

Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

131

Name Bill Nottingham
Address 3716 Overlook Ave.
Macon, Ga. 31204

Do you support the project? NOT THE FOREST HILL PART!

Comments Agree with the closing of Deary Dr. The
Prado Overlook. These streets are already used by
people who speed down the middle of the road up to the
Prado where the median starts. Northminster would be a great
improvement. FOREST HILL IS TOO MUCH. USE TWO LANE
with turn lanes and no medians. The interstate connects
into Tom Hill not FOREST HILL so four lanes down Forest H
is a waste of time and money. Taxpayers money. Use
Some common sense.

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____ Newspaper _____
Signs ✓ Word of Mouth ✓

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? Yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? Yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? No. No alternatives to presen
plan. No reasons why the plan could not be altered.

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? And before

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? Learn
to listen to the public + learn to work with
the public.

Georgia Department of Transportation

Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

132

Name

Grace Nottingham

Address

3716 Overlook Ave.
Macon, Ga. 31204

Do you support the project?

NO!!! Mostly

Comments

The ~~the~~ parts I do support are the closing off of Drury. The Pradell + Overlook Ave. The extension of Ridge is fine too. The change to Northminster is fine. It will be much safer. FOREST HILL IS A DEFINITE NO. TOO WIDE, TOO MUCH! Have two lanes with turn lanes where needed. No medians down the middle. A nice neighbor hood would be turned into a noisy thoroughfare with traffic encouragement to speed.

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio

Signs

Newspaper

Word of Mouth

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? No, couldn't tell us if houses to be torn down were already purchased. couldn't show us where an alternative had been studied.

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? OH YES but did already.

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? Learn

to listen to the public. Learn to work with the public.

133

GEORGE C. OETTER JR.

Mr. Larry Duchamp
Federal Highway Administration

June 9, 1971

Mr. Larry Duchamp
Federal Highway Administration
400 E. 12th St., Box 127100
Atlanta, GA 30303

Re: Public Comment on Forest Hill Road, Macon, Georgia

Dear Mr. Duchamp:

Please file this letter in opposition to major widening of Forest Hill Road in Macon. The road safety and utility for pedestrian and cyclists can be improved without drastically enlarging its footprint. This project sacrifices the neighborhood to "serve" commuters living farther away from the city center. The way Macon is losing population surely we do not need any more extension of our commuter and suburban residential areas.

The project should be scaled back to a reasonable size of less than 4 lanes. Please concentrate the planning efforts on intersection improvements and intermodal enhancements.

Thank you.



George C. Oetter Jr.

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

134

Name
AddressMargaret B. O'Shaughnessy
460 Pine Vista
Macon, Ga 31204Do you support the project? No

Comments

Forest Hill Rd. needs improving, but the present plan goes too far. Turn lanes are needed, and overlook cul-de-sacs. The present plan encourages too much traffic through an established neighborhood with many young families. Sidewalks & bike lanes would be great!

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____

Newspaper ☒

Signs _____

Word of Mouth ☒Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? yesDo you understand the project after attending this meeting? yes

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

135

Name Joyce PARK
Address 3085 Tiffin
MACON, GA 31204

Do you support the project? NO

Comments the most you need is 3 lanes
with a center turn lane

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____ Newspaper _____
Signs ✓ Word of Mouth _____

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? yes

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? yes

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

136

Name
Address

Robert Park
2966 Riverside Dr
Macon, Ga. 31204

Do you support the project?

NO

Comments

A huge waste of money, regardless of where the funds come from. Except at traffic lights and left turns, traffic already moves well along Wimbish Road & Forest Hill Road. I suggest making Wimbish 3 lanes from Riverside to Forest Hill and 3 lane Forest Hill Rd. all the way to Vineville with the center lane left turn both ways. Add an extra right turn only at Ridge Ave going South.

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio

Signs

Newspaper

Word of Mouth

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community

yes

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel?

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?

yes

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings?

