STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5) Bibb County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135

Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Car²

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Martha A. Sauls 901 Hill Place Macon, Ga. 31210

June 17, 2001

Harvey D. Keepler State Environmental/Location Engineer Georgia Department of Transportation 3993 Aviation Circle Atlanta, Ga. 30336

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

Re: STP-3213(1),STP-3213(3), & BRMLB-3215(5) Bibb County PI Numbers-350520,351130, and 351135

Gentlemen:

I am opposed to this project to widen Forest Hill Road. This will require residents to lose frontage on lots leaving insufficient depth. It will increase traffic and the speed of traffic to an unacceptable level.

I oppose the project.

Sincerely,

Martha I. Saule.

Martha A. Sauls



NATHANIEL E. SCHOCHAT 620 FOREST HILL ROAD MACON, GEORGIA 31210

June 15, 2001

Mr. Harvey D. Keepler Environmental / Location Engineer Georgia Department of Transportation 3993 Aviation Circle Atlanta, GA 30336-1593

Dear Mr. Keepler:

I am writing this letter to urge you to not allow the proposed widening of Forest Hill Road in Macon, Ga. to take place. I am 91 years old and have lived at 620 Forest Hill Road for 50 years.

The proposed changes would be harmful to me in several ways. First, the increased traffic and high driving speeds would make it very dangerous for me to pull out of my driveway into traffic. In addition, I need to cross Forest Hill Road on foot to get to my mailbox. That would be almost impossible with the increased number of lanes.

The noise and pollution created by the constant traffic would greatly harm my quality of life, making it hard to sleep or even spend a quiet evening at home. And of course, the commercialization of what is now an attractive residential road would cause my property value to drop dramatically.

There is nothing to be gained by converting the attractive residential section of Forest Hill Road into another dangerous high-speed thoroughfare.

Sincerely, tionel E. Schoolart

Nathaniel E. Schochat

152 N. E. Schochat 620 Forest Hill Rd. Macon, GA 31210-4607 6/11/2001 Should the plan relating to forest Itill Road be considered Droomed Deggest very strongly that! -first! - The speed limit be reduced from 45 mph to 30 mph, Presently at 45 mph speeding has no limit-but rather speeds of 45 mph to 60 mph or greater have been reached. Sandy !- That head lights be used day and night Even now Cors, trucks, SUVS Connet be seen due to hills + curves in The road, "Day time running lights will be a must to reduce loss of life to pedestrians + passengers in rehicles nacing to get to their destrinations.

475-1674



Page 1 of 4

Forest Hills Road

Public Response to the Environmental Assessment by: F. Thomas Scholl, Jr 4900 Oxford Road Macon, GA 31210

June, 2001

Traffic Volumes:

Non GDOT traffic volume information?--The EA lists traffic volumes for six sites along Forest Hills Road. The GDOT only takes yearly volumes for three sites in the project area and publishes them on the internet along with the date of the count. The EA should identify their source of this traffic count information and since it contains more data than the GDOT provides. (The consultants and/or Moreland Altobelli were found to invent traffic volumes on Houston Road, another project in the road program, and then swear to them in court! Complete documentation of this is available; contact me.) Any differences from the GDOT in the method of data collection or adjustment to the numbers should be explained fully.

EA traffic volumes in error--When comparing the EA 1999 volumes with the three nearest sites which the GDOT monitors, the EA numbers are exaggerated: 14,900 where the GDOT finds 14.422-a 3% inflation of the volume.

100 where the GDOT volume is 8665-a 17% inflation of the number. And 11,400 where the GDOT volume

10,938 for a 4% inflation of the GDOT volume.

Source: http://www.dot.state.ga.us/ Source: Traffic Counts Macon-Bibb County 1990-1999, DOT data published by Planning & Zoning

When the actual count is in error, it casts serious doubt on their forecasted volumes. The limitations of all forecasted values should be noted, as well.

