

59

Joyce Smith

From: Cal Horton
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2004 7:56 AM
To: Council Member Bill Strom ; Council Member Cam Hill; Council Member Dorothy Verkerk ; Council Member Ed Harrison ; Council Member Jim Ward ; Council Member Jim Ward (W) ; Council Member Mark Kleinschmidt ; Council Member Sally Greene ; Mayor Kevin C. Foy (TCH) ; Mayor pro tem Edith Wiggins
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Hefin; Carol Abernethy; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Owen Franklin; Ralph Karpinos; Sonna Loewenthal ; Toni Pendergraph
Subject: FW: Battle Branch Trail & Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan

FYI

.....
W. Calvin Horton, Town Manager
306 North Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516
919-968-2744
919-969-2063 FAX
919-967-2626 Home
calhorton@townofchapelhill.org

Note: Mail sent to or received from the Town Manager is subject to publication under the provisions of the North Carolina open records law.

From: Jim Alexander [mailto:jrhysalexander@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, September 18, 2004 8:38 AM
To: Town Council
Cc: und@law.duke.edu
Subject: Battle Branch Trail & Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan

For the Mayor and Council:

I am a bicyclist, walker and resident of the Greenwood area.

My family and I oppose the "improvement" (paving) of the Battle Branch Trail. We use it often and enjoy the serenity and freedom it provides. Other paved trails are actually dangerous for pedestrians and dogs...you have to be constantly on the alert for high speed bikes and rollerbladers, which degrades the experience and duplicates a streetside sidewalk atmosphere.

We encourage you to leave the trail as it is and persue other routes for high speed thru bikers.

Thank you,

Jim & Linda Alexander
210 Stagecoach Road

9/20/2004

(10)

Dear Council,

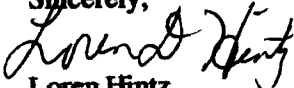
Sept. 20, 2004

I hope Town Council will support and implement the Bike and Ped Action Plan. As Transportation Board Liaison I was able to attend most of the Task Force meetings and I am very pleased with the final product. I believe this is a missing piece in our transportation puzzle. I think you will find a number of parts that can and should be implemented this year. The plan reiterates some of the ideas presented to Council by the T-Board in the past to connect neighborhoods and to improve intersections.

I'd like to mention several ideas which may not be specifically mentioned in the plan but I hope Council is familiar with and will support.

1. Can the Town reverse some of the recent DOT changes. I have noticed that recent repaving projects have made travel lanes wider, narrowed bike lanes or shoulders, created long strips of center turn lanes and created intersections with 2 or 3 turn lanes. All of this makes it tougher for cyclists on the road and pedestrians trying to cross the street.
2. Where trees already exist please have the sidewalks wind under the trees. Where trees are missing please plant shade trees. In other words don't replicate the sidewalk design on Mason Farm Rd by the new family Housing.
3. Please note that one of the missions of our Greenways is to connect parts of town.
4. Connectivity is very important thus the intersection studies are vital. The current DOT policy to require a lot of pedestrian traffic before making intersection improvements is not helpful.
5. Too many intersections in Chapel Hill have only 2 or 3 crosswalks. There needs to always be 4 crosswalks at the intersections.
6. The town should do more to encourage the installation of bike racks and sidewalks at older business. For example the Estes Post Office lacks a bike rack as do the older shopping centers.
7. Given the state proposals to turn Fordham Boulevard into a six lane highway I hope special attention will be given to package 1. If we don't make efforts now to connect neighborhoods we will only be able to reach parts of town by car.
8. With increased sidewalks and bike facilities come greater responsibilities to maintain them. Personally I think we the property owners need to make sure sidewalks and sides of roads are clear. In other words sidewalks and bike lanes should not have piled up leaves, brush, snow, overgrown grass, overhanging limbs, trash cans etc. blocking them. Could the town manager remind the public the procedures for reporting problems with sidewalks?

Sincerely,



Loren Hintz
804 Kings Mill Rd

61

Joyce Smith

From: Carol Abernethy on behalf of Cal Horton
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2004 5:20 PM
To: 'Joan Guilkey'
Cc: Bruce Heffin; Cal Horton; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Toni Pendergraph; Bill Strom; Cam Hill; Dorothy Verkerk ; Ed Harrison; 'Edith Wiggins'; 'Jim Ward'; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Mark Kleinschmidt ; Sally Greene (w)
Subject: Citizen Comment RE: Sept 20 Public hearing

A copy of your email message has been forwarded to each Council Member.

