

ATTACHMENT 5

**CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING
PROPOSED RENAMING
OF AIRPORT ROAD IN CHAPEL HILL**

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

From: James L. Copeland [mailto:James_Copeland@unc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2004 2:17 PM
To: Town Council
Subject: Airport Road

Mayor and Members:

As CEO of a non-profit corporation which owns and operates its business from an office building on Airport Road I am writing to urge that you seek ways to maintain our address.

I am supportive of dedicating the Road as "Martin Luther King Way" or in some other manner as a tribute to his leadership and accomplishments. I believe the suggestion of Member Wiggins was a good one and coupled such naming with the naming of an expansion of the public library. Other viable suggestions have come from citizens in meetings and editorials.

A decision causing us to change our address would create a hardship and incur wasteful and unnecessary costs. Our estimate is that such a change would cost our organization in the range of \$30,000.

From the statements of Mayor Foy and other council members I know that your commitment is to listen to the wishes of citizens and make decisions based on those feelings. In that regard I encourage you to find suitable ways to acknowledge Dr. King that are not costly to those who do business or reside on Airport Road.

Thank you for your consideration.

James L. Copeland
President, Medical Foundation of North Carolina, Inc.

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

From: BLJ32170@aol.com [mailto:BLJ32170@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, June 07, 2004 3:57 PM

To: Kevin Foy

Cc: Manager

Subject: Renaming of Airport Rd

Mr Kevin Foy and Mr Cal Horton-

I am writing to you with a few questions that I would appreciate your response to pertaining to Airport Rd.

1- Why were the citizens not made aware that the public forum was coming up on April 19th? Why was that not done until we came to the meeting in opposition?

2- What consideration is being given to the fact that, as I understand there has been an Abundance of opposition to the renaming of Airport Rd as you could also see in the petitions that were presented on May 24th? I am also aware that the town and council members continue to receive emails and letters daily in opposition to the name change. I would like to also mention that the opposition is not at all to the proposed name- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.- I would be opposed to it for any name whether it be myself, or a family member.

3- Why would there be a proposal made to change the town halls address to show the support of the town?? This is only going to cost the taxpayers More Money?

4- How are the people of the existing Martin Luther King, Jr St going to be able to have input in the renaming of their street? I feel the people on Airport Rd haven't really had much input in the renaming of the road on which they live, as I would not want to have anyone think I own Airport Rd.

I am sorry for the bits of sarcasm but I feel this issue has gotten way out of hand and needs to be dealt with before this Council takes all of their personal agendas and makes Chapel Hill a totally different place than what it has been for the 34 years I have lived here. This has always been a place I love to call my home but lately I can say I am not so proud to say I love Chapel Hill. I am very thankful that on April 19th my parents and I and several others were able to attend the meeting and voice our opinions. If we would not have been there I feel this would have been an issue that we would not still be having the opportunity to speak out on.

Please consider the life of Chapel Hill and the people who will be and have been directly affected by this proposal.

Thank You for the time and consideration of my opinion and thank you for your prompt response to the questions I have.

Thank You-

Becky Johnson

1150 Airport Rd

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

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

Sent: Saturday, June 05, 2004 10:07 AM

To: Town Council

Subject: Airport Road

To Whom It Concerns;

Airport Road is a Historical Road and we all know what it represents. It would like renaming Franklin Street to Martin Luther King Street. Neither of these Streets should be changed it is utterly ridiculous. So; please let well enough alone. The Town doesn't have any extra \$\$\$\$ to be doing this.

Sincerely yours,

William W. Carlow

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

From: Carol Martell [mailto:martell@claire.hsrb.unc.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2004 2:29 PM
To: Town Council
Subject: airport road

Dear Town Council:

I would much prefer that you rename NC54 to Martin Luther King. It is certainly a heavily travelled route into town, and doesn't already have a name. I read early on that the committee had considered but rejected it. I have not heard the reasons for rejection.

I manage computer services in an office building on Airport Rd, and the impact goes far beyond stationary.

Every database that has my billing and shipping information with every vendor from whom we purchase hardware, software, and accessories will have to be changed. Most of those records are user-maintained in the vendor's database, but it will require my time to change each one. All the vendors with whom we have software maintenance agreements will be sending software updates to the old address. Convincing them to change those addresses is difficult because that information is closely guarded and company-maintained. Because the updates are not sent out at regular intervals, I cannot rest assured at least one would go out during the period of time when the post office will forward mail. Warranty tech support is another problem area. The address comes into play as part of the identification process, often as the means the people in India answering the phones now use to locate our records. The address comes into play again when the tech is sent out to perform the warranty work. One would think that updating the one address would accomplish updating the other, but I know from experience that this is not the case. It took about five years for things to settle down when our office last moved.

Those are some example areas that only affect me, one person, and I'm sure that is only the beginning of the problems that I will encounter. I am only one of many many people working in office buildings on Airport Rd.

I really like the idea of renaming Homestead Park to Martin Luther King Park rather than renaming a road., or in addition to renaming NC54.

I first came to Chapel Hill in 1971. I have watched/lived through the changes in Airport Road over the years; this is a change I do not welcome.

I happened upon some co-workers complaining about this issue this morning, one of whom is African-American. I stated that I was afraid it would make me appear racist to object ; she stated that there are plenty of African-Americans who don't want this to happen.

BY THE WAY...please don't spend my tax dollars by changing the address of the town building. I don't want you to feel my pain - I want you to not inflict pain upon me.

Carol Martell
126 Ridge Trail
Chapel Hill

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

From: Rebecca Breazeale [mailto:breazeal@email.unc.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2004 10:59 AM
To: Town Council
Subject: Renaming of Airport Rd.

As a resident of Airport Rd., I wanted to express my displeasure of the proposal to rename it. I was also dismayed to read in the Chapel Hill News that the proposal was made directly to Ms. Wiggins by the NAACP and not even discussed with any of the residents that will be effected by this. Are you willing to set a precedent of allowing any organization to approach the council and make a suggestion for a change and not even take into account those who may be directly effected by it?

I suggest we vote on this. In this day and age of computers, it must be fairly easy to determine who are the residents and businesses of Airport Rd. Since you have the funds to change street signs, etc., you must have the funds to conduct a quick vote. If the majority of residents and businesses of Airport Rd. want the name change, most of whom have probably been there for more than a few months, I will accept that. I will not accept the decision of a group of elected officials who will change in a few years.

Please make this a part of the public record.

