are my thoughts for what they are worth.

I do not oppose renaming Airport Road.

But...

Airport Road is also Route 86, as you know.

The East - West route that seems similar in statue is Route 54. As far as I know it does not have another name.

I therefore suggest that Route 54 might be a more logical choice and not require a "renaming" since it has only a number, not a name.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne Haff 107 Hunter Hill Road Chapel Hill, NC 27516

From: Tom Cabarga [mailto:TCabarga@nc.rr.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, May 06, 2004 3:04 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Renaming Airport Road

This proposal is coming 25 to 30 years too late, and is so belated that it's embarrassing: it suggests that Chapel Hill slept through the Civil Rights movement and has just woken up to the fact that events of great significance took place a generation ago!

I gather that, as Dr. King's contemporaries and comrades in the civil rights movement are nearing the end of their lives, or have passed on, there is concern among "old line" black leaders that the younger generation doesn't appreciate and understand their historic struggle. That's human nature, and changing a street name isn't going to address the problem or encourage young people to join the NAACP.

Dr. King has received just about every honor his nation can bestow on one of its heroes. Are there no local leaders from that era who deserve recognition and have not yet received their due? Can't we at least honor someone from North Carolina?

The nation's cities and towns are full of "MLKJRBLVDs" and there is no point to adding another one at this late date. If we can't find a local civil rights leader to honor, I say forget it!

From: Dana Deason [mailto:madeline46unc@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 06, 2004 2:51 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: renaming of Airport Road

Dear Mayor Foy and Members of the Town Council,

I recently received a card in the mail inviting me to a meeting that is to be held on May 24, 200 4, to discuss the potential name change of Airport Road. I cannot attend the meeting as I have to be out of town on that date, but I wanted to send you my thoughts on this matter anyway. I have lived in Chapel Hill for ten years now and the community is very important to me. I feel that I must express my dislike for the proposal to rename Airport Road.

Airport Road is one of the main roads through town, and as such, is of great importance to both residents of the town and those persons commuting to and from work each day. I have lived on Airport Road for the past five years and have a keen appreciation of its significance. I feel that to change the name of the road is to ignore its historical importance to the town. For as long as most residents can remember, the road has been called Airport Road. Changing the name at this late date would have no benefit to the town that I can see, and in fact, would create a lot of unnecessary and unwanted complications for those of us who reside on Airport Road.

For practical reasons, I do not want the name of Airport Road changed. I would have to change the address on all of my banking and personal correspondence, and this would be a huge inconvenience and expense to have new documents issued. I cannot afford to make such a change at this time. I feel that the town could better honor Dr. King by creating a park or some other memorial to his memory where everyone could benefit. Dr. King is indeed worthy of recognition, but it can be better done in some other way than by renaming Airport Road.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments, and for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Dana Deason 600 Airport Road Chapel Hill, NC 27514

From: Joe Patterson [mailto:joepatterson@mindspring.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 06, 2004 12:34 PM

To: Town Council Cc: editor@nando.com

Subject: Proposal to rename Airport Road

Mr. Mayor and Council Members,

I have nothing but the greatest respect for Dr. King. I feel, however, that renaming Airport Road in his honor is not the appropriate way to honor his memory. I think naming the new high school after him would be far more in keeping with his legacy and something he would prefer, if given the choice.

We should try to keep what remains of the old Chapel Hill. There is so little left.

Please find some other way of recognizing this great American.

Sincerely yours,

Joe Patterson

From: TARHEELCO@aol.com [mailto:TARHEELCO@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 06, 2004 10:07 AM

To: Manager

**Cc:** Kevin Foy; edithwiggins@nc.rr.com; hillcc@nc.rr.com; dverkerk@nc.rr.com; sally@ibiblio.org; mark@cdpl.org; windsorcircle@mindspring.com; ed.harrison@mindspring.com; billstrom@nc.rr.com

Subject: Proposal to Rename Airport Road

Ladies and Gentlemen:

My name is Marie Johnson Lucas. I am writing to you today because of my concern over your consideration to rename Airport Road.