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

Name
Address

Willie V. Parrish
1037 Hill Place
Macon, Ga. 31210

134

Do you support the project? No

Comments I favor the No-Build Alternative

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____ Newspaper _____

Signs ☒ Word of Mouth ☒

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? _____

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? _____

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? _____

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? _____

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____

Graben

W. JOE PATTERSON, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW (Retired)
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ 3862 The Prado
MADON, GEORGIA 31204

June 19, 2001

138

Mr. Larry R. Dreihaup
P. E. Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 17T100
Atlanta, GA. 30303

Re. Forest Hill Road
Projects 8 & 9

Dear Mr. Dreihaup:

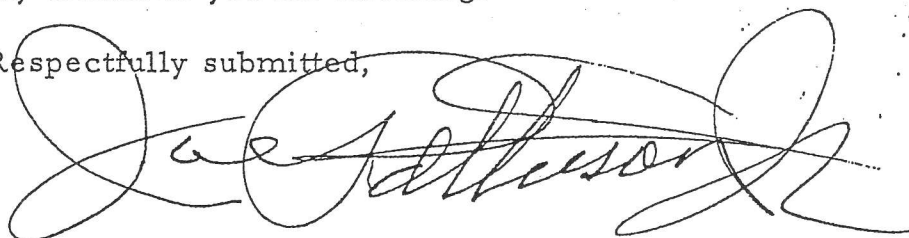
The purpose of this letter is to seek assistance from the FDOT. I assume you are familiar with the concept as Federal funding is available. Notwithstanding I attach hereto a description of the projects. Should fruition result, the ultimate damage that homeowners will sustain will be crucial and devastating. Georgia DOT contends more lanes safer driving. If that were true Atlanta would be a haven for safe driving which, unfortunately, is not true.

Attached hereto is a statement of comments on the proposed concept which is self-explanatory. Should you find any false statement, please advise. No reply I will assume the assessments are accurate, true and proper.

One final statement quoting Justice Louis Brandeis of the United States Supreme Court: "Experience should teach us to be more on guard to protect liberty when the Government purposes are beneficial.... The greatest danger to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding." Political prerogative can be an instrument of destruction, and an erosion that is injurious to the welfare and health of the people. Nothing is easier than glib enthusiasm to spend money because of its availability. What is the road improvement program all about? MONEY. Money to spend at the expense of real property owners, and the health of people.

My thanks to you for listening.

Respectfully submitted,





Macon - Bibb County Road Improvement Program

P.O. Box 248, Macon, Georgia 31202-0248

Rec May 4th



138

ANNOUNCEMENT:

The Macon-Bibb County Road Improvement Program and DOT will conduct a Public Meeting **June 11, 2001**, from 4-7 p.m. at **Springdale Elementary School** located at 4965 Northside Drive. At this meeting we will discuss **Forest Hill Road** improvements. Displays, program officials and engineers will be present to assist in discussing the project. For additional information, please contact Steve Duval of the Macon-Bibb County Road Improvement Program at 478-755-0000.

Project No.	Description of Project
5240-8&9	Forest Hill Road
8	Wimbish Road to Northside Drive. Three (3) lanes urban, with curb & gutter, sidewalks on one side, and storm drainage.
9	Forsyth Road to Wimbish Road. Four (4) lane divided, urban, curb & gutter, sidewalks, and storm drainage

W. JOE PATTERSON, JR.

ATTORNEY AT LAW

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 3862 The Prado
MACON, GEORGIA 31201

April 28, 2000

138

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

COMME
FOREST
FERREI

Destroy High

Drain Kill

Value

Command

Houses Abandoned

Pollution

X Planning

Accident rate

Endanger children

X Trucks

ROAD PROJECTS FOR
HEREINAFTER RE-

The
two dist
ITY OF
and the
neighbo
the cur
former
versy.
dary to
vehicul
thetics
towerin
acts re
in exce
tive ne
forerun
ing Ave
fell int
up to d
noise,
emanat

ent projects involves
ELOPMENT VS. QUAL-
the local political arena,
people that good health,
are not subordinated to
r, the attitude of the
er. Thus the contro-
anes should be secon-
oment free from more
of neighborhood aes-
rwise, it is materialism
e free from the onerous
ive-lanes roadway. Lanes
mate destroy the respec-
y value, and would be the
A good example is Carl-
ses have been abandoned,
ise, pollution, boarded
t. Reason: pollution,
ciation in property value

Th
applied
to main
quality
proven

responsible planning is
ch and every issue in order
ghborhoods, and the
le. However, limited im-
s conditions created, with-

out destroying property value and the aesthetic of the area.

