

428

ATTACHMENT 12

Attached are letters received from citizens regarding the Weaver Dairy Road Improvement Project.

3213 Carol Woods
750 Weaver Dairy Road
Chapel Hill NC 27514
(919) 918-3446, FAX 919 918 3349, exerciseforseniors.anthill.com

4/4/02

429

Kevin Foy
Mayor of Chapel Hill
Town Hall, 2nd floor
306 N. Columbia St.
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Mayor,

As a resident of Carol Woods since November 1979, I am sensitive to the changes which have taken place in our environment. I-40 was in the planning stage. It was not evident to newcomers who enjoyed the peace and quiet of the woods. We did hear that it was down the pike and decided to move here on the south side of Building 3 in spite of it. Weaver Dairy Road was an unpaved country road when we first saw it in 1978.

Carol Woods has grown into a beautiful, very special place with one flaw – the noise and pollution of I-40. As far as I know no one turns down Carol Woods because of this.

Now we are threatened with a four lane throughway on Weaver Dairy Road. I concur with Daniel A. Okun's memorandum of February 25th addressed to Elizabeth Cooley, Chair, Carol Woods Residents Association.

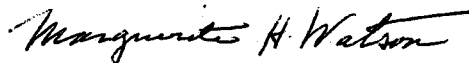
I appreciate the stand you have taken and hope you can muster enough support to ward off the temptation to grasp at the large amount of money available for the goliath.

Carol Woods faces the affect on our environment of the nuclear plant about 28 miles to our south. We do not need the affect on our environment of being sandwiched between two throughways.

I am grateful to Dan Okun for pointing out the flaws of the survey made of our community. It does not represent the strong feelings held by all those here who suffer some lung impairment. An older population is especially sensitive to the quality of the air in their environment.

I applaud your leadership,

Sincerely,



Marguerite Holbrook Watson, M.A.

Copies: Pat Sprigg, Martha Gwyn, Chair, Health and Social Services Committee

RE: Save Weaver Dairy Road and taxpayers money for coming generations

PREPARED BY	Blaseph
DATE	4-2-02

As a very arthritic octogenarian, I can't write a formal letter. However, here is the essence:

1. Widening the 2-lane section from Sunrise to Timberlyne means clearing a 50ft swath down to mud/rock on each side of the road to 4 lanes, a median, a bike path, a sidewalk and berm.
2. Destroying trees + grounds for a slash of sterile concrete demanding city funds for its maintenance for the rest of its existence.
3. Increase noise pollution from increased traffic with huge TRAILER TRUCKS pounding by at any hour (increase police patrol)
4. AIR POLLUTION
5. EXCESSIVE HEAT: Roads intensify heat waves
6. TREES + GROUNDS REDUCE Nos. 3, 4, 5
7. PROLONGED CONSTRUCTION. A DURHAM ROAD PROJECT HAS 2 YR ^{OVER} RUN and is still incomplete!

It seems that TAXPAYERS are assuming an unnecessary burden for years to come in exchange for additional HEALTH HAZARDS and even loss of the beauty of this old 2 lane road where people have to slow down. Aren't we "exchanging our birthRIGHT for A MESS OF POTTAGE"?

Thank you!
Barbara A Joseph

432

George Small

From: Cal Horton
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2002 12:38 PM
To: 'Timdempsey17@aol.com'
Cc: Mayor pro tem Pat Evans (patevans@bellsouth.net); Council Member Bill Strom (billstrom@nc.rr.com); Council Member Dorothy Verkerk (dverkerk@mindspring.com); Council Member Ed Harrison (ed.harrison@mindspring.com); Council Member Edith Wiggins (Ewigg123@aol.com); Council Member Flicka Bateman (fbateman@unch.unc.edu); Council Member Jim Ward (W) (wardjl@email.unc.edu); Council Member Jim Ward (windsorcircle@mindspring.com); Council Member Mark Kleinschmidt (mark@cdpl.org); Mayor Kevin C. Foy (TCH) (kevinfoy@townofchapelhill.org)
Subject: RE: Weaver Dairy Road

Mr. Dempsey:

Thank you for your interest in and comments about Weaver Dairy Road. I will forward a copy of your message to the Town Council.