On or about April 1932, when I was only 6 months old, my parents Willie and Annie Belle Johnson moved into their home on Airport Road. My Grandparents lived directly across from them on Airport Road, "On Top of the Hill." At that time, Airport Road was a two lane dirt Road which extended north only to McDuffie Memorial Baptist Church (Now North Chapel Hill Baptist Church.) A few years after moving to our Airport Road address, my father opened an Auto Repair Garage on the same parcel of land where our home was and operated that Garage until his death. My brother Bruce still operates the Garage today. Nearly 70 years of continuos operation on that same site. My Brother and I own the property now, we inherited it from our parents. As you can imagine, I have a lot of memories, and have actually lived a lot of the history of Airport Road.

I give you this brief background information on myself and my family, because it is important for you to understand that there are those of us with deep Chapel Hill roots who not only are concerned about the cost of this change and the historical significance of the Airport Road name and what it means to Chapel Hill, but also for what the name Airport Road means to us and our own family history as citizens. I am one of those people. There are those of us who have lived all of our lives being a part of Airport Road walks, Airport Road marriages, Airport Road births and yes, Airport Road funerals. How could you possibly change the name of this Historic Road and take away our rights to our History? The individuals affected by such decisions should be considered foremost. These are the individuals who have helped Chapel Hill be what it is today.

While I do not argue that Dr. King is worthy of recognition for his achievements, I honestly do not believe that he would be in favor of taking away other citizens rights and History in order to promote his own accomplishments. He was not a selfish man. Would you ever consider changing the name our beloved Franklin Street in Downtown? The Street which was named for one of this country's greatest statesmen, Ben Franklin. Of course not, but how do you decide? Where do you draw the line? Are not individual freedoms, memories and History still as important when making decisions on such matters?

I urge you to please make the correct decision concerning this issue. Lets don't take away the rights of any of the people involved in this debate. They can each be considered. Those with Airport Road History would like to keep the Airport Road name. Those same people would also like to see Dr. King honored. Lets find a newer Road or a proposed Road without the History of Franklin Street or Airport Road to recognize Dr. King, and prove that it is still possible to compromise on such issues and find a resolution which benefits all.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Marie Johnson Lucas 2608 Cravenridge Road Garner, North Carolina 27529

From: Diane McArthur [mailto:dianemcarthur@bellsouth.net]

Sent: Thursday, May 06, 2004 11:28 AM

**To:** Manager **Cc:** Manager

Subject: renaming of Airport Road

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed renaming of Airport Road. I am absolutely supportive of honoring Dr. King, however, the renaming of Airport Road is not the way to do it. Other possibilities include a park, a building, a library wing, or a NEW Road if you are bent on the honor being a roadway. These alternatives pose no additional cost to the town or citizens and there is no inconvenience to or imposition on residents and business owners.

There is no economic benefit in renaming this road. On the contrary, in addition to expense incurred by the town, there will be significant costs to businesses in changing signage, letterhead, business cards and the time involved in notifying hundreds of vendors and clients PER BUSINESS. Then there is the very real possibility of loss of business because customers can't find the new address on their current map.

The name Airport Road carries with it a history that is important to the town and it's residents. By changing the name you are sending the message that this history is either A) unimportant and meaningless or B) that another history is more important. EACH HISTORY MATTERS. Forcing a name change on an unwilling citizenry will create anger and resentment—the opposite of the desired outcome. This is a lose/lose proposition. You have the opportunity to honor both histories by choosing another way to memorialize Dr. King.

At a time when we are facing rising property taxes (probably for 2 consecutive years) recycling fees, stormwater management fees, economic crisis downtown, and difficult budget decisions why in the world would you choose to impose additional financial burdens on taxpayers, both private citizens and businesses?? The cost to the town for changing the signage would come close to paying for health insurance for those council members in need of it.

Why is there such a rush to make this decision? There needs to be much more discussion between the town and residents to determine what all citizens would like to do to honor Dr. King. You have received many suggestions worthy of furthur consideration.

Finally, you underestimate the diffficulty this change of address will cause. I urge each of you to talk with a business owner and find out what he/she faces. Talk with residents along this corridor. LISTEN to what we have to say. You were elected to represent all of us--not a select few. Each of you as an obligation to hear what we are saying and weigh it carefully. Your decisions must be based on what is best for the whole community.