Forest Hill Road and Park Place are well established residential areas respectively where peace and tranquility is the norm, children play in front yards, churches and schools are standard bearers. Each is a historical area sustained by and for aesthetics, light traffic and minimal pollution and noise.

It appears that the primary purpose of the Northwest Parkway Project is to direct traffic to the Macon Mall by increasing lanes on said roads from two to four. This is an unreasonable assumption as people wanting to go to the mall will travel just as fast and as often as they desire on the current two lane roads. Thus it is an unwarranted conclusion that four lanes will increase and move traffic faster to the mall. Two lane roadway is no deterrent. The current design exceeds the bounds of sound reasoning, accountability, prudence, and is totally illogical. The design masquerades as progress when in fact it is retro-progress. Traffic control lights are the inhibitor to the movement of traffic. This is an axiom whether the said roads are two or four lanes. In either instance the time element to the mall is comparable.

The two lane roads have moved vehicular traffic safely and adequately for the past century, and will continue moving traffic for the next twenty-five years notwithstanding a prognosticator's speculation of traffic increase by extrapolation. A monstrous lanes increase is not warranted where the alleged traffic increase is speculative and reverberated time and time again by special interest group who stands to profit therefrom.

The current design is ill-advised, unwise, and unwarranted in that it creates more problems and dangerous conditions than it solves. More lanes will inevitably result in more wrecks, personal injuries, increase in crime, decrease in property value, higher insurance rates, road discourtesy, death knell to the aesthetics of the area, dangerous driving conditions, increase noise from tractor-trailer rigs, pollution, safety of children in yards, walking on sidewalks, if available, exiting from school busses, crossing multiple lanes going to and from school and church, future maintenance and a great financial burden and responsibility on the city, county and taxpayers, assuming said governments agencies maintain said roads in good and adequate condition for smooth and comfortable riding, excluding ruts, potholes and depressions. It is no misnomer to classify some of the roads in the city and county as "Trail of Tears".

After thought subsequent to the consequences of driving irresponsible which results in injuries to the person and property and death is no virtue. For a benefit there must be a favorable result. Increased lanes would be an unmitigated exploitation of residential property without justifiable public benefit, and an increase in environmental problems.

138

Macon is at the pivotal point of being in violation of federal clean-air standards. The Chairman of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, Joel Cowan, advised Macon and Bibb County officials that "Macon is very close to joining those metro Atlanta in failing federal air standards". (Macon Telegraph) More lanes, more traffic, higher and reckless speed, thus more pollution and toxic exposure, and more health problems.

Widening said roads will create an environment impact that is harmful, hostile, and dangerous to good health. It ineluctably will produce more noise, more smog, dangerous driving conditions, and more pollution. "The exposure to more pollution may be a contributory factor to children suffering from asthma. Carbon monoxide level adjacent to a busy freeway or highway can be many times higher than the city wide average". (Macon Telegraph quoting from professional authority)

The design widening said roads is not vital to the economy of the city or county. It will be a future tax burden on the taxpayers. The construction cost for the increased lanes could and should be directed to benefit other necessitous, urgent and pressing avenue of endeavor including the current disintegrated, neglected, crumbled, and otherwise dilapidated roads, streets and sidewalks in the city and county. Now is the time to improve that which has been neglected for the past decade if not longer.

The current design is arbitrary, capricious, and contravenes reasonable implementation of the road improvement program. Lanes in excess of two creates doubt, skepticism, and suspicion in the eyes of the taxpaying public. Such constitutes public aversion. Bigger is not necessarily better. Incidentally, the word "improve", a verb, is defined as follows: "to grade and drain (a road) and apply surfacing material other than pavement". (Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary)