For a decade the volumes on Forest Hills Road have remained stable--The historic GDOT traffic volumes since 1990 reveal that the volumes go up and down each year; and when considering the decade the volumes have mostly remained the same. The up and down volume changes can easily be explained by differences in weather conditions on the day the count was taken. The area is completely developed and predicted increases to the traffic appear only caused by new design/construction of the road, despite officials promises that the construction will not induce new traffic. Given the stable volumes over the last10 years and the lack of any apparent nearby real estate able to be developed, the EA should explain why traffic is expected to nearly triple over the next 15 years. Since many engineers question the ability of computer programs to make such accurate forecasts, additional evidence supporting any computer conclusions should be included. The EA inadequately explains and justifies traffic projections. For a closer examination of the historic growth rates compared to the incredible volume forecasts in the EA for Forest Hills Road see the section at the end of this document.

If there is nothing built, the EA predicts the highest count on Forest Hills Road will be 16,200. If the road is built, as is proposed, the EA predicts this count will rise to 28,400! The 16,200 figure is not that high a count, when comparing it to a two lane road like West Paces Ferry Road in Atlanta, which easily carries 30,000 cars a day because it has good intersection design.

urce: Traffic Counts Macon-Bibb County 1990-1999, DOT data published by Planning & Zoning

Officials later argued that the 16,200 figure represents the capacity of the road rather than a realistic assessment of traffic volume. They insist the figure in comparison, 28,400, does represent a realistic traffic volume. Evidently the figures compare apples to oranges and yet most of the engineers present couldn't explain the difference. Later, when I asked officials why two figures representing two different categories were offered as a

Page: 3 of 5

Page 2 of 4

comparison I was told this was a technical document for engineers only. (Remember most engineers at the public meeting could not explain these figures.) I wonder why the public is asked to respond to a document they are not expected to understand and is not intended to inform them of the realities of their road. I believe the attitude reveals that *public input is not valued* or sought and the public meeting is pro forma only. I believe the public deserves better information at these meetings and in documents to which they are asked to respond.

More on public input-MATS voted to use a "project development team" made up of citizens to secure proper public input on controversial projects. This commitment is published on page 1-9 of the Long Range Transportation Plan for 2025, Vol 1. Now that the GDOT has taken over this project, even though they use SPLOST funds and the project is part of the local road program and is listed in the MATS plan--which was shown to voters when they voted for the SPLOST--GDOT abandoned the "project development team" for Forest Hills Road. This breaks a commitment to the public from the road program by a bureaucratic shuffling a few papers and once again reveals a hostile attitude toward public input. GDOT should maintain the commitments made to the public by the road program and MATS for all projects within their program and using SPLOST funds. If MATS money is being used on a MATS project, then MATS guidelines and commitments should be followed.

When the Citizens Advisory Committee refused to approve the 2025 Land Use and Transportation Plan, GDOT official Cora Cook responded at a public meeting, "They are only advisory, anyway." On page 1-1 of the MATS 2025 Transportation Plan they boast "From the inception, the MATS has always had a Citizens Advisory Committee . . . the CAC is used to gauge community values and public attitudes in the planning process." Yet Ms Cook's comment was the only comment made about the CAC refusal to approve the 2025 Land Use and Transportation Plan The CAC was given inaccurate and limited information on the Forest Hills Road design. ithout strong backing from FHWY public input will never be important, held in contempt even, here in Macon.

Accidents:

Problems with accident statistics-- For 1997 the EA lists 57 accidents and 28 injuries for 1997, however 7 (12%) are attributed to the 1500 block which has commercial and shopping center entrances. This area has recently been improved/widened and falls outside the project area. The remaining small section of the 1500 block is residential without any intersections. These 7 accidents, most certainly, should not be included in the accident totals for the project area.

Source: Macon-Bibb County Traffic Engineering

For 1998 the EA lists 55 accidents and 31 injuries in the project area. The actual count from the GDOT is 54 accidents with 2 of these occurring in the 1500 block; these two accidents should be excluded for the same reasons cited in the above paragraph. The EA totals are then reduced by three or by $5\frac{1}{2}$ %. Source: Macon-Bibb County Traffic Engineering

The 1999 accident statistics are in error by claiming 26 injuries when the actual number is 22--an 18% overstatement. Thus, the comparisons with statewide statistics in all these categories should be adjusted appropriately.