Sincerely

Diane McArthur 501Colony Woods Drive Chapel Hill NC 27517

929-2228 home phone

From: Jon Haebig [mailto:jhaebig@nc.rr.com] Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2004 8:40 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Rename Airport Road

Dear Mayor and Council,
We both favor renaming Airport Road Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Signed,
Jon E. Haebig
Miriam P. Haebig

(103 Highland Drive, Chapel Hill )

-----Original Message----From: Carole Wadlin [mailto:cwadlin@nc.rr.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2004 8:14 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Name change for Airport Road

Dear Town Council,

I support the proposal to change the name of Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard

----Original Message---From: Bill Wadlin [mailto:bwadlin@nc.rr.com] Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2004 8:12 PM

To: Town Council Subject: Airport Road

I am IN FAVOR of your proposal to change the name of Airport Road to ML King Blvd.

From: That Coffee Place [mailto:thatcoffeeplace@nc.rr.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2004 5:31 PM

To: Manager

Subject: My Thoughts on Renaming Airport Road

Please forward this e-mail to the mayor and all members of the town council.

First and foremost, I think this gesture by the town (and even more surprisingly other local civic organizations) is tokenism, at its worst. It does little, or nothing to honor the memory, or dream, of a great American. In fact, I think it does more to diminish the memory and extinguish the dream of Dr. King.

After 36 years, I would have hoped that this administration would have come, up with something more fitting. Dr. King's dream was not to have streets named after him, but rather to create an America (and world) where all men are treated equally and have equal opportunities to excel. In the last 36 years, many middle-class (and this is a race-neutral term) have renamed obscure (and occasionally non-obscure) streets to honor Dr. King. Once done, they pat themselves on the back, but for what? For having done next to nothing? I would expect and demand the town of Chapel Hill to do more.

If you really want to honor his memory, why not name the new high school after Dr. King, and include a special tutorial that would be mandatory for all high school students in the CHCSS on Dr. King's life, his dream for all men, and how we can continue to honor the man by furthering his dream. The town might also consider converting one of the many empty store fronts on Franklin Street into a small museum honoring Dr. King and serve as a focal point for future programs and projects.

As for furthering his dream, the town could join forces with UNC to establish a scholarship program for local students. Scholarship awards would be based on ideas/activities that the candidates develop to further Dr. King's dream in their communities. Or, perhaps, the town could work in conjunction with the county and state to establish a fund to help local organizations in projects/ activities that further the dream.

All these ideas require time, commitment, and effort. That is the very least we should be willing to give in honoring Dr. King! Shame on the town council, mayor, and other local civic organizations who think that renaming a street is adequate. Dr. King was an agent for change. He had big dreams and did big things to reshape the landscape of America. Say NO to tokenism that does nothing to deliver the promise of Dr. King's vision. Say YES to doing all that his vision demands.

Robert Owens - Owner That Coffee Place 1225 Airport Road Chapel Hill, NC 27514 919-960-6247 thatcoffeeplace@nc.rr.com

From: Chapel Hill Wine Company [mailto:chapelhillwine@bellsouth.net]

Sent: Monday, May 03, 2004 6:36 PM

To: Town Council; Manager; Joyce Smith; Virginia Knapp

**Subject:** Regarding the re-naming of Airport Road

To members of the Chapel Hill Town Council:

I am writing to express my opinion regarding the proposed re-naming of Airport Road. Such a move would be detrimental to the community of Chapel Hill and should be opposed for economic as well as practical reasons. I recognize and agree that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. deserves to be honored. However, there are philosophical reasons why re-naming Airport Road is not the appropriate way to honor the legacy of this great man. This does not have to be a divisive issue. Rather, the Town Council should grasp this opportunity to unite the community and truly promote the vision that was put forth by Dr. King.