The frequently used term "moving traffic" is merely rhetoric in an attempt to justify the spending of available money to widen roads when in fact money could be more wisely spent repairing and improving current roads and sidewalks that are in a deplorable condition. The road program has not offered any reasonable tenet in the way of empirical proof that wider roads moves traffic faster and safer. Traffic control lights inhibits the faster theory. More

vehicle crashes occur on multiple lanes than two lane roads. Atlanta is a good example and the same is true in less congested cities because of speed and following too close. "Since 1991 crashes and injuries in metro Atlanta have increased by nearly 50 percent. In 1998, 571 people died in car wrecks, and 71,347 people were injured - nearly 200 per day". (Associated Press) "Pedestrian fatalities in Fulton County between 1994 and 1998 were 140; DeKalb County 104. This constitutes 13 percent pedestrian fatality rate at the cost of speed and wide roads". (Atlanta Constitution, August 15, 1999) The average stopping distance of cars on dry level pavement going 45 miles per hour is 154 feet; 125 feet going 40 miles per hour, and 188 feet going 50 miles per hour. At speed of 45 MPH a car travels 49 feet before your foot touches the brakes and 105 feet before the car comes to a complete stop. At 40 MPH a car travels 44 feet before touching the brakes and 81 feet before coming to a complete stop.

According to a report issued by the Surface Transportation Policy Project on deaths attributed to aggressive driving (not counting alcohol and drug related types) "Macon has far higher rate of aggressive driving deaths per one hundred thousand people than Columbus or Savannah. Higher than congested road-tangled Atlanta. Much higher (can you believe) New York City". (Macon Telegraph)

Public criticism of the road improvement program should not go unnoticed. The public disdainfulness is appropriately expressed as quoted in sundry articles.

"The idea that anyone, at any level of government, can plan how people will or should live 10, 25 or 50 years in the future is ridiculous". (Perspective, Macon Telegraph)

"Bigger and wider is not necessarily better. Narrower and more congested can actually be faster and a lot more pleasant". (Macon Telegraph)

"The illusion of free federal money, Pool wrote recently, (an Economist)...leads to decisions that would not have been taken were the local agency having to make the most cost-effective use of its own resources.... The idea that people in Washington can plan a national road system is utter nonsense". (U.S. News and World Report)

Gabriel Roth, author of Roads in a Market Economy, calls the current system (road improvement) a "recipe for waste".

"It seems our road program is more concerned with how much concrete it can pour than with the wishes of the citizens who are paying for part of the pouring.... We must save suburbia from too much concrete". (Macon Telegraph)

"When the current projects were first proposed, I seem to recall the slogan, Progress not Potholes. The rape of neighborhoods is not progress. Nor selling the soul of a city for state and federal funds. What it amounts to is a forced eviction of many families". (Letter to Editor by a College Professor, Macon Telegraph)

"Moreland Altobelli is here to help us spend money on roads. Neither economy nor aesthetics seem a part of its mission. Widening Forest Hill Road from two to a maximum of six (now four) lanes is economically unsound, wasteful, damaging to health and property, and a destruction of the aesthetics of the area". (Ltr. to Editor, Macon Telegraph)

"Contrary to popular opinion, not all growth, even job growth, is good. Exciting projects like New Town Macon and Ocmulgee Greenway are counterbalanced by unchecked construction, business expansion and road building and widening projects destroy the environment, displace people, create pollution and promote consumption at ever-increasing levels to the detriment of the well-being of the community and all its inhabitants". (Minister, article in Macon Telegraph)

Chief Justice Marshall: "The power to tax involves the power to destroy". Paraphrasing in part Thomas Jefferson: "A man's freedom and property are never more in jeopardy than when Congress is in session", and I will add when politicians have federal and state funds to spend in accordance with and direction of the respective governmental agencies.

"Nothing is easier than expenditure of public funds.... The temptation is overwhelming to bestow it on somebody". (President Calvin Coolidge)

138

Page 6

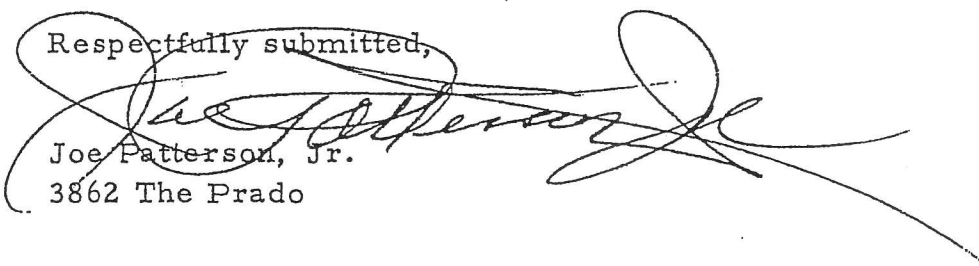
Giving due, reasonable and adequate consideration to the issues involved, it is readily perceptible that the design widening said roads to four (or three) lanes is out of sync with common sense and prudence. The overriding consideration is money and dictatorial mandates from the Federal and State Department of Transportation. The growth of big government is the power to destroy the will of the people. Let us not second to the former.