Thank you,

Rebecca J. Breazeale
875 Airport Rd. #2
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

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

From: Schmidt, David [mailto:dws17859@GlaxoWellcome.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2004 5:21 PM
To: Town Council
Subject: Re: Airport Rd / MLK Blvd

Dear Mayor Foy and Town Council members,

First off, thanks for all you do. You have a great impact on a great town and I appreciate your efforts. Though I dont always agree with everything thats done, I never doubt that it is done with the best of intentions for Chapel Hill.

Have listened with interest to the debate regarding the potential renaming of Airport Rd and offer the following thoughts:

* It seems irresponsible to vote for re-naming the road without fully understanding (including hearing back from the Post Office) the effort and cost it will take to change addresses. This isnt a decision that has to be made right now, why not take the time to fully understand the impact before setting a course of action?

* If there is to be a name change, wouldnt it be appropriate to ask those who are the biggest proponents to mount a private fund-raising campaign to defray the associated costs? When the total needed has been reached, it would seem to take away at least one big reason to not make the change.

* Naming that street after Dr King would be a tribute, but a tepid one. Cant we do better? I liked Aaron Nelson's idea of dedicating a special place to Dr King, a place with quotes and perhaps photos, a place to reflect on his contributions and to think about how we can work together to make things better. Re-naming a road that is already known by two or three other names (86, Airport, Columbia) seems like a meager gesture. Many other communities have re-named streets to honor Dr King, and the ubiquitousness dilutes the impact. Cant we be a leader and do something really meaningful instead of just following along?

I hope that we do something other than re-name the road.

Best wishes as you decide the best way forward.

Thank you
DWS

David W Schmidt
Work: 919.483.4467 (8.703.4467)
Mobile: 919.201.7025
eMail: dws17859@gsk.com
Address: GSK, 5 Moore Drive, E.3044, RTP, NC 27709

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

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

Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2004 2:10 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: proposal to rename Airport Road

To Mayor Foy and Members of the Town Council,

On May 6, 2004, I wrote to you to express my opposition to renaming Airport Road Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard. I have been keeping a close eye on this issue because the decision you make will have a significant financial impact on me. I have lived on Airport Road for many years and find the proposal to rename it very upsetting. I fully support honoring Dr. King, but I feel that it can be done in a better way than by renaming Airport Road.

I was deeply disturbed by the Council's naming committee proceeding with this proposal in spite of all of the opposition it has received in the community. It makes one feel as if those persons we have elected to public office are ignoring the wishes of its constituents. This is not a good feeling to have about the people who supposedly represent your best interests. I do not feel that the council is currently acting in my best interest, and I wanted to go on record as saying so. It is not fair to inconvenience a large number of people to satisfy the desires of a small group of people. I have a limited income and the personal costs of changing my stationery to a new address as well as my banking and other correspondence is not insignificant. I hope you will consider thoroughly the negative consequences to citizens that will result from the proposed change before making a final decision. The cost to many of us will be great, and as a taxpayer, I am opposed to renaming a street for any reason. I see doing so as a costly extravagance that is neither desired nor necessary.

Dr. King was a great American, and I urge you to find a better way to honor his memory than by renaming Airport Road. I feel very sure that he would not have wanted the dissension that this proposal has caused. Please reconsider your proposal to rename Airport Road.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Dana Deason
600 Airport Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

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

From: Doug Strader [mailto:DougStrader@nc.rr.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2004 12:16 AM

To: Town Council

Cc: Peter Winkler; John Cowell; Trish Vanstory; Sjouk Overdyks; Doug Brown

Subject: Renaming of Airport Road

To: Mayor and Town Council of Chapel Hill

RE: Renaming of Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard

We are writing to express our opposition to renaming Airport Road. It is our opinion that the name of this road remain the same and not be changed.

The Mill Creek complex, located at 700 Airport Road, includes 76 two bedroom units and 45 four bedroom units.

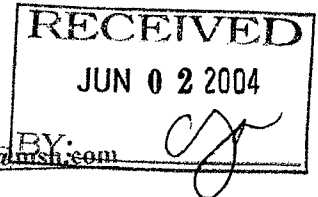
Respectfully,

Mill Creek Condominium Association Board of Directors
105 West Orange Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278
919 644-1000

Peter Winkler, President
Doug Strader, Secretary
John Cowell, Treasurer
Patricia Ann Ades Vanstory
Sjouk Overdyk

(M) - Copy to Mayor and Council

MARSHALL BURKES, Ph.D.
305 Long Meadows Road
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516
Fax: (919) 967-9959 E-Mail: marshallburkes@mrsh.com



Phone: (919) 967-9931

June 1, 2004

CONFIDENTIAL

Town Council
Chapel Hill

Dear Sir or Madam,

You claim to want to preserve Chapel Hill and to sustain its history and that names and places are important! Martin Luther King did NOT participate in "Top Down" enforcement to promote his name instead of deeds.

My timeline reading is:

Phase One: Airport Road, Columbia Street & other—destroyed history with or without airport.

Phase Two: MLK Boulevard—for a few years as the natives continue to refer to Airport Road.

Phase Three: Edith Wiggins Memorial Road—long term reward.

Surely, the Town Council has more important things to do for Chapel Hill and other ways to honor Dr. Martin Luther King that would enhance his real efforts.

This may be just a respite from abusing UNC-Chapel Hill, the real substance and lifeblood to Chapel Hill and your negative actions that increase real estate prices and harm Franklin Street.

Thank you for reading.

Marshall Burkes
Marshall Burkes

Enclosure: Article on Self Promotion

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

From: Betsy Malpass [mailto:betsymalpass@juno.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2004 1:55 PM

To: sally@sallygreene.org

Cc: sally@ibiblio.org; sally@metalab.unc.edu; Cal Horton; HRMalpass@aol.com

Subject: Renaming of Chapel Hill Streets

Sally:

I believe there is a world of difference between naming a new street and renaming an existing street. When renaming is considered, I think the rights, interests and concerns of the property owners and residents of that street--both private and business, as well as civic--should be paramount. Renaming a street without the residents' overwhelming consensus is a way to divide us, not unite us.

For example, my neighbor has a business on airport road, Herb Holland Real Estate, that requires her clients to be able to find her. Everyone--who has ever worked, lived or studied in Chapel Hill, knows where Airport Road is, and can easily find her office. It is not simply a matter of changing stationery, business cards, tax records, mailing addresses, leases, etc. A new name could confuse--and lose--clients. Not only that, but Chapel Hill does have a street already named after Martin Luther King, which would add to this confusion.

