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March 9, 2005

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is my understanding that there is a proposal being considered in conjunction with the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church's application to convert the existing structure on Cottage Lane into a sanctuary. The aspect of this proposal that concerns me is the widening of Cottage Lane.

As a resident of Cottage Lane (off and on) since 1946, I have witnessed little change in the lane except for the west side, where three structures were demolished in order to construct a multi-resident sorority house, which also served, for a short time, as a fraternity house. The structure is now derelict and poses a real safety hazard for our small neighborhood. I enthusiastically support the plans by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church to convert the location into a sanctuary. I will not support efforts to change the width of Cottage Lane.

Up until the 1960s, Cottage Lane was a quiet residential neighborhood. Prior to the sorority, the west side of the lane was populated by Doc Pickard (Ledbetter-Pickard), Mr. and Mrs. Fred Edny (Franklin Street Post Office), and Mildred Cox (UNC Accounting Office). All of these individuals were born and raised in Orange County. With the addition of the sorority, as many as 50 full and part time residents significantly increased the volume of traffic. However, Cottage Lane was able to support the additional traffic in its present size. On several occasions, I have witnessed the necessity of bringing emergency vehicles to the end of Cottage Lane. This was accomplished without any problems. Indeed, the only problems that I have seen relative to emergency access are when the town of Chapel Hill closes Franklin Street. Currently, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church utilizes the existing parking lot without undue congestion.

As a property owner of 208, 209, and 210 Cottage Lane, I oppose all efforts to widen the lane for the following reasons:

- It is unnecessary as the existing dimensions are sufficient to accommodate the current and expected traffic.
- It would change the character of our small neighborhood.
- It would encourage access by unauthorized or undesirable elements, especially those seeking parking places.

Thank you for allowing me to express my views on this matter, and in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely,
J. Paul Cheek
210 Cottage Lane

Phil Mason

From: Lehman, Dan [DLehman@unch.unc.edu] 67
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2005 2:17 PM
To: Phil Mason; 'dJewell@cjtpa.com'; 'dclinton@mhaworks.com'
Subject: Cottage Lane Neighbors

Gentlemen:

Below is an email I received today from one of the Cottage Lane neighbors. In the email she states that a letter (or letters) will be sent and that they will be attending the meetings. Thought you ought to have this documentation - Ms. Gierisch authorized me to forward this information.

- Dan

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

From: Jennifer M. Gierisch [mailto:gierisch@email.unc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2005 12:23 PM
To: Lehman, Dan
Subject: HTLC Building Project

Dear Mr Lehman-

I have lived on Cottage Lane since 1992. During this time I have come to know and care a great deal for both my neighbors and my neighborhood. I believe that widening Cottage Lane would detract significantly from the aesthetic appeal of our little community. We have functioned very nicely with the road the width it is. In fact, the width of the road has not hindered any of the vehicles that routinely come down our lane (e.g. recycling trucks, garbage trucks, UPS & FedEx vans, large moving vans when the last new neighbor moved in 5 years ago, any of the numerous OWASA construction vehicles that now populate our lane). Also when my next door neighbor had a massive stroke, the emergency vehicles had no problem traversing Cottage Lane.

Though I can't speak formally for all the residents of Cottage Lane, I have had conversations with all the property owners and they would most certainly not approve of any proposal that includes provisions to widen out lane. We want to welcome our new neighbors, HTLC, but we will not compromise our little community to do so. We will *NOT* support a plan that includes widening our lane. We intend to write a letter to the Town of Chapel Hill and we will attend meeting to voice our opposition.

Please share this response with any folks/committees/ boards you feel it would be appropriate to do so and I thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely-

Jennifer M. Gierisch

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68

mr. mason, those of us who live on cottage lane are greatly distressed to learn of the town's plans to widen our street. i have lived on cottage lane for 40 years and even when the sorority was active and large trucks made daily deliveries, there were no problems with traffic flowing. emergency vehicles have been able to gain access--so far only ems and police cars since we have fortunately had no fires. a former easement at the bottom of cottage lane has been closed so that the lane will never be a through street. we feel that in its present state it suits our needs perfectly.

when the new lutheran sanctuary is built, the lane will serve to get parishoners to and from the parking lot. ideally, we would like to see friendly lane made one way to the lot and cottage lane one way from the lot. this would ease any traffic flow and further stop the dangerous egress from friendly lane where a huge tree blocks the view to the left down rosemary street.

we feel strongly that widening cottage lane would severely affect the ambience of our street. we are part of a historic district which typically has narrow streets that add to the quaintness of the neighborhood. until the sorority was built (when there was no historic district and therefore no protection for us), cottage lane was lined with cottages on both sides, several with lovely gardens.

widening the street is likely to have an adverse effect in promoting faster traffic. as it is, most people are prudent when driving down the lane but a wider street could well encourage people to go considerably faster than the posted 15 mph speed limit.

imagine pritchard avenue widened or north street or boundary street or gimghoul. what a quick way to destroy a historic district! i'm sure that the home owners who are so upset over church traffic on gimghoul would not want to see the street four-laned even if it did ease the traffic problems.

widening cottage lane would result in the removal of one large tree at the corner of the lutheran property. we had been glad to hear that their plans for a new sanctuary including the saving of the large trees and the stone wall at the front of the property. those trees make a large contribution to the ambience of rosemary street.

how i would love to go back to cottage lane as it was in 1968 and for many years before with a lovely queen anne victorian house on the corner and the cottages lining the western side of the street. that isn't going to happen, but at least it seems that more destruction of our image could be prevented.

i hope that you can find a way to help us in this situation. several of us plan to attend the historic district commission meeting tonight to express our distress about the road project. sincerely, lynn igoe

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