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Petition for Action by the Chapel Hill Town Council

REQUEST

We hereby request that, in the interest of public safety, the Town Council install a yellow diamond DOT traffic sign indicating the presence of a right-hand entering/exiting road (see example, photo #4 attached) on the right hand shoulder of Rt. 15-501 N. (see photo #3 attached), placed so as to warn Northbound automobile traffic of the presence By-Pass Lane (see photos #1 & 2 attached)--a driveway which serves as the exit and entrance to the Fordham Square retail and office building and the residential houses adjacent to it--said driveway now visually blocked from view by Northbound drivers by a row of tall evergreen trees.

RATIONALE

In the two years since we have relocated our business from Eastgate to Fordham Square, we have personally witnessed numerous traffic accidents on Rt. 15-501 in front of the Fordham Square building. Many of these accidents seemed to be caused, or at least exacerbated by the "blind" driveway entrance to Fordham Square that cannot be seen by Northbound drivers until one is right upon it. Many customers to our business and other individuals have complained to us about this unsafe condition. DOT has advised us that they are not willing to remove or reduce the evergreen tree barrier that (we assume) was put in place by DOT itself. A yellow diamond DOT sign would at least give drivers some warning of the existence of the driveway.

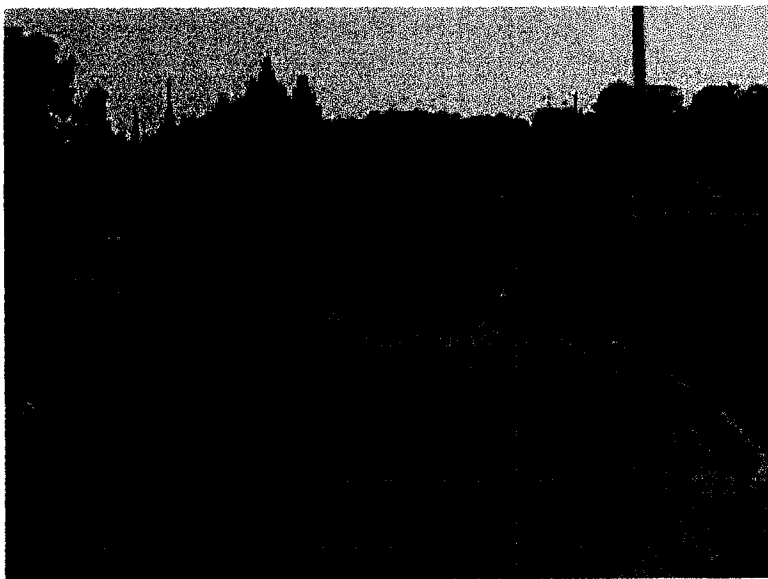
Sincerely,



Bill & Pat Steinway
Steinway Gallery
1289 N. Fordham Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-942-8780

November 11, 2002

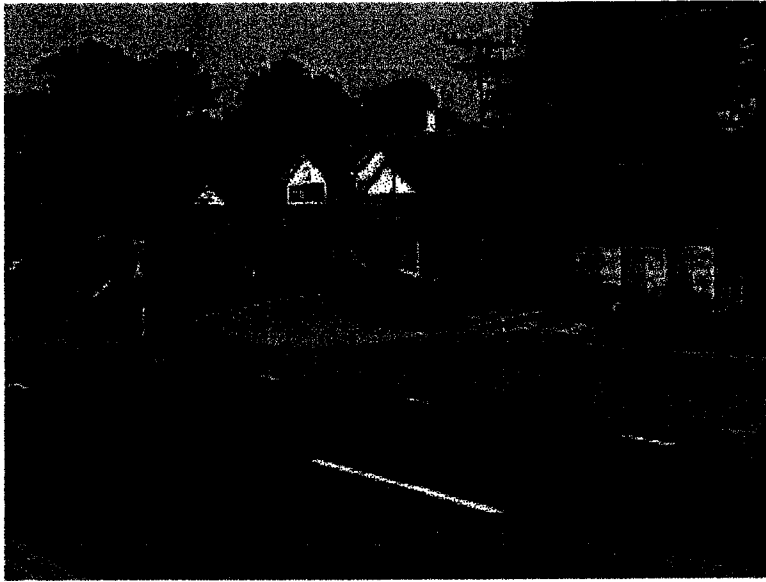
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(1)

Fordham Square driveway entrance facing out towards Rt. 15-501
Barrier evergreens at upper left corner

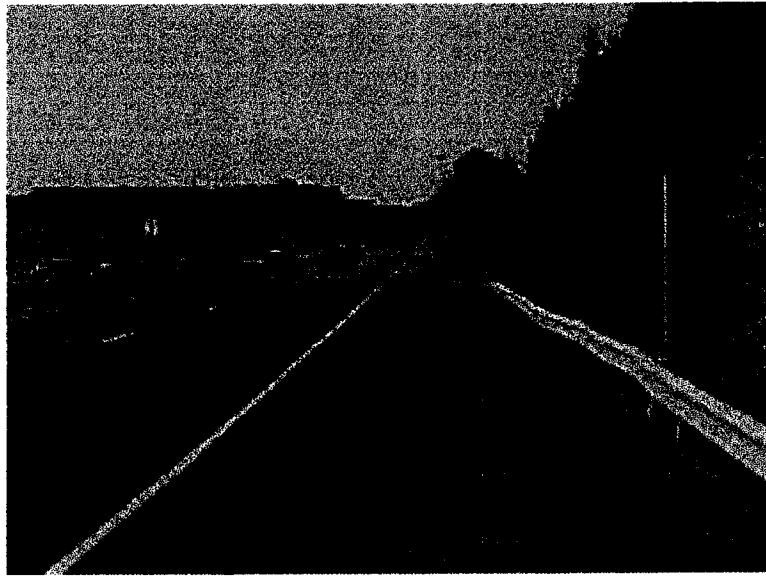
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(2)

Fordham Square driveway entrance facing in

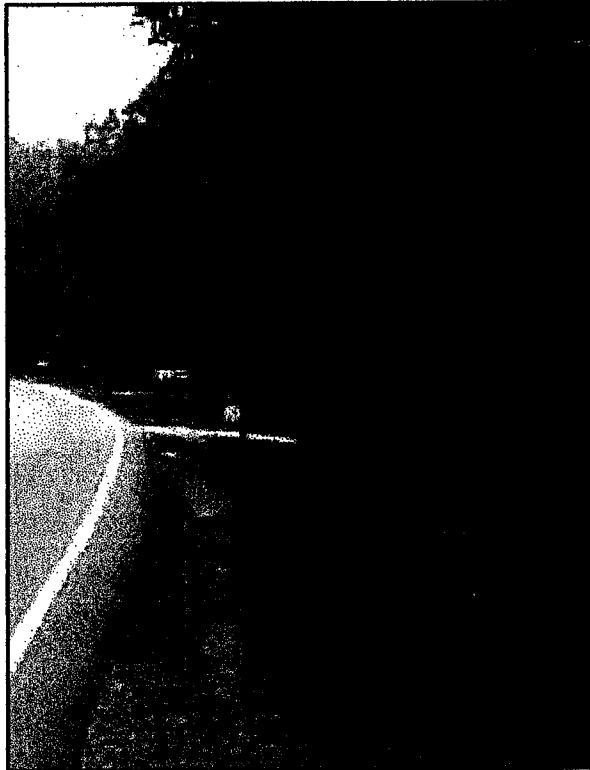
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(3)

Rt. 15-501 facing North
Fordham Square driveway entrance at end of guardrail
DOT sign requested for right side of road here

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(4)

Example of DOT sign requested