We will provide background information to the Council for their April 8 work sessions that includes the history of the Council's consideration of Weaver Dairy Road improvements. Copies of the material will be posted on the Town's website and available for review at Town Hall and the Chapel Hill Public Library.

We will be pleased to receive and distribute to the Council any information that you wish to provide for their consideration. Normally, information received in the Town Clerk's office by noon on Tuesday prior to the Council meeting can be copied and distributed with the Council's agenda materials.

Please let me know if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Cal Horton

 W. Calvin Horton, Town Manager
 306 North Columbia Street
 Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516
 919-968-2744 Bell South
 919-682-8636 GTE
 919-969-2063 FAX
 919-967-2626 Home
 <mailto:calhorton@townofchapelhill.org>

-----Original Message-----

From: Timdempsey17@aol.com [mailto:Timdempsey17@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2002 9:43 PM
To: Cal Horton
Cc: Kevin Foy
Subject: Weaver Dairy Road

Cal,

As you prepare for the April 8th work session on WDR, I would hope that you are revisiting the intent of the original town council vote BEFORE DOT "overruled" the council.

Since then, the issue has become highly polarized and politicized. The work session should not be in the vein of 4-lane highway vs. no-build, but should try to address what is best for the Town. Obviously, most of us who live in the neighborhoods affected believe that what is needed is a widening by adding turning lanes at Sedgfield and perhaps Cedar Hills Trail, and also adding bike lanes and sidewalks along the entire road. (By the way: this approach would also save the state \$4-5 million.)

No one has ever presented a reason for the 4-lane approach. All of the argument a year ago was around traffic capacity. Janet D'Ignazio said at the road widening forum that 4 lanes are really only needed if capacity approaches 30k. WDR is projected to be at 18 k in 2025.

I would hope that you are going to include some of the recent data as presented in the road widening forum, not just the historical record to date.

Those of us in Citizen Action for Responsible Roads are preparing a package of information for your consideration. We have also been working with Citizens for a Livable Community and, more recently, with the neighborhoods from South Columbia. We would be happy to work with you in any way you deem appropriate. Many of us also plan to attend the workshop, though we understand the time for citizen input will not come until April 22.

Thanks,
Tim Dempsey

RECEIVED
MAR 22 2002
BY: *cja*

434

759 Weaver Dairy Rd. Apt 177
Chapel Hill, N.C.
March 13, 2002

Lyndo Tippet
Sec'y of Transportation
NC DOT
1501 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1501

Dear Mr. Tippet,

As a resident on Weaver Dairy Rd. in Chapel Hill, I would like to object to plans to make the road into a four lane boulevard for the following reasons ;

- (1) increase in traffic resulting in
- (2) increase in air pollution and noise
- (3) a more likely increase in commercialization along the road

If the reason is to provide more access to the mainly residential area, I question the need. If it is to move traffic around Chapel Hill, an access made to Eewin Rd. from I-40 might relieve traffic on Weaver Dairy. If it is because developers want growing commercialization along the road, I am opposed to it.

I would like to see improvements for the sake of safety, such as traffic lights, a sidewalk, and a bike path.

Sincerely yours,

Julia D. Watkins

cc. Douglas Gaylon Chair Bd. of Transportation
✓ Kevin Foy, Mayor of Chapel Hill
William Gilmore, Mgr. Proj. Dev. and Env. Analysis