On a purely economic basis, the argument against re-naming Airport Road is twofold. First, there are "real" economic costs involved, both to the city as well as the community. The city would incur the expense of replacing signs along the corridor of Route 86 now called Airport Road. Given the consistent challenges faced by the city to provide services to its citizens, how can we justify spending funds to fix what is not broken? Additionally, the business community, as well as citizens, would face costs associated with redoing business cards, letterhead and signs. More importantly, there would be far-reaching "unseen" economic costs as a result of a name change. An address is not simply a name on a piece of paper. It is part of a business's identity. What happens when a prospective customer attempts to locate a business on a map, but is unable to because the road they are looking for did not exist when the map was printed? Many customers will simply revert to patronizing a more familiar business rather than expend their precious time tracking down the precise location. Additionally, every lost customer has a multiplier effect. You don't just lose that customer, but also the customers who would have been referred by them. And these lost customers result in real economic losses. My average customer spent over \$350 last year. One lost customer is my daughter's childcare for two weeks. A dozen or more lost customers and her college education fund is lost. The economic costs involved with re-naming Airport Road are real and substantial. On these grounds alone, the proposal should be rejected.

Yet there are practical reasons to choose not to rename Airport Road. There are plenty of obvious alternatives to re-naming Airport Road. For example, the new park near Southern Village. Or the new wing on the library. Or the \$7 million aquatic center. All these projects are still unnamed. There is no additional economic cost to the city or economic burden to its citizens involved with the naming of one of these projects. If the city should desire to honor a person's legacy, why not do so with one of these projects? There are simply too many practical alternatives to renaming Airport Road.

Additionally, does naming a strip of asphalt and gravel after Dr. King do any justice to his legacy and vision? Dr. King promoted, among other things, equality, tolerance and civic activism. He left an indelible mark on this country. Yet his dream has not been fulfilled. Certainly, labeling a piece of tar in his honor does nothing to help achieve his goals or promote awareness of them. One possible alternative would be to put together a program of education at the new wing of the library. The Town Council should seize this opportunity to not just honor the man, but help fulfill his life's ambitions. Rather than drive an unnecessary wedge in the community, the Council should help it come together and find a fitting memorial to Dr. King. Don't simply name something after him. Effect real change and educate people. This is what Dr. King was about.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Wielar Owner Chapel Hill Wine Company 1229 Airport Road

Located at the intersection of Airport and Homestead Roads Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (919) 968-1884

Thanks

Todd Wielar

Chapel Hill Wine Co. 1229 Airport Road (919) 968-†884 Mon - Sat 10-7 Hillsborough Wine Co. 200 South Churton St. (919) 732-4343 Tues - Sat 10-7

We don't just sell wine... we give you much more. Service... Food and Wine Pairing... Selection... Price... Education... Community From: Sandra J.T. Tromba [mailto:taptico@netzero.net]

Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2004 7:01 AM

To: Kevin Foy

Cc: Sandra J. T. Tromba

Subject: Renaming Airport Road

Please do not rename Airport Road. The financial impact on the individuals living or owning businesses on Airport Road will be significant to some. They will have to fill out numerous change of address cards to any one they have business or personal contact with. The postage alone will be significant some. Also, the banks charge to have checks changed and reprinted. If those address changes do not take immediately, then one's credit report can be adversely effected. Do you want your constituency to have additional monetary and stress problems? Also, does the city actually have the extra money to pay for all the sign changes? Airport Road has been Airport Road for my entire life. Why change something that has worked for and is a known road in Chapel Hill. Also, all maps will have to be changed which will be expensive. Please leave Airport Road as Airport Road.

Sandra J.T. Tromba taptico@netzero.net

## David and Linda Heilig 100 Harrison Court Chapel Hill, NC 27516 (919) 942-3666

May 5, 2004

Town of Chapel Hill 306 N. Columbia St. Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Council Members:

Thank you for the postcard soliciting input on renaming Airport Road to MLK, Jr., Blvd.

With all due respect to Dr. King, I think this is a situation that will expend needless resources, create animosity, and waste money. Dr. King's memory is certainly guaranteed. It should be and it is. To keep wanting more to memorialize him sets up a situation where those opposed are labeled as racist.

I keep thinking about Ms. Wiggins' comments in Council meeting where she said she wanted Airport Road (as opposed to other suggestions) because "it wasn't the easiest thing to do, it would take some sacrifice". What exactly are we looking for here?

If the feeling is that more recognition for Dr. King is needed, look for something appropriate (building, park, area at Carolina North, etc.) that will not expend needless resources, create animosity, and waste money.

Thanks again for your postcard.