Think about it.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Patterson, Jr.

3862 The Prado

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Joe Patterson, Jr., is written over the typed name and address.

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

139

PLEASE PRINT

Name
Address

Amity Perry
3804 Overlook Ave
Macon, GA 31204

Do you support the project? Yes - Area from Ridge to Wimbish

Comments Definitely support a cul-de-sacs on Prado & Overlook - allows our children to have a safe area to play without threat of people going 50 mph down my street. (Actually heard of 2 teenagers drag racing this last week.) I would not support the project w/out the cul-de-sacs put into place.

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____

Newspaper _____

Signs _____

Word of Mouth ☒

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? Not really

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community Alex IV

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? Sure

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? Yes

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? Yes

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings?

Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

140

Name
Address

Barbara Powell
532 Sioux Dr
Macon 31210

Do you support the project? No No No

Comments Macon can take pride in its beauty.
which is We do not need more concrete. Zebulon is
an example of what happens when one cuts all of the
natural trees and build more roads & shopping centers
We will attract people if Macon maintains its
natural beauty not concrete and speeding cars
Widening the road will only increase the traffic
in this area. We MUST PRESERVE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____

Newspaper _____

Signs ☒ _____

Word of Mouth _____

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? ☒ yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? Yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? Yes

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? _____

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____

Georgia Department of Transportation

Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

141

Name
Address

Robert L. Powell

532 Sioux Dr.

Macon, Ga. 31210

Do you support the project? no

Comments

I object to this project because the road will create a new avenue for large trucks and more traffic moving through a residential area. I believe that efforts should be made to route traffic around residential areas, not through them. Trees of course, will have to be removed and it just seems that every day we are doing things to destroy the beauty of our city by allowing both the public and the private sectors to replace our trees with concrete. We need to preserve our neighborhoods. This project goes a long way towards destroying some of them.

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____

Newspaper ☒

Signs _____

Word of Mouth ☒Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? yesDo you understand the project after attending this meeting? yes

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____

June 7, 2001

142

Mr. Larry R. Dreihaupt, P.E. Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Atlanta Federal Center, 61 Forsyth Street, SW
Suite 17T100
Atlanta, GA 30303

RE: Proposed projects 8 and 9, Forest Hill Road, Macon, Georgia

Dear Sir:

As a longtime resident of the Forest Hill Road area of Macon, I feel it is my responsibility to express my serious concerns over the proposed projects 8 and 9 referenced above. The impact of the "preferred alternative" on the 39 residents fronting Forest Hill Road and the hundreds of residents on either side is unacceptable. Please consider the following points:

- The four-lane segment from Wimbish Road to Vineville will drastically alter the residential character of the area.
- The closure of Overlook Avenue, The Prado and Drury Drive would create undue congestion in the Riverdale, Albermarle, Belvedere and Ridge Avenue and cause delays in the arrival of police and emergency services.
- The encouragement of traffic through Northside Drive to I-75 is a much better alternative as an arterial thoroughfare due to the fact that the residential impact would be much less in this scenario.
- Forest Hill Road should be modified to add turn lines and sidewalks to decrease congestion and to provide non-vehicular alternatives.

The most dangerous result of the proposed concepts is the damage suffered by owners of real property contiguous to Forest Hill Road, surrounding sub-divisions, environmental impact, health problems, due in part to choking, air pollution, and destruction of home life in a peaceful neighborhood. **Good health is a priceless institution.** The following are cognitive facts. Environmental impact is a multifarious term, and, under the current concepts, includes the following: more lanes, more wrecks, increased speed, personal injuries or deaths, increased crime, decreased real property value, higher insurance rates, road discourtesy and rage, loss of trees, dangerous driving conditions, increased noise from tractor trailer rigs, pollution which increases the instance of disease, safety of children exiting school buses and having to cross multiple lanes, and crossing multiple lanes going to and from school and church.

