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August 15, 2005

Dear Transportation Board Members:

I am one of the many parents who attended last Tuesday's Transportation Board Meeting where the proposed Maywood connection between the Larkspur neighborhood and the planned development of Chapel Watch Village. Our family lives on Old Larkspur Way and we have two children—a daughter age 10 and a son age 7.

I urge the board to reject the proposed connection. The proposed connection will not benefit Chapel Watch Village since that development as currently planned as adequate ingress and egress to Eubanks. The Larkspur neighborhood neither wants nor needs the connection. Consequently, I fear that the only benefit will be cut through traffic.

On Friday of this week I watched a UPS delivery truck speed down our road well in excess of the posted 25 mile an hour limit. If there was a cut through to Eubanks, I believe that this would be a common occurrence as UPS drivers heading west on Homestead would seek to eliminate at least four traffic lights from their trip. This is a family neighborhood. The streets were not designed to handle that kind of traffic. There are not even sidewalks on both sides of the street and my kids often walk down the street when playing outside as a result. Also, please note that the driveway to the UPS distribution center is opposite the proposed Chapel Watch Village entrance. For this reason alone, the Board should not approve the connection—the potential harm is too great.

Alleviating traffic congestion on Eubanks is not a legitimate reason for connecting the road. Neither is potential public transit. It is obvious on the face that this neighborhood is not the kind where densities and economic factors make having a bus stop in the neighborhood advisable. And there are already adequate provisions for public transit near the entrance to the Larkspur—there is a cutout in the road near the entrance for transit buses to pull over should the city want to put a stop there. Once again, public transit considerations do not weigh in favor of the cut-through. The only other issue mentioned in the meeting would be the school bus. I believe that the savings a few seconds for the school bus does not outweigh the risks in allowing the Maywood connection to become a collector street. And both neighborhood road systems already allow for safe pick up and drop off of students—which is the proper consideration.

Please preserve the safety of our neighborhood and vote against the Maywood connection.

Sincerely,

Helene Brown