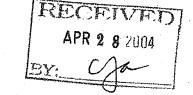
David Hulig

Sincerely,

David Heilig

603 disported RECEIVED Chapie Hill, n. e APR 2 9 2004 april 28, Vot I wish to express my opinion on the same of Changing Unport Rd to M I King I ful there is so much history on this road it should not be changed. Blus it would so much trouble Changedgal our stationing, for myself & husiness. I also attended the meeting on april 19. I would like you to gree capies of my letter to all the elected afficials. Thanking you. your truly, mrs. L Smejter

#### 4/26/2004



Town Managar: Cal Horton

Dear Mayor and Town Council Members:

Although I've lived in Carrboro now for quite a few years, I was born and raised in what is now Chapel Hill. I lived near Airport Rd, and my grandparents owned land, farmed, lived and died along this same road. I still have relatives and friends with an Airport Rd. address.

I can remember visiting Charlie "Choo Choo" Justice when he attended UNC and lived on Airport Rd. I've snow sledded from Rosemary St. to the old "Steel Bridge" which used to span Bolin Creek near the now Chapel Hill Police Dept. building. I've rushed to see several plane crashes along Airport Rd. in years past, watched ROTC cadets march up and down this road, carried my children and grandchildren to visit the airport, and also have memories of delivering mail to residents of Airport Rd. when I worked for the Postal Service. If the use of the name "Airport Rd" seems over used in this letter, it's intended. Whether the airport remains at it's present location or not, I will still hold fond memories of it being there, and would find it saddening and difficult to know this road by any other name.

I have some suggestions for a road honoring Martin Luther King, Jr., which I'm sure, are not original. I recall reading that someone suggested renaming South Rd. This sounds OK to me, especially since it runs east to west

Also, renaming the 15/501/54 bypasses might satisfy the evident need expressed by some Chapel Hill and Carrboro town leaders to name another street in honor of Dr. King.

Another idea is to leave the current Martin Luther King, Jr. street as is, and hundred of people and businesses won't have to change their address, order new stationary and office supplies, or notify their many correspondents and business contacts.

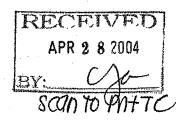
Respectfully,

Devan Clark 105 Kay St.

Carrboro, NC 27510

## Stephen D. and Virginia F. Largent

620 Airport Road, Suite 501 Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514



April 25, 2004

Town of Chapel Hill
Town Council
306 North Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514

Re:

Re-Naming Airport Road

To Whom It May Concern:

We have been following the discussion of re-naming Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. We were out of town for the last town council meeting (April 19, 2004) at which this issue was publicly discussed. Had we been in town we would have attended the meeting and shown our strong disapproval of the name change.

In our opinion, this issue seams to have come up somewhat abruptly and arbitrarily and is an issue which should be settled by public opinion rather than by the Town Council. As best as we can tell, this issue is being pushed by only a few Chapel Hillians with what appears to be self serving interests... but it appears that the town council is listening to this small group instead of listening to the rest of the town, especially those who live on Airport Road and those who have businesses on Airport Road..

While we admire the attributes and contributions of Martin Luther King, Jr. and respect the opinions of the few whom support the name change, we cannot agree with it. If the town is so adamant about changing the name of Airport Road, we would strongly urge the name of Airport Road be changed to North Columbia Street; the existing spur of North Columbia Street to the west of the Fire Station could be re-named "Columbia Place"... or even Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave. I have lived in Chapel Hill since 1971 and have on numerous occasions been asked direction by outsiders... it would be far easier to say "go out North Columbia Street"... to their destination instead of "go north on North Columbia Street... and, by the way, the name changes from North Columbia Street to Airport Road..." This would serve to assist far more people that changing the name to Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

It is our understanding that none of the re-naming committee or any of the Town Council members which support this name change live or own a business on Airport Road. We cannot help but wonder how they would feel about the re-naming if they did...

For the most part we support Chapel Hill and its Town Council; but, this time, we strongly disagree with your apparent support of this name change. The Town Council could find much better ways to serve the community which has elected them... the community which will pay for this non-inexpensive and unnecessary name change.