*Carol Abernethy
Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
Town of Chapel Hill*

From: Joan Guilkey [mailto:jguilkey@nc.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2004 10:58 AM
To: Town Council
Subject: Sept 20 Public hearing

Dear Mayor and Council--

Please oppose the paving of ANY area of Battle Branch Woods. Bike paths are wonderful and I use them, but we do not need a paved one in these woods. The trail should be maintained as a natural-looking path so as not to disturb native plants and preserve this special environment. Paved bike routes beside our streets and highways are safe and serve us well and should be expanded where needed to facilitate cross town foot/bike traffic. This approach enhances our access and minimizes disruption/destruction of property. What Battle Park does need is a general clean-up and removal of underbrush and stagnant water pools that attract mosquitoes. I may volunteer to help, and I applaud the plan to remove all non-native plants. The Park is contiguous to several historic districts and, like them, should be preserved, not developed. Thank you.

Joan Guilkey
Battle Park Neighbor,
Member Historic District Commission
967-6703

9/17/2004

62

Joyce Smith

From: Cal Horton
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2004 8:06 AM
To: Council Member Bill Strom ; Council Member Cam Hill; Council Member Dorothy Verkerk ; Council Member Ed Harrison ; Council Member Jim Ward ; Council Member Jim Ward (W) ; Council Member Mark Kleinschmidt ; Council Member Sally Greene ; Mayor Kevin C. Foy (TCH) ; Mayor pro tem Edith Wiggins
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Heflin; Carol Abernethy; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Owen Franklin; Ralph Karpinos; Sonna Loewenthal ; Toni Pendergraph
Subject: FW: Battle Branch Greenway Trail.

FYI

W. Calvin Horton, Town Manager
306 North Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516
919-968-2744
919-969-2063 FAX
919-967-2626 Home
calhorton@townofchapelhill.org

Note: Mail sent to or received from the Town Manager is subject to publication under the provisions of the North Carolina open records law.

From: MPreslar@aol.com [mailto:MPreslar@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2004 10:06 PM
To: Town Council
Subject: Battle Branch Greenway Trail.

Mayor,
Members of the Council
Town of Chapel Hill
Chapel hill, NC 27514

As a resident of Chapel Hill, having lived not far from Battle Park for 54 years, I enjoy its uniqueness and deplore current efforts to pave pathways as a means of providing continuity with other sections of the Greenway route. You have a choice of not accepting the expedient statements of proponents that it "can be done in some acceptable and consistent with other codes" type comments, and instead, ask -- how? There has been many things the park has had to live with such as noise and other pollutants, but in this case -- you have a choice! This is a trust to be honored, not only for your benefactor but for all the critters in the park.

Mack J. Preslar
107 Howell Lane
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919 942-6486

9/20/2004

63

Cal Horton

From: Carol Abernethy on behalf of Cal Horton
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2004 11:50 AM
To: 'Dale Purves'
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Heflin; Cal Horton; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Toni Pendergraph; Bill Strom; Cam Hill; Dorothy Verkerk ; Ed Harrison; 'Edith Wiggins'; 'Jim Ward'; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Mark Kleinschmidt ; Sally Greene (w)
Subject: Citizen Comment RE: Battle Woods

A copy of your email message has been forwarded to each Council Member.

Carol Abernethy
Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
Town of Chapel Hill

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

From: Dale Purves [mailto:purves@neuro.duke.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2004 9:06 AM
To: Town Council
Cc: und@law.duke.edu
Subject: Battle Woods

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

I am writing to express my very strong opposition to a paved "transportation" corridor where the natural trail now runs through Battle Woods. We live close enough to Battle Woods to walk this beautiful path several times a year. Despoiling it with a paved bike road would ruin one of Chapel Hill's greatest assets. I hope you will reject this unwise proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Dale Purves

--

Dale Purves, M.D.

Director, Center for Cognitive Neuroscience, Levine Sciences Research Center (Rm B203) Box 90999 Duke University Durham NC 27708

email =purves@neuro.duke.edu

phone =919-684-6122

fax=919-681-0815

website=

<http://www.purveslab.net>

64

Joyce Smith

From: Carol Abernethy on behalf of Cal Horton
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2004 5:20 PM
To: 'Benjamin Brodey'
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Heflin; Cal Horton; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Toni Pendergraph; Bill Strom; Cam Hill; Dorothy Verkerk ; Ed Harrison; 'Edith Wiggins'; 'Jim Ward'; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Mark Kleinschmidt ; Sally Greene (w)
Subject: Citizen Comment RE: Battle Park Woods

A copy of your email message has been forwarded to each Council Member.