435

Cal Horton

From: Cal Horton
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2002 4:24 PM
To: Mayor pro tem Pat Evans (Council Member Pat Evans); Council Member Dorothy Verkerk (Council Member Dorothy Verkerk); Council Member Ed Harrison (Council Member-Elect Ed Harrison); Council Member Edith Wiggins (Council Member Edith Wiggins); Council Member Flicka Bateman (Council Member Flicka Bateman); Council Member Jim Ward (Council Member Jim Ward); Council Member Jim Ward (W) (Council Member Jim Ward (W)); Council Member Mark Kleinschmidt (Council Member-Elect Mark Kleinschmidt); Mayor Kevin C. Foy (TCH) (Kevin Foy); Council Member Bill Strom (E-mail)
Cc: Michelle Lewis (TCH) (Michelle Lewis); Toni Pendergraph; Bill Stockard; Carol Abernethy; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Sonna Loewenthal
Subject: FW: Widening of Weaver Dairy Road in Chapel Hill

-----Original Message-----

From: Charles Tanquary [mailto:ctanquary@mindspring.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2002 4:13 PM
To: Secretary Lyndo Tippet, DOT
Cc: Town Council; Manager
Subject: Widening of Weaver Dairy Road in Chapel Hill

We would like to add our two votes for widening Weaver Dairy Road as proposed by the Department of Transportation.

Data for Airport Road show clearly that the widening will reduce accidents and improve pedestrian and bicycle safety. Any objection that widening the road will lead to excessive speeds can be overcome readily by insisting that the Chapel Hill police enforce speed limits by patrolling or by the use of cameras for ticketing violators.

Charles Tanquary and Eunice Brock

George Small

436

From: Cal Horton
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2002 8:37 AM
To: 'Kim Uhrich'
Cc: George Small; Mayor pro tem Pat Evans (Council Member Pat Evans); Council Member Dorothy Verkerk (Council Member Dorothy Verkerk); Council Member Ed Harrison (Council Member-Elect Ed Harrison); Council Member Edith Wiggins (Council Member Edith Wiggins); Council Member Flicka Bateman (Council Member Flicka Bateman); Council Member Jim Ward (Council Member Jim Ward); Council Member Jim Ward (W) (Council Member Jim Ward (W)); Council Member Mark Kleinschmidt (Council Member-Elect Mark Kleinschmidt); Mayor Kevin C. Foy (TCH) (Kevin Foy); Council Member Bill Strom (E-mail); Michelle Lewis (TCH) (Michelle Lewis); Toni Pendergraph; Bill Stockard; Carol Abernethy; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Sonna Loewenthal
Subject: RE: Weaver Dairy

Ms. Uhrich:

Thank you for letting us know of your concerns. I will forward your message to the Town Council.

The Council is considering the configuration of Weaver Dairy Road with the objective of reaching agreement on a set of improvements that will serve the community's needs for safety, livability, mobility and appearance. Your comments and the comments of other citizens will be helpful to the Council in coming to a conclusion about the most appropriate form of improvements.

I will ask the Town Clerk to add your address to our e-mail list of those interested in the Weaver Dairy Road discussions so that you will receive notice of any Council discussion about this matter.

Sincerely,

Cal Horton

-----Original Message-----

From: Kim Uhrich [mailto:Kim_Uhrich@med.unc.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2002 3:10 PM
To: Cal Horton
Subject: Weaver Dairy

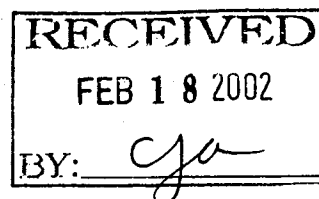
Good Afternoon, Mr. Horton:

I am writing this brief email to you in the hopes you can pass this on to the appropriate personnel. I live at 102 Essex Drive, a Weaver Dairy Road neighborhood, contrary to some peoples thinking. I walk on this road everyday, have in the past had petitions signed for sidewalks, understand the need for widening, but not for a major thoroughfare. I was under the assumption that the proposal for sidewalks on Weaver Dairy had been passed almost 2 years ago. I see new sidewalks off Piney Mt. a road less walked, but still nothing on Weaver Dairy. People take their lives in their hands walking/biking on this road, and yet, no sidewalks. Until the town and state decide what to do, it would be wise to revisit this issue, again. It is not fair to promise something then take it away. This is a good way to give politicians a bad name. Thank you in advance for listening.