As has been pointed out before, lots of towns and cities have their MLK Boulevard; it has also been requested by some that a MLK Boulevard in Chapel Hill should be a major road connecting to an interstate. But the very fact that most MLK Boulevards are huge roads with lots of traffic make it a less desirable name for Airport Road. Chapel Hill has gone to great lengths to try to preserve a more village-like quality to the town, and Airport Road is big enough already--renaming it MLK Boulevard would make it sound industrial. I know, it would be sort of neat to have Chapel Hill's Town Hall on MLK Boulevard, but not so wonderful for residential property owners, which is what we own on Airport Road.

If a new road were being constructed--for example, to route all the increasing traffic coming up from south of Chapel Hill on 15-501 over to I-40 without passing right by the University and residential neighborhoods (dream on)--that would be an ideal candidate to name after Martin Luther King, although almost a cliché.

Dr. King was an amazing person, and of course we want his Dream to come true. We need to build understanding and consensus to move forward. I like Edith Wiggins' idea of a special room in the Chapel Hill Library where Dr. King's vision, accomplishments, and life long struggle to create a just world could be highlighted, and studied. I believe such a venture would be far more meaningful than just naming/renaming another road after him.

Betsy Malpass

Mr. Horton: Please forward this message to the other members of the Town Council. Thank you.

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

From: Ted Hobgood

Sent: Tuesday, June 01, 2004 1:25 PM

To: Town Council; Cal Horton

Subject: Airport Road comment

Eunice Brock telephoned to ask that I send the following sentence to Mayor and Council:

"Can't Chapel Hill be more unique in honouring Martin Luther King than having a road named after him?"

If need be, Ms. Brock can be contacted at 929-1032.

* * * * *

Ted Hobgood
Manager Receptionist
Town of Chapel Hill

George Small

From: Carmelia [c1gypsy@webtv.net]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2004 10:11 AM
To: Town Council; c1gypsy@webtv.net; letterch@heraldsun.com
Subject: Renaming Airport Road

I have previously expressed my objection to renaming Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard due to its lack of diversity but I wish to address some other important issues.

The cost of the conversion has been well stated and have been considered in the deliberations renaming Airport road so I won't go into that.

I live on Airport Road and I frequently travel from one end to another and I have observed that while there are residents and businesses of long standing, apartments housing students seem to predominate. It is just another busy, not particularly attractive access into a town.

Dr King deserves more than that

It is my understanding that over 650 roads in US. are named after Dr.

King. Chapel Hill is recognized as an innovative and unique community and officials whose goals are to make decisions to enhance the quality of life and reputation of the town to keep its individuality are elected. It is a disappointment that the mayor and council members have not directed more creativity and imagination in honoring Dr. King. In the development of Chapel Hill, there are several new buildings, parks and public places that would better serve the diversity of the community while bestowing a memorial to Dr. King and should be considered.

It has been pointed out that Airport Road is the main artery for entering Chapel Hill from Rt.40. Airport does not extend from Rt 40 to Franklin Street as some believe, being short a couple of blocks at each end. Is it the intent to change the name of the streets those blocks cover the ends as well? I can assure you that when travelers refer to their maps to exit Route 40 they are looking for Route 85, and not the name of a street and once exited are looking for landmarks or reading directions and pay little attention to the street's name.

Another point is that while making decisions effecting the growth and development of Chapel Hill, a watchful eye is kept on changes that affect the culture, environment, ambience and history of Chapel Hill.

Airport Road does not go back to the founding of the town, but it has been around long enough to be considered a part of Chapel Hill history.

In the U.S. , history and traditions are being destroyed daily. History and traditions unite people so let Airport Road, while not significantly historical, remain Airport Road.

Dr, King deserves more than an obscure short street as presently in Chapel Hill or a busy throughway. A more notable and prestigious site than another street is more suitable to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I'm surprised that the originators of the proposal changing the name of Airport Road didn't think of it.

Carmelia E Saxon

603 Airport Road

Apt. 2-D

Chapel Hill, NC 27514-5729

VOTE - It's as American as apple pie!

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

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

Sent: Monday, May 31, 2004 9:05 AM

To: Cal Horton

Subject: RE: Citizen Comment RE: Renaming of Airport Road

Dear Town Council and Mayor Foy,

My husband and I read about Ms. Wiggins alternative proposal for Airport Road and we wanted to express our wholehearted support for the idea. The original idea was well intentioned but did not take into account a number of factors.

MLK's name and legacy should unite rather than divide, and I believe Ms. Wiggins proposal will do just that. Those who opposed the original renaming idea were not opposed to the need or importance of honoring Dr. King nor did we oppose his life's work. I believe the opposition stemmed from the fact that many citizens are facing hard economic times and many are barely getting by. Airport Road residents, just like other people in our community, are fearful as they see the cost of everything increasing -- food 10% (review your own grocery bills; health insurance (if covered); Chapel Hill taxes (due to national and state cutbacks and the need to continue to invest in the community; and gasoline/energy. People feel cornered, and for those who have marginal jobs or have a new business, one more expense may be just too much and would be a real hardship. I was appalled that some who spoke in favor of the renaming made light of the cost to some Airport Road residents, as if \$4-\$5,000 was just pocket change! It may be to these individuals, and I'm happy for them that this is so, however they need to be aware that we still have many citizens still facing layoffs, lack of raises, and decreasing coverage for health care. Those running new small businesses face a host of obstacles. Given what some citizens are facing (potential economic ruin or varying degrees of hardship), the renaming seems unproductive and not essential.

I'm quite sure Dr. King would not have wanted to his name to result in hardship to anyone. That's why Ms. Wiggins idea is a brilliant proposal. The Library exhibit and road dedication would enrich everyone. This proposal, unlike the original one, has the potential to educate/change people. Nearly every citizen visits the library. Ms. Wiggins idea would show them more than just a name posted on a sign, it would present the history behind the name and Dr. King's ideas. That's what it's about. Thanks Ms. Wiggins!

I appreciate all the hard work you as Council Members and Mayor do for us - thank you,

Yvonne Duke
503 Westminster Dr.
Chapel Hill, NC

CCC

May 27, 2004

Ms. Carol Abernethy
Executive Assistant
Manager, Town of Chapel Hill
306 North Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Lady:

In response to the May 25th, 2004 Letter which Manager Horton directed you to write in answer to my letter of May 1, 2004, I wish to thank you for the information you sent. It was received today, May 27, 2004.

Thank you for including the May 24th, 2004 memorandum from the Naming Committee to the Mayor and Council - Agenda #6. Please note at the bottom of sheet 1 of that 5/24 memo a statement advising, "Attachment 3 includes all written and email correspondence received by the Town to date on the renaming issue."