*Carol Abernethy
Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
Town of Chapel Hill*

From: Benjamin Brodey [mailto:bbrodey@telesage.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2004 12:31 PM
To: Town Council
Cc: und@law.duke.edu
Subject: Battle Park Woods

Dear members of the Town Council,

I am writing as a resident of the Gimghoul neighborhood and as a member of the Chapel Hill Historic Commission to express my strong opposition to the concept of paving the trail through Battle Park. I believe that pavement would disrupt the natural beauty of the park. In addition, as a cycling enthusiast I see essentially no benefit to paving the trail.

I do believe that a small amount of soft landscaping and a few additional wood bridges would achieve the goals of promoting bicycle travel with minimal environmental disruption and at a fraction of the cost.

Sincerely,

BBB

Benjamin B. Brodey, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Research
Telesage, Inc.
716 Gimghoul Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Tel: (919) 942-8849
Fax: (919) 942-0036
bbrodey@telesage.com

65

Cal Horton

From: Carol Abernethy on behalf of Cal Horton
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2004 5:12 PM
To: 'Bob Buysse'
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Hefin; Cal Horton; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Toni Pendergraph; Bill Strom; Cam Hill; Dorothy Verkerk ; Ed Harrison; 'Edith Wiggins'; 'Jim Ward'; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Mark Kleinschmidt ; Sally Greene (w)
Subject: Citizen Comment RE: Proposed "off road " bicycle corridor

A copy of your email message has been forwarded to each Council Member.

*Carol Abernethy
Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
Town of Chapel Hill*

From: Bob Buysse [mailto:BUYSSSE@nc.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2004 12:10 PM
To: Town Council
Cc: Friends.of.Battle.Park.Woods.und@Law.duke.edu
Subject: Proposed "off road " bicycle corridor

Dear Sirs

Please know that we as homeowners in the Gimghoul Historic District strongly oppose the proposed paving of an "off road " bicycle path through the heart of Battle Park Woods where the existing natural trail now runs.

Please help us all to preserve this wonderful resource.

Best Regards

Bob and Virginia Buysse
720 Gimghoul Rd
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Buysse@nc.rr.com

67

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools
Lincoln Center, 750 S. Merritt Mill Road
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516-2881

The Board of Education

Telephone: (919)967-8211 Ext. 226
FAX: (919) 933-4560

Neil G. Pedersen
Superintendent

Elizabeth Carter
Chair, Board of Education

September 20, 2004

Mayor Kevin Foy
306 N. Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

Dear Mayor Foy:

Thank you for providing the Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan. The district has long supported and had as a priority the development of safe walk zones with pedestrian and bicycle access to our schools.

We are therefore extremely pleased and appreciative that the proposed plan identifies much-needed sidewalk improvements and extensions near many of our schools as First Priority and Second Priority facilities. Crossing improvements identified in the plan at North Estes, Homestead Road, Weaver Dairy near East Chapel Hill High, and Seawell School Road are significant as well and we appreciate their inclusion. Finally, the bicycle lanes and routes which are noted throughout the plan will provide students and citizens with additional means of safe access to schools.

Section 4.2.5 of the proposed plan outlines the Safe Routes to School program. As you know, Ephesus School is piloting the program for the district, and we are excited and enthused to participate, and to be a partner in the Active Living By Design project. The district's Strategic Plan, adopted in 2002, identifies "a healthy lifestyle" for all students as a goal, and SR2S supports our efforts to increase physical activity. Coincidentally, student fitness is an issue the School Board will address this fall as well.

The School Board values opportunities to work together with the Town of Chapel Hill and we commend the Town and all those who worked on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan for their excellent work.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Mason Carter, Chair



Lisa Stuckey, Vice-Chair



Just Clerk copy

704 East Franklin Street ♦ Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919.932.9192 ♦ und@law.duke.edu

The following people wish to have their names added to the petition
previously submitted by the Friends of Battle Park Woods:

Katherine Savage

Tobin Savage

Mack Preslar

Raquel Goldberg

Larry Goldberg

John Blake

Mary Blake

Bill Myers

Betsy Myers



704 East Franklin Street ♦ Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919.932.9192 ♦ und@law.duke.edu

To: the Mayor and Members of the Town Council

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan (p. 16-17) proposes the paving of the Battle Branch Greenway Trail, to create an "off-road" bicycle transportation corridor through the heart of the Park where the natural trail now runs. We emphatically oppose this project.