Kim S. Uhrich
102 Essex Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

919-968-0882

437



Mayor and Town Council
Chapel Hill, N.C.

February 6, 2002

Dear Mayor and Town Council Members;

I am writing to you as a private citizen not as a member of the BiPed Advisory Board. I am, or course, very concerned about sidewalks and pedestrian safety.

I hope that you will all think carefully before you reverse the vote of the last Council on the Weaver Dairy Road upgrade. Think about the total community and the future neighbors along the road. I know how the current neighbors feel about changes in a road they have lived next to for years. Many years ago my neighborhood fought long and hard to stop the widening of 15-501. Don't think for a minute that DOT will do what you want. We met many times with DOT officials. We did get a median added, but we were unable to get a single safe pedestrian crossing included. DOT has come a long way since then. Their plan for Weaver Dairy Road looks like a design in heaven compared with what we were offered. However, if you turn it down, it is more than likely you will get nothing. You will retain a very dangers two to five lane road with no sidewalks and no bicycle paths. Four lanes with a median is a much safer plan for both drivers and pedestrians.

Please concentrate on getting safe pedestrian intersections and crosswalks where they are needed. Ask for traffic calming elements such as narrow lanes and frequent stoplights. Weaver Dairy Road has not been a little country road for a long time now. Try to make it a safe, attractive arterial road and don't loose our chance for sidewalks and bicycle paths.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eva Metzger".

Eva Metzger
1404 Brigham Road
Chapel Hill NC 27514

430

Cal Horton

From: Cal Horton
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2002 6:46 PM
To: Mayor pro tem Pat Evans (Council Member Pat Evans); Council Member Dorothy Verkerk (Council Member Dorothy Verkerk); Council Member Ed Harrison (Council Member-Elect Ed Harrison); Council Member Edith Wiggins (Council Member Edith Wiggins); Council Member Flicka Bateman (Council Member Flicka Bateman); Council Member Jim Ward (Council Member Jim Ward); Council Member Jim Ward (W) (Council Member Jim Ward (W)); Council Member Mark Kleinschmidt (Council Member-Elect Mark Kleinschmidt); Mayor Kevin C. Foy (TCH) (Kevin Foy); Council Member Bill Strom (E-mail)
Cc: Michelle Lewis (TCH) (Michelle Lewis); Toni Pendergraph; Bill Stockard; Carol Abernethy; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Sonna Loewenthal
Subject: FW: Weaver Dairy Road widening

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeffrey Elliott [mailto:elliottcomm@pobox.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2002 4:01 PM
To: Town Council
Subject: Weaver Dairy Road widening

Sirs

Your decision to stand in the way of the completion of the above project is, in my view, extremely short-sighted and ill-advised.

As someone who will be inconvenienced by the traffic jams (whether I am on my bike or in my car) that will plague this part of Chapel Hill unless the widening is completed, I urge you to reconsider.

I am all for public transit and leaving cars in the garage. But opposing improvements in basic infrastructure is at best counterproductive.

Yours sincerely,

Jeffrey Elliott
2140 North Lakeshore Drive



CAROL WOODS
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
750 Weaver Dairy Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27514-1502
919/968-4511 • FAX 919/918-3349

439

November 6, 2001

Mr. Douglas Galyon, Member
N.C. Board of Transportation
1610 Alderman Drive
Greensboro, N.C. 27408

Re: Widening Weaver Dairy Road-traffic signal installation at entrance to Carol Woods

Dear Mr. Galyon:

Mayor Rosemary Waldorf was kind enough to come to Carol Woods Friday afternoon, November 2 and discuss with residents the components of the Weaver Dairy widening project. She said she had spoken with you that morning about the necessity of a traffic light being included in the design of the project at our entrance onto Weaver Dairy. She urged us to write to you to voice our concerns. She indicated you had assured her that you would do all you could to ensure that a light be included in the design and referred to a similar situation at a retirement community in Greensboro.