I do not find the following:

- (1) My letter of April 14 to Mayor and Council;
- (2) My letter of April 24 to Manager for Mayor and Council;
- (3) My letter of May 1 to Manager;
- (4) Letter of April 14 from Faye Stinson.

I have also been told of letters from Jim Heavner, John J. Ratz and the Board of Directors of Adelaide Walters Apartments Complex.

Shouldn't it be corrected if none of the above were included in those attached as mentioned in Attachment 3 of Agenda #6? It makes me wonder if there may be other letters, of which I'm unaware, that may have been omitted also.

Will look forward to an early response.

Many thanks,

Claudia C. Cannady

Claudia C. Cannady
603 Airport Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

cc

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

From: Michael Quackenbush [mailto:mq@michaelquackenbush.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 27, 2004 7:25 PM
To: Town Council
Subject: Airport Road

Dear Mayor and Town Council

I'm aware that there is a proposal to rename Airport Road and feel that Chapel Hill is missing an opportunity - if we are determined to change the name - I suggest that we honor a local historical figure (Black, White, Asian...) rather than perpetuate the "malling" of America. Dr. King's significance as a great American figure of change notwithstanding, I believe that the distinction of communities is made by honoring their uniqueness and preserving their own history. Needless to say that Dr. King, JFK and other national figures have roads, hospitals, schools named in their honor. Chapel Hill needs to find a local figure whose name will deserve the tribute of the proposed renaming.

Michael Quackenbush

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

From: Steve Weiss [mailto:steveweiss45@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2004 2:57 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Airport Road

I've lived in Chapel Hill for 34 years, but I don't live or work on Airport Road, so my opinion shouldn't count for much, but here it is anyway.

I oppose changing the name of Airport Road for the following reasons.

1. Dr. King is clearly worthy of honor, but why a road? There's an MLK Rd. in hundreds (maybe thousands) of cities already. There's already one in Chapel Hill. Isn't there a more appropriate way to honor his memory? Maybe a school or a park or a municipal building.

2. I've been involved with two attempts to change the names of roads in town, both unsuccessful. In one case, some of my neighbors on Tinkerbelle Road thought the name was too frivolous. In the second, some office owners on Cloister Ct. thought the name to be too religious sounding. In both cases we were told that changing street names was very difficult, that the town does it very reluctantly, and that doing so required the unanimous agreement of the residents. Why is the name change for Airport being considered despite strong objection of some people who live and work there?

3. I like historic and straightforward names (although I would not have objected when Old Sewer Plant Road was renamed Plant Road.) When I was in college, the administrative building was called Administration Hall; the engineering building was called Engineering Hall. Then they renamed the buildings after former college presidents and everyone was lost. The Chapel Hill Airport is a part of the town history and even after the airport is gone, keeping the name would be a nice reminder of that history.

4. The cost and hassle of the name change needs to be considered. At a time when the town is considering cutting back services (or raising fees for those services) why take on an optional project that will cost money? Our neighborhood recently had its ZIP code changed. While the cost to me was very small, it was a lot of trouble to have to notify everyone who send me mail of the change. The junk mailers, however, figured out the change on their own, unfortunately.

Thanks for listening.

Steve Weiss

FREE pop-up blocking with the new MSN Toolbar - get it now!
<http://toolbar.msn.click-url.com/go/onm00200415ave/direct/01/>

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

From: Jay Koda [mailto:helpairportroad@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 26, 2004 1:27 PM

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

Subject: Airport Road in Chapel Hill

Dear Mayor Foy and Chapel Hill Town Council,

This road name change is truly not as simple as changing street signs, mailing address', letterhead, drivers licenses and phone book listings. Airport road is a hallmark of Chapel Hill and deserves more respect than it is being given. There is a history with the Horace Williams Airport. It was built for a very specific reason. It was donated for a very good purpose.

I have lived in Chapel Hill my entire life. I attended kindergarten - undergrad at UNC here. My school bus dropped kids off every day at Legion Road and Martin Luther King Street. I am very well aware of where this street is located and learned the significance of its name while in the wonderful Chapel Hill-Carrboro city school system.

I have no problem with a memorial for Dr. King. There were many good suggestions made at last night's meeting regarding other options. Maybe something a bit more educational than a road. How about something that promotes unity and higher education a little more than a road can do. Believe me, if you do change the name, the initial stir will gain publicity. But that effect will quickly dull. The hyperbole regarding this topic will disappear. Then we will all simply drive down a road that has had a name change.

Please put more thought and creativity into a memorial for a man that almost all seem to respect regardless of age, race, sex, religion or other affiliations.

CLH

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

From: Denny Cook [mailto:Denny.Cook@sas.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2004 12:42 PM
To: Town Council
Cc: Denny Cook
Subject: Last nights meeting

First, let me say that I thought I had a pretty exciting life until I heard about the naughty nocturnal activity in the cemetery. My imagination is running wild about that.

Second, I also am a huge fan of Biodiesel. Some other points on that. Biodiesel can be mixed with diesel so we can use existing diesel tanks for storage/transportation, ext. The infrastructure is already in place for biodiesel. It would also help to fill the gap of some of these tobacco farmers that apparently are hurting economically. And reduce our dependence on foreign oil. It is also not dangerous to transport. If you have a spill there is not a problem. Also, there is no modifications needed to a diesel engine and it burns clean. If there are any drawbacks to biodiesel I don't know of any.

Third, I was very bothered last night with some of the comments made about the renaming of Airport road.

I heard one individual refer to a statue of a confederate soldier as an "eye sore". He did not refer to any of the other statues except the confederate statue. Also, when citizens spoke against the proposal I heard a lot of snide comments around me coming from people who were in favor of the proposal. This does not sit well with me.

Forth,

I learned from the meeting that most if not all people on the renaming committee are for the name change. And, the only people that gave input were from the NAACP.

This has "agenda" written all over it and it is NOT reflective of a democratic process. I am of Native American descent and I wonder why no input was asked of any Native American groups. Or, how about holocaust survivor groups. God knows they have seen adversity in there life time. What about Hispanics? They now make up as large a percentage or our populous as African Americans. Why was input only taken from the NAACP?

Why does it absolutely have to be Airport Road? I think we should start from scratch and build a consensus that everyone can be proud of. The consensus last night was that everyone agreed that Dr. Martin Luthur King Jr. should be honored in some way. The disagreement was how he should be honored. So, lets find a solution in which most everyone can stand behind and be proud of. It also bothered me that after the discussions, it appeared as though at least two members didn't hear or digest anything that was said in opposition to this proposal. The counsel should not be in the business of projecting there ideals on others.