Vergenia Langon

Sincerely yours,

Stephen D. and Virginia F. Largent



Janice M. Cosby 603 Airport Road, #1 K. Chapel Hill, NC 27514 APR 2 6 2004
BY: SCANTO ANTTC

April 24, 2004

Cal Horton, Town Manager Town of Chapel Hill 306 N. Columbia Street Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Mr. Horton;

After attending the public hearing on April 19 regarding the proposed renaming of Airport Rd. to Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., I ask you to consider the following comments:

- 1. I question the propriety of Edith Wiggins serving on the committee tasked with considering the alternatives as well as chairing the public forum when she originally presented the petition to the Council as a representative of the NAACP. There is here, at the very least, the appearance of a conflict of interest.
- 2. Upon reading the 3-page handout before the meeting started, I wondered why the committee had settled on the one choice that it seems would cost the taxpayers the most and cause the most disruption and cost to individuals and businesses located on the road, despite what seemed like very good reasons to seriously consider some of the other choices. After the meeting I came to the conclusion that there was no valid reason other than that the selection of Airport Rd. was a foregone conclusion and the other 'choices' were nothing more than window dressing.
- 3. Councilman Kleinschmidt said that he did not feel the reasons given for opposition to the Airport Rd. choice were significant. I would add that although I heard much passion from those supporting the choice, I only heard one reason given (by Mr. Battle) for why this was the best choice, that Airport Rd. was in the heart of the 'white' side of Chapel Hill. Making a choice for this because it will hopefully cause division will in no way honor Dr. King, who was, first and foremost, a man of God who desired reconciliation, not division. I realize that this may be only Mr. Battle's opinion or desire, but I fear that, now that he has so openly expressed it, it will be seen as the sole purpose behind the proposal. And, if this is strictly Mr. Battle's view, then what are the reasons for the selection of Airport Rd.?
- 4. Another reason that Airport Rd. may not be the best choice is that since this road has apparently been Airport Rd. since its infancy, there will be a natural tendency for residents to continue to refer to it as Airport Rd. in spite of any official change (as is so often the case with the James C. Wallace parking deck which is continually referred to as the Rosemary Street parking deck, even in news articles).

5. I find it interesting that someone felt it necessary to approach the people who live on Martin Luther King Street to ask if they were willing for their addresses to be changed and even to persuade them that by demonstrating a willingness to go along they might be given the chance to have some input on what the new name would be, but no one bothered to approach any resident of Airport Rd. to ask how they felt about the possibility of this change. More openness during the work of the naming committee might have provided the council with a better idea of how all of the citizens they represent felt about the proposed change, rather than just one special interest group.

6. I would like the council to seriously consider two options that have been proposed – Estes Rd. and the new north-south corridor that will be built through Carolina North. Either of these satisfies the apparent requirement that this be a major artery through Chapel Hill, the Estes Rd. selection would allow Carrboro to participate, as they have requested, and the new road would involve no disruption to existing businesses and residences and obviously involve much less expense to the taxpayers at a time when every government entity seems to be short of money.

Perhaps this entire process needs to be started over with more widespread citizen input and open discussion of the pros and cons of all the alternatives.

Mr. Horton, I request that you pass these comments on to Mayor Foy and the town council members and add my name to your notification list for this subject (you may use my email address, jcosby@nc.rr.com, for notification).

Sincerely,

Janice M. Cosby

Janua M Costy

Sjouke D. J. Overdyk

) George Small

620 Airport Road, Apt. 602 Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (919) 967-9575

RECENTED APR 0 2 2004

March 31,2004

Mr W. Calvin Horton Town Manager 306 N.Columbia Street Chapel Hill N.C. 27514

Dear Mr. Horton

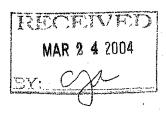
Recently I became aware that the Town Council has received a request to rename " Airport Road ", presumably because of the planned closing of the airport.

I am the owner/taxpayer of 6 rental properties along this road and a name change would obviously entail measurable upheaval and expense, both for my renters and myself.

More important however will be the impact on the commercial value of this real estate. It is not uncommon for geographic or historical features, with a street named after these, to have changed or become no longer relevant. In such cases, and this also applies to Airport Road, the established name may have become an identifyer and symbol with a commercial value of its own, irrespective of its historical origins

I am really concerned that a name change of Airport Road will affect the value of my possessions negatively and I would be grateful for this consideration to be brought to the attention of town council members and officials which are involved.