For more than 100 years, Battle Branch Woods has been a place of sanctuary and serenity where people could be a part of nature. It has never been plowed, never been disturbed. We have seen deer, raccoons, possums, great horned owls, pileated woodpeckers, red foxes, and other animals in these woods. It is a place of wildlife, often crossing a few feet in front of us. It is a very fragile ecosystem, with rare plants and trees more than 200 years old. At a recent meeting of the Greenways Commission, the representative of the University of North Carolina described the Woods as "sacred ground."

The paving of the natural trail would require the destruction of very old timber trees, destruction of wildlife habitat, the "recontouring" of steep slopes that lie within 10 feet of Battle Creek (a perennial stream), and other enormous environmental damage. It means the destruction of the last remaining, undisturbed, natural place in the heart of Chapel Hill.

We support thoughtful improvements to the trail that retain its natural surface. We are opposed to any paving project through the Woods. We urge the Town Council to preserve Battle Park as a natural surface trail, so that our children and future generations will be able to experience the ageless beauty of one of Chapel Hill's very last remaining wild places.

Sincerely,

Evelin Brinich
Paul Brinich
Helen Jane Wettach
Steven Moore
Joan Guilkey
Donald Lo
Martha Schutz
Linda Folda

Ann Gerber
David Gerber
Linda Davis
Laura Underkuffler
Irene Gaye
J. Kempton Jones
Thatcher Freund
Joan Montana

Benjamin Brodey
Rex McCall
Susan Elmore
Emilie De Luca
George Hogan
Virginia Buysse
Bob Buysse
Gus Montana

for *Friends of Battle Park Woods*

Joyce Smith

From: Cal Horton
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2004 7:58 AM
To: Council Member Bill Strom ; Council Member Cam Hill; Council Member Dorothy Verkerk ; Council Member Ed Harrison ; Council Member Jim Ward ; Council Member Jim Ward (W) ; Council Member Mark Kleinschmidt ; Council Member Sally Greene ; Mayor Kevin C. Foy (TCH) ; Mayor pro tem Edith Wiggins
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Heffin; Carol Abernethy; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Owen Franklin; Ralph Karpinos; Sonna Loewenthal ; Toni Pendergraph
Subject: FW: Paving in the woods

FYI

W. Calvin Horton, Town Manager
306 North Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27516
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919-969-2063 FAX
919-967-2626 Home
calhorton@townofchapelhill.org

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

From: Arthur Cogswell [mailto:acogswell@mindspring.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 19, 2004 9:44 AM
To: Town Council
Subject: Paving in the woods

I would like to object most strenuously to the proposal to pave a trail through Battle Branch Woods. As an architect I can say that putting a concrete or asphalt sidewalk in the woods will change its character forever. This is a very bad idea. It will drastically diminish the character of Battle Park as an unspoiled sylvan retreat. Please don't do it.
Arthur Cogswell

(7)

Cal Horton

From: Carol Abernethy on behalf of Cal Horton
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2004 4:01 PM
To: 'Steven Moore'
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Heflin; Cal Horton; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Toni Pendergraph; Bill Strom; Cam Hill; Dorothy Verkerk ; Ed Harrison; 'Edith Wiggins'; 'Jim Ward'; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Mark Kleinschmidt ; Sally Greene (w)
Subject: Citizen Comment RE: Battle Park Woods

A copy of your email message has been forwarded to each Council Member.
Carol Abernethy
Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
Town of Chapel Hill

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

From: Steven Moore [mailto:smoore@nccu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2004 12:39 PM
To: Town Council
Cc: und@law.duke.edu
Subject: Battle Park Woods

Some time ago, a community hearing was held in regard to Battle Park Woods and the possible addition of a paved path. The room was packed with neighbors and the almost unanimous feeling from the neighbors of Battle Park Woods was to leave it as natural as possible, while keeping it neat and clean. A PAVED BIKE PATH WAS OVERWHELMINGLY OPPOSED. Everyone there thought the matter was dead, but now word arrives that the Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan includes the provision for a paved bike path. Either the whole public hearing process was a sham or something untoward is being attempted. Needless to say, the neighbors and prime users of the area and pathways in the Woods are overwhelmingly opposed to paving a path through the woods and all of the inherent problems such a travesty would entail.

For the good of all the people who live and use the Woods and the future residents of the area who will only have the woods if they are saved - Save Battle Park Woods!!!