If this project is approved, the philosophy of sacrificing established residential areas to accommodate suburban sprawl would be reinforced; the heart of Macon, and the quality of life in mature residential areas would be further eroded. Thank you in advance for your decision **not** to approve this plan!

Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

Nilda N. Ragan
664 Forest Hill Rd.
Macon, Ga. 31210

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

142

PLEASE PRINT

Name
Address

Hilda N. Kagan
664 Forest Hill Rd.
Macon, Ga
31210

Do you support the project?

NO

Comments

We need to keep our neighborhood as personal as possible - no heavy trucks - racers - or loud noise. We have enjoyed it as it is for years and see no need to accommodate people not paying City taxes. This race way will not add to our property value. Please explain how we will get in & out of our driveway.

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____

Newspaper _____

Signs _____

Word of Mouth _____

Letter _____

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? _____

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? _____

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? No

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? _____

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____

Leave road just as it is -

Ragan-3-
142

June 7, 2001

Mr. Harvey D. Keeper
State Environmental/Location Engineer
Georgia Department of Transportation
3993 Aviation Circle
Atlanta, GA 30336

RE: Proposed projects 8 and 9, Forest Hill Road, Macon, Georgia

Dear Sir:

As a longtime resident of the Forest Hill Road area of Macon, I feel it is my responsibility to express my serious concerns over the proposed projects 8 and 9 referenced above. The impact of the "preferred alternative" on the 39 residents fronting Forest Hill Road and the hundreds of residents on either side is unacceptable. Please consider the following points:

- The four-lane segment from Wimbish Road to Vineville will drastically alter the residential character of the area.
- The closure of Overlook Avenue, The Prado and Drury Drive would create undue congestion in the Riverdale, Albermarle, Belvedere and Ridge Avenue and cause delays in the arrival of police and emergency services.
- The encouragement of traffic through Northside Drive to I-75 is a much better alternative as an arterial thoroughfare due to the fact that the residential impact would be much less in this scenario.
- Forest Hill Road should be modified to add turn lines and sidewalks to decrease congestion and to provide non-vehicular alternatives.

The most dangerous result of the proposed concepts is the damage suffered by owners of real property contiguous to Forest Hill Road, surrounding sub-divisions, environmental impact, health problems, due in part to choking, air pollution, and destruction of home life in a peaceful neighborhood. **Good health is a priceless institution.** The following are cognitive facts. Environmental impact is a multifarious term, and, under the current concepts, includes the following: more lanes, more wrecks, increased speed, personal injuries or deaths, increased crime, decreased real property value, higher insurance rates, road discourtesy and rage, loss of trees, dangerous driving conditions, increased noise from tractor trailer rigs, pollution which increases the instance of disease, safety of children exiting school buses and having to cross multiple lanes, and crossing multiple lanes going to and from school and church.

If this project is approved, the philosophy of sacrificing established residential areas to accommodate suburban sprawl would be reinforced; the heart of Macon, and the quality of life in mature residential areas would be further eroded. Thank you in advance for your decision **not** to approve this plan!

Sincerely,

Name: *Hilda N. Ragan*
Address: *664 Forest Hill Rd.*
Macon, Ga. 31210

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

143

PLEASE PRINT

Name
Address

Tyler J. Rauls, Jr.
444 Forest Hill Rd
Forest Pointe Apartments
owner

Do you support the project? YES

Comments I believe the road project will improve the safety for the community. The curve in the road should be modified for safety reasons. Sidewalks should be installed for pedestrians to make it more safe. The school bus stops on Forest Hill Rd in front of our apartments. There are no sidewalks for the children to walk to the apartments across the street.

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____
Signs ✓

Newspaper _____
Word of Mouth _____

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes
If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes
If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? yes

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? yes

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____

The system is acceptable the way it is.

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

144

Name
AddressPam Risi
558 Forest Hill Rd
Macon, Ga 31210

Do you support the project?

NO!

Comments

TRAFFIC Already speeds by at 60 mph plus...
I have to fight for my life just to check my mailbox!
If 3 lanes are put there, traffic will only increase
at GREATER speeds! Why is it important to get to the
Macon Mall 3 minutes faster? Since when do taxpayers
support FREE ENTERPRISE? THUMBS DOWN ON THIS PROJECT!
LEAVE FOREST HILL RESIDENTS ALONE!