This is one of the issues that should go to the people. Since this is such an emotional issue to some, the only truly fair way to settle it is with a vote from the residents of Chapel Hill. The perception is that the counsel is trying to fly under the radar and sneak this through. True or not, that is the perception. Perception has a way of altering the truth. There is a list with 700 plus names on it speaking against the

renaming. This list is growing. There is no need to rush this. It is not time sensitive. The counsel members where democratically elected and this issue should also reflect what the majority of people want.

I am against the renaming of Airport road. However, if it where put on a ballot for all verifiable residents of chapel hill to vote on, and it passed, I would have a much easier time with it rather than having it rammed down my throat.

Thank you.
Denny Cook

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

From: Jay Koda [mailto:helpairportroad@yahoo.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2004 12:03 PM

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

Cc: Town Council

Subject: Help Save Airport Road

Dear Mayor Foy and Chapel Hill Town Council,

This road name change is truly not as simple as changing street signs, mailing address', letterhead, drivers licenses and phone book listings. Airport road is a hallmark of Chapel Hill and deserves more respect than it is being given. There is a history with the Horace Williams Airport. It was built for a very specific reason. It was donated for a very good purpose.

I have lived in Chapel Hill my entire life. I attended kindergarten - Undergrad at UNC here. My school bus dropped kids off every day at Legion Road and Martin Luther King Street. I am very well aware of where this street is located and learned the significance of its name while in the wonderful Chapel Hill-Carrboro city school system.

I have no problem with a memorial for Dr. King. There were many good suggestions made at last night's meeting regarding other options. Maybe something a bit more educational than a road. How about something that promotes unity and higher education a little more than a road can do. Believe me, if you do change the name, the initial stir will gain publicity. But that effect will quickly dull. The hyperbole regarding this topic will disappear. Then we will all simply drive down a road that has had a name change.

Please put more thought and creativity into a memorial for a man that almost all seem to respect regardless of age, race, sex, religion or other affiliations.

CLH

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

From: Rhonda Pace [mailto:rgpace@med.unc.edu]

Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2004 10:54 AM

To: Town Council

Subject: Airport Road

Please do not vote to change the name of Airport Road to MLK Blvd. I have lived on Airport Road for 7 years and it would be a huge undertaking to change all of my correspondence and financial information to a new address. Plus, it is a part of history for Airport Road to retain its name - to change it would make those of us who live in Chapel Hill lose a tie to those who were here before and have since moved on.

Please let me know if there is any way that I can help to keep this from happening.

Thanks!

Rhonda Pace

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

From: Scott Madry [mailto:scottmadry@mindspring.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 25, 2004 8:59 AM
To: Town Council
Subject: MLK dispute

Greetings, all.

After watching the very difficult and troubling discussion regarding the renaming of Airport road, I would like to propose an alternative.

I think renaming Airport road is the wrong thing to do. It is only a road, a piece of concrete and asphalt that people really do not give great thought to, no do they actually have any connection to, or derive any lasting benefit from it. The goal of having a major road be named after Dr. King seems to me to be more reactive and less proactive, we are simply following the herd, and creating great divisiveness within our community in the process.

I was very impressed by the statement of Ed Harrison that the process was not "Chapel Hill", and I agree, but in a somewhat different sense. Why should our diverse and (hopefully) progressive community simply follow the leader and do what other towns and cities have done, and then feel that we have actually accomplished something worth our efforts? I think this is a very insufficient means of honoring a man that I admire greatly. If we think of what he wrote and spoke, what he actually DID with his life, how he led by example and sacrificed his body for his beliefs, how he walked unarmed into the lion's den again and again for the truth as he saw it....how does having a green sign on a strip of asphalt do him honor?

I propose a very different, much more "Chapel Hill" path. I served on the Conceptual Planning Committee for the Southern Community Park. I propose that either the entire park, or a significant feature within the park, be named in honor of Dr. King, to honor his life and example, and the hope of a better world for which he gave all he had. I think that having the meadow, or a fountain, or even the entire park named for Dr. King would be a much more appropriate honor. Let us honor his memory with a place where people of all stripes and shades actually COME TOGETHER to refresh their minds, bodies, and even souls, rather than a hot strip of asphalt that people give no thought to unless there is a traffic delay. We would have the public art commission create an appropriate feature in his honor, but preferably not a statue. Something like a fountain with benches, something quiet, contemplative, and peaceful, perhaps with a few of his many wonderful quotations.

I think simply doing what others have done, change the little green signs on something that we pay no real attention to, something that we have no real connection to, is unworthy of our community and unworthy of the ideals Dr. King tried so hard to live. I cannot pretend to think what he would say about all this, but I truly believe in my heart that renaming a street is an empty and hollow gesture, done in the imitation of others without true meaning to us as individuals, or benefit for our community.

Let us leave airport road as it is, and move ahead together and create something truly "Chapel Hill", truly worthy of our community, truly worthy

of the life Dr. King tried so hard to live and the message for which he was willing to give his life. Let us come together and create a quiet, contemplative space in the Southern Community Park in his honor.

Perhaps, if can do this; someday the people who were so angry and frustrated by this issue last night can come together at the opening ceremony and hold hands, sing, and then simply sit and listen to the sound of the wind and the water and think about what it means to be human, and be proud that Chapel Hill really is a different place.

Respectfully,

Scott Madry
402 Morgan Creek Road
Chapel Hill

-Scott Madry, Ph.D.
-Research Associate Professor
-Department of Anthropology
-University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

-tel 919-932-7844/929-1795
-fax 919-932-7844
-email madrys@email.unc.edu
-web <http://www.informatics.org/anthromadry.html>

"My remarks are designed to reveal my ignorance in as many different fields as may be conveniently possible in the space allotted me." -E. J. Kennedy in the opening paragraph of "The character of Humanist Philology." 1971.

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

From: M.E. Ross [mailto:markeymarque@hotmail.com]

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2004 6:07 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: airport road renaming

Wouldn't it make more sense to name one of the new schools after MLK? I think from what little I know of the man he was more interested in education than roads. And you save all the businesses etc all the hassle of a name change in the middle of the year. Does anyone on council have any common sense?

Learn to simplify your finances and your life in Streamline Your Life from MSN Money. <http://special.msn.com/money/0405streamline.armx>

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

From: vaughan frey [mailto:mvl2frey@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2004 6:01 PM
To: Town Council
Cc: Town Council
Subject: PROPOSAL TO RENAME AIRPORT ROAD

Maria Frey
8301 Merin Rd. #21
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

To Whom it may concern :

I strongly oppose the proposal to rename Airport Road.
The name "Airport Road" is neither offensive nor
inappropriate. There is no good reason to change it.