Steve Moore
913 Roosevelt Drive

72

Cal Horton

From: Carol Abernethy on behalf of Cal Horton
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2004 5:11 PM
To: 'Paul M. Brinich'
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Heflin; Cal Horton; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Toni Pendergraph; Bill Strom; Cam Hill; Dorothy Verkerk ; Ed Harrison; 'Edith Wiggins'; 'Jim Ward'; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Mark Kleinschmidt ; Sally Greene (w)
Subject: Citizen Comment RE: Please don't pave the hiking path in Battle Park Woods!

A copy of your email message has been forwarded to each Council Member.

Carol Abernethy
Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
Town of Chapel Hill

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

From: Paul M. Brinich [mailto:brinich@unc.edu]
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2004 3:37 PM
To: Town Council
Cc: und@law.duke.edu
Subject: Please don't pave the hiking path in Battle Park Woods!

Dear Members of Council,

I am sorry that I will not be able to attend your meeting on Monday, September 20, at which you will be discussing the "Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan" for Chapel Hill.

I strongly support improved bike-friendly roads. I ride my bike around town several times each month, including a short distance on Battle Branch trail. However, I am OPPOSED to paving Battle Branch trail.

Our town has very few soft surface hiking trails. Many of the people who jog or walk along Battle Branch trail choose to do so because it is a soft surface and therefore has a character that is very different from the paved Bollin Creek pathway. It also is relatively quiet and peaceful; although mountain bikes are allowed, the path currently is not very conducive to biking. Its undeveloped character provides a good deal of its charm -- you can walk from the UNC campus to the Community Center and almost forget that you're in the middle of town.

I am in favor of maintaining and improving the Battle Branch trail. It does need maintenance: There are spots where erosion has washed away the bed of the path, making it hard for some people to negotiate the path on foot. The boardwalk is in need of repair in several places. Some of the paths that lead down to the trail could benefit from some trimming and grading (e.g., the paths that lead down to Battle Branch from Gimghoul and from Glendale). However, paving the path would take us too far in the opposite direction; it would homogenize this part of the Greenway with the other segments, depriving the community of some of the diversity which makes it so attractive.

I do have a suggestion for an addition to your list of "off road paths."

It would be very helpful if there were some way for bikes and pedestrians to get from the end of Fern (which is the access road along the north side of 15-501 bypass) to Raleigh Road. The only way to do that now is to walk along the 15-501 shoulder, facing traffic, until you get to the on-ramp coming up from Raleigh Road. At present Fern Road ends in a chain link fence that is overgrown with hedge and vines; were there a passage through that

fence, one could easily walk or ride down to Raleigh Road. This would simplify a very attractive loop route which would take one up Raleigh Road to Country Club, left onto Ridge and then onto Laurel Hill, down to Fern, and back to Raleigh Road.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Paul Brinich

Paul M. Brinich, Ph.D.
Clin. Prof., Depts. of Psychology and Psychiatry
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill UNC-Duke Univ. Psychoanalytic Education Program

home/office mail: 320 Glendale Drive
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514-5914 office telephone: (919) 942-7338 (voicemail box #2)
UNC web site: <http://www.unc.edu/depts/clinpsy/fachp/brinic.html>
office web site: <http://bellsouthpwp2.net/p/m/pmbrinic/>

(74)

Town Clerk Copy

Date: 20 September 2004

To: Chapel Hill Town Council

From: Kenneth M. Hurst
146 Dixie Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Representing Lake Ellen Homeowners' Association

Subject: Comments on 2004 Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan