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio

Newspaper



Signs

Word of Mouth

You sent us a
notice

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

Yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

Yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel?

Yes

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings?

Drew corner 255-0000 - 11/14/14
Altosell

I also have 4 very old, Large
Oak Trees in my front yard that
you would destroy if this project
goes thru. What would the TREE
environmentalists think about that 222!!!

My house is currently on the market
for sale. This project will do nothing
but hurt me 7 / 1 144

Risi-2-1

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

145

PLEASE PRINT

Name
AddressBarbara Tolliver Rodgers
2055 Forest Hill Rd
Macon, Ga 31210Do you support the project? NO

Comments

The traffic will be very bad, it will
be use like a race track

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____

Newspaper _____

Signs _____

Word of Mouth _____

letter

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? Yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? Yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? _____

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? NO I don't see the need

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

146

PLEASE PRINT

Name
Address

Joseph L. Rodgers
2055 Forest Hill Rd
Macon, GA 31210

Do you support the project?

NO

Comments

As a resident of this area, I feel
improvement is needed. Turn lane could be
an alternative, could be a big help in turn
left lane, where there is no traffic light
2150 I am an environmentalist. There will
be too many trees to be cut down;
2150 Forest Hill Rd is a very dangerous
P/L, 70% of driver go 20-30 miles over
the speed limit.

How did you hear about this meeting?

Radio

Newspaper

Signs

Word of Mouth

Letter

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

Yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

Yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel?

Yes, some what

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?

Some what.

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings?

I have no problem with the way the
public is being now.

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

147

Name
Address

Thomas C. Rogers IV

4242 Woodforest Place
Macon, Ga 31210

Do you support the project?

no!

Comments

I feel this proposed project will have a negative affect on my neighborhood. I believe the increase of traffic will proliferate speeding cars up and down our culdesac. I purchased my property partly because of the low flow of traffic on our street which contributes to my children's safety and because of the low amounts of noise. I feel this will have a very negative impact on our community and am greatly apposed to it. I feel the Ga DOT should come up with a less intrusive proposal.

How

Newspaper

Word of Mouth

Was

you to attend?

no

If not

more convenient to your community

Forest Hill United Methodist Church

Was

you to attend?

yes

If not

more convenient for you

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel?

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings?

hold it closer to neighborhoods affected by proposals

Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

148

Name
Address

Liana A Rogers

4242 Wood Forest Pl
Macon GA 31210

Do you support the project? NO - I demand Less Intrusive proposal. take a look at Edna Pl. (side walk but not at this price)

Comments Decrease in value (property);
This is a neighborhood not clear land for pavement to take over.
The influx of traffic would increase greatly, this would create more;
noise, trash, accidents, speeding, etc. The speed along Forest Hill ~~road~~ is
already unbelievable, adding this many lanes would only give speeders
more road to take off. A turning lane would more than likely help
traffic out but not what is proposed here today. You may as well
change the name from Forest Hill to HWY - something. Don't
destroy our neighborhoods. Here is a good idea for you
which I am sure someone would enjoy drafting, make a connector

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____ Newspaper _____
Signs ☒ Word of Mouth _____

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? Yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes but 7

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you Lane Elementary,
Northside Hospital Complex, several Churches on Wimbish/Forest Hill.

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? no, none asked.

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? yes, but hate it.

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____
place of meeting should be in area affected.

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

149

Name
AddressGEORGE N RUBANOV
1210 NEWPORT PLACE
MACON GA 31210

Do you support the project? YES

Comments NEED E TRAFFIC LIGHT AT FOREST HILL AT
NEWPORT RD.

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____

Newspaper _____

Signs X _____

Word of Mouth _____

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? YES

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? YES

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? YES

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? YES

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT

150

Name
Address

Sandra Robanov
1210 Newport Place
Macon, GA 31210

Do you support the project? parts of it.

Comments I would like to see the whole road from Northside Dr. to Vineville Ave. have one center turn lane and a sidewalk. I do not support the 4 lanes with a raised median from Wimbley to Vineville Dr. I do not want to see an increase in traffic and would like to see traffic diverted to I-75

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____

Newspaper _____

Signs ✓

Word of Mouth _____

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community _____

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? yes

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _____

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? yes

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? yes

Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? _____