



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

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UNIVERSITY ARCHITECT AND DIRECTOR
FACILITIES PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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April 25, 2007

Mr. Kumar Neppalli
Town of Chapel Hill Planning Office
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514-5705

Re: S. Columbia Street Improvements

Dear Mr. Neppalli:

We have been working on plans to comply with Stipulation 18(c) which requires that South Columbia Street, between Manning Drive and South Road be narrowed to three lanes, (two eleven foot traffic lanes and one 14-foot bus/bicycle lane on the east side). It also requires that the eastern sidewalk be widened by four feet to narrow the pavement to the required dimensions and that the excess pavement on the west side of the southern end be eliminated by extending the curb out to achieve a symmetrical section.

As you requested, we have reviewed the Bike and Pedestrian Committee's petition to include a separate bike lane in addition to the bus and travel lanes. Our analysis is below.

Current Design

- Presented at the March 2007 semi-annual update to Council;
- Achieves the approved DP Stipulation (two 11 foot lanes, one 14 foot bike/bus lane and narrowing of S. Columbia cross-section);
- Provides enhanced and expanded landscape buffers, including trees, bollards and chains; sidewalk relocation, crosswalk and service pull-outs;
- Reviewed and approved by NCDOT;
- Construction budget is \$1.7 M including \$170,000 in design fees;
- Construction documents are 90% complete and are scheduled to be bid on April 29, 2007 for summer 2007 construction.

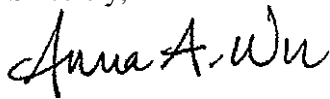
Change to include a separate bike lane

- We believe this change would be a minor modification to the Development Plan and could be approved by the Town Manager;
- No significant narrowing of pavement would be achieved; except for the southwest corner of the project;

- Restriping alone could provide the new cross section (three 11 foot lanes, one being for busses only, and a 5 foot bike lane);
- Restriping could likely be accomplished this summer;
- The package of other street improvements (signal and crosswalk at Medical Drive, street trees, bollards and chains, sidewalk relocation, service pull-outs) would require redesign and rescheduling.

In summary, the University would be willing to make the requested change. Please let me know if any additional information is required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna A. Wu". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A".

Anna A. Wu, AIA

- c. Ms. Jill Coleman
- Ms. Pat Crawford
- Ms. Carolyn Elfland
- Ms. Mary Jane Felgenhauer
- Mr. Bruce Runberg