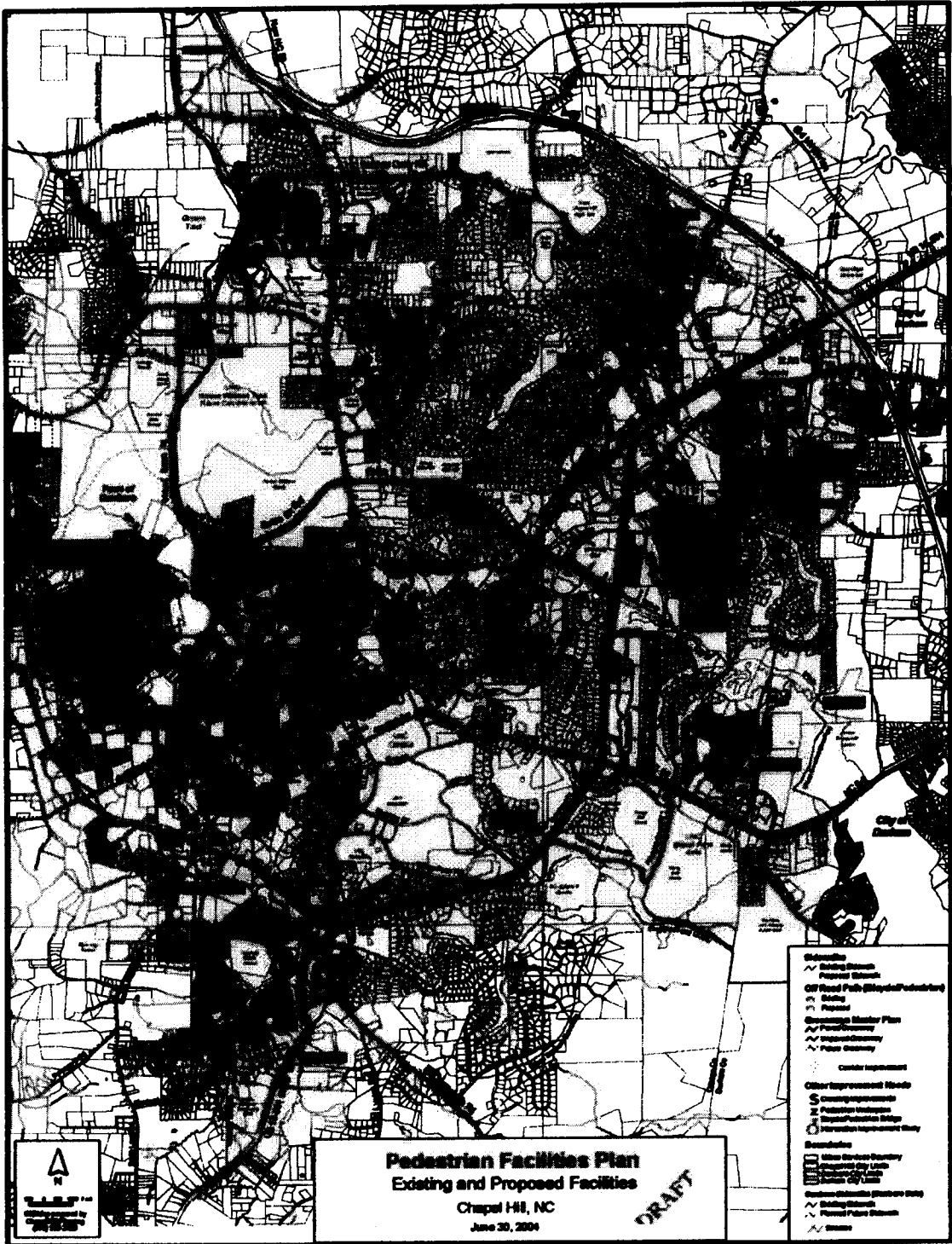
The Draft Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan proposes a series of sidewalks connecting Airport Road and Piney Mountain Road through the North Forest Hills neighborhood. This network of sidewalks has been placed in the third category (the lowest), a priority we think is appropriate considering the limited traffic in the neighborhood. Thus these sidewalks may not be constructed for several years, as many others are higher priority.

The proposed route meets the criteria of the action plan. However sidewalks on one section of Dixie Drive deserve closer examination. The portion of Dixie Drive between Cynthia Drive and Seminole Drive contains a section with steep banks and shoulders of only 3' and 5'. That section would require extensive reinforcement of the bank to provide a space wide enough for construction of a sidewalk.

Two alternate routes are available that also meet your criteria. The first is Collums Road that would also serve our neighborhood park. The second is Cynthia Drive that would also serve the current bus route A. Each of these avoids the narrow section of Dixie Drive.

A second concern of the neighborhood is the inclusion of curbs, gutters and drains as part of the sidewalk construction. These features concentrate the rainfall into focused paths, which can lead to increased runoff entering Lake Ellen with possible erosion and silting. To mitigate the potential of runoff we urge the construction of sidewalks without curbs, gutters, or drains. A sidewalk without these features but with grass or natural borders will allow a smooth flow of rainfall from the street with less potential for runoff to enter the lake. Regardless of the route through the neighborhood, the sidewalks should not include curbs, gutters, or drains.

Adoption of these modifications to the sidewalk plan through the North Forest Hills neighborhood will improve the pedestrian safety as well as help preserve Lake Ellen.



add crossing improvements @ Franklin + Elizabeth

Walter Lathrop 960-3640

We request a safe pedestrian crossing across Franklin Street at Elizabeth Street.