Considering the cost and effort of businesses and the
confusion arising from changing the name of a major
road, I think there are more important public needs
that warrant our attention.

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<http://messenger.yahoo.com/>

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

From: Dr. Nona I. Breeland [mailto:nibdds@mindspring.com]
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2004 3:57 PM
To: Sally Greene
Cc: Town Council
Subject: Re: MLK/Airport

Ms. Greene,

The decision that you make has great financial impact on this community. I believe that it is fiscally irresponsible to rename any street that effects so many citizens, when Dr. King could be honored in other ways.

Nona Breeland
nibdds@mindspring.com
1506 E. Franklin Street, Suite 204
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-967-1776

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

From: "Sally Greene" <sally@ibiblio.org>
To: <nibdds@mindspring.com>
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2004 1:08 PM
Subject: MLK/Airport

> Dear Ms. Breeland,
>
> Thanks for your thoughts. I do appreciate that cost is one factor. But
> my own conclusion, after thinking about the matter, is that the benefit
> is worth these costs. You can read more about how my thoughts have
> evolved in a speech I gave on the subject recently:
>
> www.sallygreene.org/mlk.htm
>
> Since giving that talk, I've had some further thoughts.
>
> For one thing, I have learned that Dr. King is a local hero of an
> important sort: he came here in May 1960, three months after the
> Greensboro drug store sit-in, to rally the troops. it was quite an
> energizing moment. He spoke to over 400 people in Northside, and then
> the next night to a large mixed audience in Hill Hall. One woman asked
> how he could propose disobeying the laws of the state. He said,
> because he answered to the moral law of the universe! Everyone
> interviewed in the retrospective story that Kirk Ross wrote in the
> Chapel Hill News in 1998 who had been there recalled almost every
> moment of his magical visit.
>
> Another thing that has occurred to me in the past few days: under Jim
> Crow laws, blacks had a hard time just making a road trip. They had to
> pack their own food, even their own toilet paper, for they didn't know
> if they would find a restaurant that would serve them or even a gas
> station where they could use the bathroom. This was the recollection of
> law professor Charles Daye the other day at a Brown v. Board of Ed.
> program in Raleigh. He was 10 in 1954 and this is life in Durham County
> as he remembers it.

>
> Then came Dr. King and the bus boycott and the push for the public
> accommodations law and suddenly buses and cars were bringing
> (perilously, even then) hundreds of thousands of people of all colors
> to Washington to the mall in 1963 to hear him talk.
>
> To take a broader sweep, think about the Underground Railroad. Think
> about Harriet Jacobs who had to sneak out of Edenton by water.
>
> Mobility, the freedom to travel the public roads without fear and with
> assurance that you could get what you needed--these were basic goals
> for Dr. King. Thus, I can't think of much of a better way to honor Dr.
> King than with a road naming. Surely this was a point not lost when the
> other 650-some King streets were named--only in our case we can do it
> right, by making it a major artery.
>
> I realize that you might not agree with me. At the least, I hope you
> can respect my opinion and the reasons behind it.
>
> Sincerely yours,
> Sally Greene
>
>

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

From: asnavely@bellsouth.net [mailto:asnavely@bellsouth.net]

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2004 1:24 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: renaming of Aiport Road

Mayor Foy and Town Council --

I would like to suggest that the renaming of Airport Road to Martin Luther King Blvd. is NOT an appropriate action to honor the legacy of this important individual in our nation's history. While many towns and cities have streets named MLK, I think a strong argument can be made that this has lost any relevant meaning, and has in fact become a cliché.

I feel that a more appropriate gesture would to name the facilities planned for the public parking lots #2 and #5 for Dr. King -- areas of public focus, central location, and adjacent to the important Chapel Hill neighborhood of Northside.

Thank you for providing an opportunity for citizen input.

Alan N. Snavely
asnavely@bellsouth.net
919.960.9600

363 Wesley Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

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

From: Dr. Nona I. Breeland [mailto:nibdds@mindspring.com]

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2004 12:35 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: renaming of Airport Road for Dr. King

Importance: High

Dear Mayor Foy and Honored Council members,

I am opposed to renaming Airport Road or the other alternative roads for anyone.

I have great respect and admiration for Dr. Martin Luther King; however, the costs and inconvenience to the citizens who reside and conduct business on or around these roads is too great. Changing addresses for mail, business, home and directional purposes is extremely costly to those of us who have stationery and directional maps designed and printed in bulk. Although I do not reside or have my place of business directly on Airport Road or the other roads under consideration, I use those major roads on my directional maps that are mailed to my patients. It is a very costly issue to require all of the citizens effected by street renaming to make these changes.

In addition, the costs of street sign replacements is astounding.

If Dr. King were still living, I believe that he would rather see his name be associated with a youth program or an educational fund that would actually provide some good to the citizens.

I urge you to vote NO for the renaming of our streets in Chapel Hill.

Sincerely,

Nona Breeland
nibdds@mindspring.com
1506 E. Franklin Street, Suite 204
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-967-1776

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

From: Elena Elms [mailto:elms@email.unc.edu]

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2004 9:01 AM

To: Town Council

Subject: Renaming of Airport Rd.

As a 20+ year resident of Airport Rd., I strongly object to the proposal to rename the street to honor Dr. Martin Luther King. For the hundreds of residents and businesses, it will be a major inconvenience and expense, not to mention the tens of thousands of dollars of tax-payer dollars spent to change street and highway signs.

I think it would be better to honor Dr King with a new high school or town recreational facility named for him. To associate his name with a place where people of all races and backgrounds will mingle in a positive manner is much more appropriate than yet another road named for him. Since the road name would be too long for addresses, it would be shortened to "MLK" blvd. and defeat the purpose of his name being remembered. And what about the street already named for him? Will it be changed, causing more disruption, or stay the same, and cause confusion for emergency calls trying to find these addresses? Do the residents of that street wish to have Dr King's name removed from THEIR address?

I think the town needs to think long and hard about changing the name of such a historical thoroughfare just because that was the first proposal. There are so many other ways to remember Dr King--and other more local civil rights leaders, than renaming a street for him

Elena Elms

408 Airport Rd

elms@email.unc.edu

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

From: Vivian Olkin [mailto:inscoop@mail.arczip.com]

Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2004 3:03 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Airport Rd. renaming

Hello,

I don't remember is I already wrote about renaming Airport Rd. I would love to honor Martin Luther king but not by changing the name of an old road that is on the maps and where many businesses exist. All the businesses and households would need to go to the expense and inconvenience of changing stationery, business cards, notifying customers and friends, etc. I'd rather see signs up saying that this road is in honor of MLK.