I am a member of the Chapel Hill Town Council appointed Citizens Committee to Study Traffic Safety Issues on Weaver Dairy Road. One of the issues relating to short term safety improvements being discussed is the immediate installation of a traffic light at our entrance. While the final recommendations to Council are not complete, it is almost certain that this will be recommended as an immediate short term safety need and is definitely a long term safety necessity.

I enclose our own data that conservatively show over 6000 vehicles in and out of Carol Woods per week. While this data may not satisfy all the MUTCD criteria for a light, it does show a significant traffic volume. It is difficult exiting and turning into the campus with the current design. When you also take into account the reduced reaction time of some of our residents who will have to cross two lanes and a median to make a left turn out of Carol Woods or turn into greatly increased traffic volume turning right out of Carol Woods, it becomes very obvious without a traffic signal this is an area with the potential for a major accident. We are also directly across from Silo Drive which is an outlet for a large residential subdivision and they currently have the same difficulty exiting onto or turning from Weaver Dairy. The four lane design makes these movements even more difficult and dangerous particularly at peak times.

Additionally, while this road is scheduled to be 35 mph, it is apparent from observation and use of the recently widened Airport Road that exceeding the speed limit is very tempting to motorists simply because the design facilitates higher speeds thus increasing the danger.



Carol Woods is an accredited, not-for-profit community

440

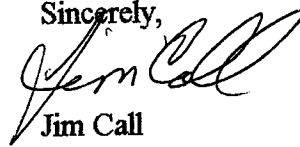
It would be tragic dealing with the consequences of waiting until someone were injured or killed and then say "we should have put a light there" even though all the appropriate conditions may or may not have been satisfied to warrant installation of a light.

I ask for your assurance at your earliest convenience that a stop light will be included in the final design of this project if not installed as soon as possible per final Committee recommendation to Council.

It was also most gratifying to hear Rosemary say that she had been assured the design clearing-land disturbance limits would be outside of our split rail fence and that no activity would occur that would in any way imperil our beautiful oaks.

Thank you for your consideration of this solution to a very real concern of not only our residents and staff but also residents who live along Weaver Dairy.

Sincerely,



Jim Call

Director of Facilities
and Project Development

cc: Mayor Rosemary Waldorf
Pat Sprigg
Edith Wiggins
Cal Horton
George Small P.E.
Kumar Neppalli E.I.T.
Derek Weaver P.E.
Nelson Henderson
Lew Woodham
Hirsh Slater

441

MEMO

TO: Jim Call, Nelson Henderson, Hirsch Slater

October 18, 2001

FROM: Lewis Woodham *LW*

RE: Traffic Safety issues on Weaver Dairy Rd.

The data gathered here at Carol Woods over the past month yields some significant facts concerning the volume of traffic flow in and out of the Carol Woods campus intersection with Weaver Dairy Rd.:

VOLUME	TYPE OF TRAFFIC
1076 /week	Resident cars (4 trips /week x 269 cars)
1595 /week	Staff cars (5 trips /week x 319 employees)
64 /week	Deliveries (Trucks: food, supplies, garbage, mail)
210 /week	Visitors (Health Ctr., applicants, friends, Rotary)
14 /week	Volunteers at Health Center
197 /week	Transportation (CHT bus, C.W.van, medical limo)
TOTAL = 3156 /week	Entry + Exit = 6312 /week (avg.75 /hr. over 12 hr. day)

Peak Traffic at the Campus entry/exit road was identified as 3:00 - 4:00 P.M.

weekdays:	<u>Leaving</u>	<u>Arriving</u>	<u>Total</u>
	144	61	205

[NOTE: these 205 vehicles were merging with Weaver Dairy Road traffic flow of the same period of 488 Eastbound and 491 Westbound.]

Hopefully, this data may help justify the installation of a traffic control light at the Carol Woods campus entry on Weaver Dairy Rd.

cc: Spriggs
Chestnut
Cooley
file