Name (Print)	Signature	E-mail
Tracy Williams	Tracy Williams	tracy.williams@dentistry.unc.edu
Freda McClain	Freda McClain	
Travis Montgomery	Travis Montgomery	montyofj@mindspring.com
Kimberly Butten	Kimberly Butten	kbutten@med.unc.edu
Conce Gress	Conce Gress	
Susan Sabiston	Susan Sabiston	Susan.sabiston@unc.edu
April Carson	April Carson	aperry@email.unc.edu
Lavanya Hanakrishnan	Lavanya H.	
Robert J. Letourneau	Robert J. Letourneau	robert.letourneau@unc.edu
Donna L. Coffman	Donna L. Coffman	dcoffman@email.unc.edu
Alexis Moore	Alexis Moore	alexis-moore@unc.edu
Elena Mirzoyan	Elena Mirzoyan	mirzoyan@email.unc.edu
Xinhai Zhang	Xinhai Zhang	Xinhai@unc.edu
Susan Ballinger	Susan Ballinger	sballinger@earthlink.net
Jodi M. Sandora	Jodi M. Sandora	JMJSMS@EMAIL.UNC.EDU
Ola Ghoneim	Ola Ghoneim	ola11@email.unc.edu
Arlene Sandora	Arlene Sandora	arlene-sandora@med.unc.edu
Melissa Villavilla	Melissa Villavilla	melavilla@yahoo.com
Joey Flaherty	Joey Flaherty	
Dr. Sandra Summers	Sandra Summers	slsummer@unc.edu
M. Richard Cramer	M. Richard Cramer	mrcramer@email.unc.edu
Krista Peyer	Krista Peyer	kpeyer@unc.edu
Debra Rieffert	Debra Rieffert	rieffert@email.unc.edu
RON T BROWN	Ron T Brown	ront@email.unc.edu
DINA LEECH	Dina Leech	dalleech@email.unc.edu
DAN WILLIAMS	Dan Williams	dlw@unc.edu
Scott Kraus	Scott Kraus	scotte@unc.edu
Sheng Lu	Sheng Lu	
Logan Yonajak	Logan Yonajak	Yonajak@email.unc.edu

78

Joyce Smith

From: Carol Abernethy on behalf of Cal Horton
Sent: Friday, September 17, 2004 6:02 PM
To: 'Robert C. MacCallum'
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Heflin; Cal Horton; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Toni Pendergraph; Bill Strom; Cam Hill; Dorothy Verkerk ; Ed Harrison; 'Edith Wiggins'; 'Jim Ward'; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Mark Kleinschmidt ; Sally Greene (w)
Subject: Citizen Comment RE: Battle Park

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Carol Abernethy
Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
Town of Chapel Hill

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

From: Robert C. MacCallum [mailto:rcm@email.unc.edu]
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2004 5:45 PM
To: Town Council
Subject: Battle Park

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

I would like to express my very strong opposition to the plan under consideration for building a bicycle path through the Battle Branch Greenway. I live in the Greenwood area, just a one-minute walk from the Sugarberry Road entrance to the Greenway, and I walk in the Greenway nearly every day. The proximity of this natural area was one of the reasons we bought our home, and the peaceful daily walks in the Greenway are one of our favorite activities each day. I honestly believe a bicycle path would greatly detract from this atmosphere, converting part of it into a busy and noisy transportation route and to some extent spoiling its traditional peaceful nature.

I urge the Council to not approve any plans involving the construction of such a pathway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert MacCallum
808 Indian Springs Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

967-4731

(79)

Cal Horton

From: Carol Abernethy on behalf of Cal Horton
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2004 5:10 PM
To: 'Evelin B. Brinich'
Cc: Roger Waldon; Bruce Heflin; Cal Horton; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Joyce Smith; Ralph Karpinos; Toni Pendergraph; Bill Strom; Cam Hill; Dorothy Verkerk ; Ed Harrison; 'Edith Wiggins'; 'Jim Ward'; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Mark Kleinschmidt ; Sally Greene (w)
Subject: Citizen Comment RE: I am against paving the hiking path in Battle Park Woods

A copy of your email message has been forwarded to each Council Member.