Airport Rd. has existed for years. Changing the name will confuse all the visitors to Chapel Hill.

I would also like to see something that honors people in our African American community who have helped create changes right here, like the Hank Anderson park. There must be other such opportunities.

Thank you,
Vivian Olkin
owner, the Inside Scoop, Inc.
764 Airport Rd.

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

From: Lizanne Connelly [mailto:polaris@us.ibm.com]

Sent: Saturday, May 22, 2004 12:00 PM

To: Town Council; editor@nando.com; letterch@heraldsun.com

Subject: Commentary on proposed name change for Airport Road - citizen input

To the Chapel Hill Town Council Members:

I'd like to comment on the proposed name change for Airport Road, by illustration in the following true story.

When I was in college, a large new stadium was built in Ames for Iowa State University, my alma mater. There was considerable discussion about what to name the new stadium. One of my contemporaries found an old story about a football player named Jack Trice. Trice was the first black player on the team at ISU. He was killed during the course of a football game and died on the field. No one was charged with a crime. It was a tragic event. A lingering stench continued to surround this event - was the killing in fact racially motivated or just an accident? Before the game, Jack had received death threats and recorded his prayer for safety in his diary the night before the game. We'll never know the truth of what happened on the field that day. However, the student body was nearly unanimous in the opinion that the new stadium should be named in honor of the only ISU student ever to have died while playing football. Not surprisingly, the university administration was not yet ready to name the stadium after a black player. So, at the time it was decided to call the structure 'Cyclone Stadium' but the grass on the ground was called 'Jack Trice Field.' During broadcasts of the games, Trice Field was mentioned so often that today the name has been changed to 'Jack Trice Stadium.' I couldn't be more proud of the citizens of Iowa for this evolution in thinking.

Somehow, I think if the stadium were called 'Martin Luther King, Jr. Stadium' it would be meaningless in comparison to the recognition of the local struggle for equality surrounding Jack Trice.

There are many black heroes and a lot of history involving the civil rights movement. Most likely there's some here in Chapel Hill also. Please take this into consideration when deciding on a new name. Select a name which will honor and respect our own, local, history.

Thanks for considering my views,
Lizanne Connelly
102 Grainger Lane
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-932-1822

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

From: Yvonne Duke [mailto:yduke@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2004 5:49 PM
To: Cal Horton
Subject: RE: Renaming of Airport Road

Dear Council and Mayor,

I recently received the Agenda #6 memo and the naming committee report regarding Airport Road. With my town taxes slated to increase, I do not think the Town should spend money on a project like this that is unnecessary and that (probably) the majority of businesses people and residents on Airport Road do not want. It certainly would be fairer if those individuals could vote on the issue. It would be a different matter if Airport Road residents presented a petition for renaming, but that is not what has occurred.

I'm disappointed the naming committee did not recommend the least expensive and least disruptive option on the list. Given the need to increase taxes, I think this is a wasteful idea. Instead, please use the funds that might be spent for this project on essential services (fire/police/infrastructure).

Best regards,

Yvonne Duke
503 Westminster Dr.
Chapel Hill

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

From: Yvonne Duke
To: Cal Horton
Sent: 5/10/04 8:08:04 PM
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,

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

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

Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2004 9:12 PM

To: Town Council

Subject: Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr

We are grateful for the suggestion to rename Airport Road in the name of Martin Luther King, Jr because it reminds of of a useful means to honor him, but we feel that this is not an appropriate way to recognize this great leader.

We want to add our support to those who prefer to honor Dr. King and the civil rights struggle by naming a public school for him. East Chapel Hill High School would be an excellent choice. Perhaps an even better alternative would be the third high school now being planned.

Our public schools represent a fundamental community institution and offer a far more fitting opportunity to show our respect for Dr. King and his mission.

Thanks for your consideration of this proposal,

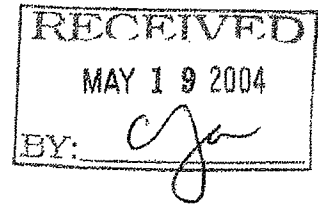
Ray and Pat Carpenter

MAY 1974

Subject: FW: Phone Call FW: Citizen's view on renaming Airport Road

Ms. Jeanie Arnell called representing Christian Science Church at 1300 Airport Road. She stated that there are other ways to honor Dr. King and requested not to rename Airport Road, it would be a hardship on everyone.

Ted Hobgood
Manager Receptionist
Town of Chapel Hill



Adelaide Walters Apartments
603 Airport Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
May 18, 2004

Mayor and Town Council
Town Of Chapel Hill
306 N. Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Adelaide Walters Apartments located at 603 Airport Road. Adelaide Walters Apartments is a Section 8 HUD housing facility for low income older adults and the Board of Directors oversees its management.

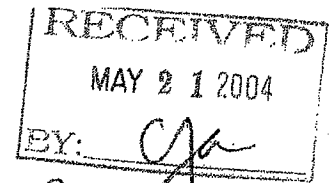
The purpose of this letter is voice the Board's concern with the proposed name change of Airport Road. Because of the complexity of communication which HUD oversight of the property entails and because the residents depend upon social security and other government income support, an address change would have a profound impact on the residents and management.

The Board of Directors is enthusiastic in its support of naming a prominent landmark in honor of Dr. King but would encourage the Mayor and Council to consider an alternative to a name change of Airport Road.

Sincerely,

Jean E. Kincade, President
Board of Directors

John J. Ratz
700 Airport Road -- Condo Unit A1
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
(H) 919-967-6072 (Cell) 919-302-1069



*Scan to M+TC
5/21/04*

Date: May 16, 2004

To: Chapel Hill Town Council
306 N. Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27516
Tel: 919-968-2743

RE: **Proposal to Rename Airport Road**

Dear Council Members,

I just received a notification that on May 24th you will be discussing a proposed name change of Airport Road to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. I am strongly **opposed** to this action.

Prior to listing my reasons for opposition, I want to highlight a key piece of information that you omitted from this notice. Specifically, the individual / organization that proposed this change ... and the "political" reason that the Chapel Hill Town Council decided to spend my taxpayer dollars to print and mail these notices. ***How much money was spent on this notification?***

This "notice" expenditure is only the downpayment on the County, City, Business and Individual costs involved in renaming this road. And ... for what purpose?