Thank you in anticipation of your assistance, Sincerely,



620 Aigul Roal-Und 303 Chapel Hele, N. C. 21514-5132 March 22, 2004

W. Calver Horton, Town Manger Town of Chapel Hell 306 Mill Columbia Street Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

Dear Mr. Harton:

Show been a recident of Chapet Hell, specifically and Hold been twelve years. During these of twelve years. During these of twelve years hard been sisoler where olone, I have not family member that time.

Show alone, I have not family member attending the public whool and may and into come to mother demands on the police department. But french, John guestions what compensation I receive und return for my tate.

May I suggest hat your confully winds my intration of well as suffer considerable moralay could.

Each of we will suffer considerable moralay costs.

Each of we will suffer considerable moralay costs.

Time - consuming inconvenience and confusion that The current proposal to rename this took to Martin Lully King, W. Roulevoud would create.

Tope of food that in Apple Hill real estates
Tapen are your primary revenue source. Entainly the
Airport Road folks contribute immeasurably to your
annual budget and the book economy. Upe, artilizene
how every dight to demand the Chapet Hell governing
body protect and defend us, and four on admit

This propositions. Fit the all added her your quited: "If it aint broker, don't they to fixte!"

For their reasons I referently opposed his aller advises, morphodulus proposition to your reduction of an appropriate reme to have Don't kine a morning part, a remediately play around for a civic center, it you please, one that thould not entail major tulmally for so many citisens."

Superculate very much your consideration of my personal position. They all your to share your, Respectfully, have and land. Thank your, Respectfully, have builted.

Heorge Small

DAVID R. WORK 139 OLD FOREST CREEK DR. CHAPEL HILL 27514-5423

February 26, 2004

COPIED TO M+TC

RECEIVED

FEB 2 7 2004

BY: CO

There has been significant publicity in the media lately about the proposal to rename Airport Road after the Civil Rights Leader, Martin Luther King. I believe this is a well intentioned but misguided proposal.

The primary reason for my opinion is that the current name, Airport Road, is natural as the street runs by Horace Williams Airport. It is also established historically in the mind of every person who has lived in Chapel Hill. The fact that the airport may close in the future will not erase that memory.

Changing its name to honor Martin Luther King, I believe, would have the same effect which occurred in Manhattan when Seventh Avenue was renamed Avenue of the Americas. Every local person still calls it Seventh Avenue which is its natural description and rejects the official name.

I believe the same thing would happen if Airport Road were renamed for the Civil Rights Leader. People would continue to use the Airport Road label thereby snubbing the memory of Martin Luther King. Some would take every opportunity to use the Airport Road designation as an affront to his name. I believe that would be a classic case of unintended consequences.

Very truly yours,

and Work

David R. Work

P.S.—Please place my name on the notification list for this subject.

--- Original Message ---- From: Roland Giduz

To: Edith Wiggins; jim ward; billstrom@nc.rr.com Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2004 4:28 PM

Subject: re: street naming possibility

I write to you on this matter from the understanding that as members of a Street-naming committee, this matter may come before you. Thank you for your Good consideration of these thoughts.

Chapel Hill has since 1928 had an historic Airport Road named for something unique to Chapel Hill. This name stands for an important facility and tradition here. The suggestion has <u>lately</u> been made to re-name it Martin Luther King Jr. Road just like so many other roadways around the country.

The martyred spiritual leader is <u>indeed</u> worthy of recognition. My suggestion is that the major new north-south roadway to be built parallel to Airport Road through Carolina North memorialize Dr. King. It will be the principal thoroughfare from Estes Drive all the way through Carolina North toward Interstate 40 Highway.

That boulevard would have <u>more</u> symbolic meaning. The University is to begin construction on its grand new Carolina North campus when the Airport is closed at the end of this year. How fitting it would be for an institution that teaches tolerance and learning to this boulevard named for a leader who lived and died for those values. In doing this, the Airport Road, which has historic meaning for Chapel Hill, would retain that name.

Roland Giduz Box 44, Chapel Hill NC 27514 (325 Tenney Circle) Tel.: 919/942-2194