Carol Abernethy
 Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
 Town of Chapel Hill

From: Evelin B. Brinich [mailto:brinich@email.unc.edu]
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2004 4:07 PM
To: Town Council
Subject: I am against paving the hiking path in Battle Park Woods

Dear Members and Council,

I am planning to attend the meeting on September 20th at which you will be discussing the "Bicycle and Pedestrian Action Plan" for Chapel Hill. However, I would like to list my concerns in advance. Coming from Germany, where there are extensive bike paths in each city and in rural areas, I have always felt Chapel Hill should do more for bikers. However, the plan to pave the Battle Park Woods trail is not the way to go. In order to encourage people to use their bikes the same way as they do their cars, the bike paths need to follow the streets they would normally drive. I feel all roads in Chapel Hill should follow Carrboro's example by drawing lines along existing road to empahsize space for bikes. These are some of the reasons I am against paving the Battle Branch Trail:

It is one of the last natural hiking trails in Chapel Hill. Anyone who uses it knows about its quiet beauty, how young children can meander and undisturbed explore a myriad of wildlife.

Because of its peace and quiet the trail is home to many birds which live in the beautiful old trees and along the creeks.

Paving the trail would be very costly and require the destruction of many trees, which goes against the city's most recent ordinance against cutting down old trees.

Cyclists already have a way to get from the community center to the UNC campus and that is up and down Franklin Street on the sidewalk.

Cyclists have several other paved roads through forests as well as

80

designated bicycle lanes in various areas of town.

I favor additional bike paths in town but they should be in terms of marked areas along side of existing roads or in form of sharing existing sidewalks.

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Wayne Pein 250 Indian Trail, Chapel Hill

I've been riding daily in Chapel Hill since 1986. I've performed federal and state level bicycling research and published numerous papers. I've given the Town much advice over the years. Bicycling here is pretty good once you get used to sweating buckets all summer, freezing in the winter, and climbing gigantic hills.

It is an admirable goal to increase bicycling and to promote positive behaviors. Smoking cessation, exercising, and eating well are all desirable. But it is not right to regulate that people should eat broccoli, however good for you it supposedly is. Inevitably many people don't like it or don't want to be forced to eat it. Similarly, it is not right to regulate bicyclists with bike lanes.

The Town has been trying to increase bicycling since at least the 1970's. The sidewalk bike paths were a European style treatment that were a failure. This effort had the unintended negative consequences of increased collisions and increased harassment of legally riding in-street bicyclists from motorists who were misled to believe that bicyclists should be on the sidewalk. They didn't increase bicycling.

Now the Town wants to again micro-manage and regulate bicyclists' lateral position with bike lane stripes. This is a bad idea for similar reasons, and I strongly object as a bicyclist and a bicycling professional.

Years ago, I briefly was a bike lane supporter, but it quickly became clear that any advantages of bike lanes were not due to the presence of the stripe, but were the result of the increased space.

The provision of bike lanes introduces numerous problems that I've expanded on in several papers and which I will make available to you. All local roads that have bike lanes would be better if the stripe did not exist.

The physical and legal infrastructure already exists for safe and efficient bicycling. Two foot wide bicycles easily fit on any road. It's just that some narrower and busier roads make it more difficult for motorists to pass, which makes some bicyclists less comfortable. Simply increased space alleviates this situation. One can examine a wide lane such as Cameron Ave. to see that it is very easy for even beginners to ride there.

When a bicyclist rides down any road, he or she has 10 to 16 ft of clear pavement in front from which to choose optimal lateral position based on the situation. It's the bicyclists full lane although they often use only a fraction of it. State and local governments do not know better than bicyclists where bicyclists should ride laterally on the road.

When a bike lane is placed, the bicyclist's space is reduced to 4 ft. It creates a bike lane and a motor vehicle lane. This artificially induced segregation is not a benefit to bicyclists.

There is much talk of a bicycle network in the Comprehensive Plan. The vast majority of roads in Chapel Hill and elsewhere, from residential to arterial do not have bike lanes and will not have bike lanes for one reason or another. The pursuit of sporadic bike lanes creates an inherently fragmented system in which bicyclist position is schizophrenic, sometimes to the left of an edge line, sometimes to the right of a bike lane line. If wide lanes were pursued, all roads would be normal and bicyclists would have a consistent in-lane position and a consistent network.

I offer a positive realistic vision in which Chapel Hill treats bicyclists as equal road users, not super or sub equal, just equal. Chapel Hill should apply the wise principle of "First, do no Harm," and should abandon the pursuit of bike lanes. Chapel Hill should enhance busier roads where feasible with additional width. Newly developed signs that say COEXIST should replace the misleading "Share the Road" signs. On steep descents and elsewhere, "Use Full Lane" signs should encourage bicyclists to do just that.