Reasons for opposition ...

- ◆ Having a Martin Luther King Jr. roadway is hardly a novel idea. There are thousands around the country, two of which are in Durham and Raleigh.
- ◆ While I am a strong admirer of Dr. King, he had no direct impact on Chapel Hill's history.
- ◆ Horace Williams Airport, hence Airport Road, has been an important Chapel Hill feature, certainly enhancing the area's medical mobility and critical response reputation.
- ◆ If UNC's expansion to Chapel Hill North forces the closing of Horace Williams, Airport Road will remain as a historical legacy.
- ◆ The County and City will incur multi-thousands in expenses -- ranging from road signs to real estate maps, tax collection address updates, police and fire department updates, voter registration records, and a myriad of other expenses that I'm not even aware of. ***I'm hoping that the Town Council is cognizant of these other cost implications.***
- ◆ Businesses located on Airport Road will have to update their business stationary, advertising info, WEB sites, licenses / business registrations, etc. etc. etc.

- ◆ As an individual, I will have to ...
 - ◇ Update governmental agencies -- Federal IRS ... NC Department of Revenue ... NC Department of Motor Vehicles (license and registration)
 - ◇ Legal Fees -- Home Deed Address ... Mortgage Note 1st and 2nd Changes
 - ◇ Home / Auto ownership -- Home and Auto Insurance changes
 - ◇ Creditors -- Credit Cards ... Utilities ... Bank Loans
 - ◇ Personal Contacts -- At least 60 "Change of Address" cards

For this no-benefit symbolism, especially when governmental and personal budgets are tight, can the Chapel Hill Town Council justify these frivolous across-the-board governmental / mandated personal expenses? *Please ... regain your touch with reality.*

To reiterate, I want to know -- who has manipulated the Town Council to push this issue? This is a simple question? I expect a direct, but comprehensive, answer!!

Also, please include the costs (or estimated costs) for the following:

- ⇒ Postcard Mailings "regarding name change" meeting May 24th
- ⇒ Future County / City costs to develop / implement this change
- ⇒ County / City signs / record updates / tax updates, etc.
- ⇒ Airport Road businesses -- Number -- Cost per Business
- ⇒ Airport Road residences -- Number -- Cost per Residence
- ⇒ TOTAL COST -- Governmental / Private Business and Residence
- ⇒ Town Council "Cost Justification" -- Overall Cost vs. Benefits Derived ??

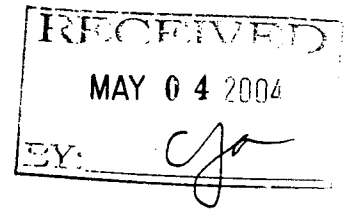
Sincerely,



John J. Ratz

cc: Kevin C. Foy, Mayor, Chapel Hill
891 Willow Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (B) 919-942-7002 (H) 919-932-1925

(M)



CCC

May 1, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Horton:

Since writing my letter of April 24th (to you, Mayor and Council) I have read your April 19th memorandum (to Mayor and Council) which was given me by a lady who attended that meeting.

In that memo under "Background" I found answers to some of my questions. It reminded me of the petition from the people concerned about University officials seeing Council Members and allegedly discussing issues coming before Council from the University! I refer to the statement, "Between those meetings, Committee members met informally with representatives of the local NAACP Chapter to discuss the renaming request and to confirm their understanding of it." Doesn't sound like others of our citizens were consulted.

Further down in that memo, identified "Renaming Procedures," I'd like to have a copy of the "memorandum" that was sent from Town staff to the committee, highlighting key points of the State renaming process."

There are also other "Attachments" referred to at the end of your memorandum. You must have thought the information would prove beneficial to the Committee in making their decision. I'd be grateful if you would make those items available to me also adding any additional correspondence from citizens since that date.

And, I'm still awaiting my copy of the information you are mailing out to those citizens who reside on or near Airport Road.

Many thanks,

Claudia

Claudia C. Cannady
603 Airport Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

cc

(M)

(M+T)

RECEIVED
APR 26 2004
BY: *cja*
SCANTO M+T/C

CCC

April 24, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Horton:

When I first learned of the proposal to rename Airport Road my first thought was, "Why not change Columbia Street? It really goes through both the Town and the University." I also believe South Road would be much better than Airport Road. Other alternatives have been recommended and considered though Airport Road seems to be the only one of interest to the Naming Committee or the membership of the NAACP. Naming Committee members indicate they considered others but my question is - "To what extent?" I'd like to know whether or not NAACP members participated in the Committee meeting. Were there any other citizens in attendance? In similar experiences it has been deemed necessary to have all citizens' opinions considered - and RACE SHOULD NOT play a role in the decision making.

And, I find it regretful that the proposal to rename Airport Road reportedly played a role in the last election. I wasn't aware of it then but learned of it in the April 19th, 2004 Public Hearing. It appears to me that the determination to rename Airport Road had already been made before I learned of their effort to do so!

As I've stated previously-I would like an appropriate memorial named to honor Dr. King. I believe changing the name of Airport Road would incur far more wrath among local citizens than give due honor to a person we should honor. Actually, to me, it would be in contradiction of all for which Dr. King stood.

I would appreciate it if you would share my thoughts and questions with the mayor and members of council by giving them each a copy of my letter.

Many thanks,

Claudia C. Cannady
Claudia C. Cannady
603 Airport Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

cc

RECEIVED
APR 16 2004
Paul

CCC

Town of Chapel Hill Elected Officials

Dear People:

As a child I rode in my grandfather's buggy up and down Airport Road -- a narrow dirt road with two wheel ruts down the middle. That road and I are about the same age and it has been a part of my life. I'm now 78 and I think it should remain Airport Road. Our local history should be maintained and Airport Road is very definitely a part of local history. Buildings in the area came about long after the development of the airport.

My civil rights efforts--community volunteer works--have been rewarded with recognition from citizens and organizations. Hanging on my wall is a plaque honoring me for "community service to humanity by word and deed." It is "The Martin Luther King, Jr. Citizenship Award" presented me Jan. 14, 1996 by the University/Community Martin Luther King, Jr. Planning Corporation, Inc.-- What an honor!

I've never thought the street named for Dr. King gave him due recognition and I would like another more appropriate memorial named in his honor. However, I do not believe that Airport Road should be changed.

Please select another street, or an appropriate building to be named to honor Dr. King. I very much wish for him to be duly honored and would encourage you to make it happen -- but not Airport Road.

Many thanks,

Claudia C. Cannady

Claudia C. Cannady
603 Airport Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

ccc

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