Source: Macon-Bibb County Traffic Engineering

Address the problems!--If five intersections south of Wimbish Road are addressed, Vineville, Ridge, Overlook, Charter and Wimbish, as well as one north of Wimbish, Old Lundy, then fully half of the accidents are accounted for. The accidents south of Wimbish should not be used to justify construction north of Wimbish, which actually presents 75% of the length of the project. Addressing these intersections would bring the accident totals well ander the statewide average. Given that 50% of the accidents occur on the short stretch south of Wimbish, the section of Forest Hills north of Wimbish may already be under the statewide average.





Page 3 of 4

_____necessary widening will promote faster speeds causing louder noise levels to neighborhood houses beyond those facing Forest Hills. In 2024, there will be 28,000 cars speeding through the neighborhood the EA predicts. Can the neighborhood survive? Will the tax basis for the area be preserved? In my version of the EA, (abbreviated versions of the EA are never identified as such) noise is not addressed. I have heard that other, fuller versions admit to an excessive noise problem without a solution. This is a significant impact! Other alternatives which might address the noise levels deserve consideration!

West Paces Ferry represents how careful engineers can design roads to carry additional traffic safely without compromising a neighborhood. The EA should, but does not, consider an alternative which improves intersection design for increased volume and safety without making all the proposed widening changes. Since these types of alternatives are never considered by the road program, it appears these skills are not within the abilities of our engineers and outside consultants need to be brought in.

No conclusions should be drawn from the two fatalities cited given the data provided. The EA points out that in two of the years considered there was a fatality. This is too small a statistic to draw any significant conclusions; the GDOT describes the cause of both fatalities as "other." Thus, it is unclear road design would even address the causes of these fatalities. (Residents and an official from City Engineering remember these accidents were due to excessive speed-over 80 mph and alcohol.) It is improper, given the data offered and that available from the GDOT, to use the fatalities as a justification for the proposed design or construction of the road. Proper attention to the limited number of intersections would be an efficient, practical, and reasonable solution to meet safety concerns on Forest Hills Road.

Final Word

ne man one vote?-GDOT officials insist they consider only engineering and other practical benefits of each project. However, when Calder Clay, a county commissioner and candidate for the US Senate, asks that the Forest Hills project cul-de-sac his road, it is done. And when Robert Reichert, a Georgia legislator, asks that an intersection near his home receive special attention, new designs are quickly incorporated into the plan. This pandering to the personal needs of elected officials is insulting to the public whose voices are largely ignored. It also compromises the credibility of the quality of the engineering and values behind the proposed designs. When questioned about this, Joseph Palladi, GDOT official, said "I will not deny political concerns went into the design." Wrong answer!

Flooding-A local creek bed flooded a few years back according to property owners, damaging Forest Hills Road and closing it for several weeks. This is not even addressed in the EA.

Lack of alternatives considered--Unfortunately, a two lane road with well designed intersections¹ is not considered as an alternative, nor is the possibility of 11 foot lanes addressed. Adding additional lanes and making each one 12 to 14 feet wide is the only remedy considered. These neighborhood unfriendly solutions need to yield to creative and competent designs engineers are offering to other cities. Traffic claming for a extra wide noisy neighborhood road? Not considered. Nationally reknown engineer Walter Kulash offered a proposal for Forest Hills Road which was not considered. Also, there has been a credible plan proposed to make Northside Drive the arterial carrying the traffic Forest Hills is being designed to carry; this alternative is not addressed. A problem of major concern to officials and residents alike is the affect of Forest Hills dumping traffic on Vineville which cannot tolerate more volume. All solutions for Vineville to date are tremendously expensive. It would be helpful to do a study to determine exactly where and when traffic using Forest Hills Road is coming from and where it is heading to see what other routes might be improved to encourage traffic.

the road program is spending millions on a new traffic light control center. Yet the abilities of this center is never considered in the designs of any of the projects. If the control center is so important and needed, why do we design roads as if we will not have the capabilities of the traffic light control center? Will this control center not improve traffic flow and improve our intersections?

From: Tom Scholl,

Page: 5 of 5



475-1674

Page 4 of 4

ay from Vineville. In any case it is irresponsible to proceed with the Forest Hills construction without first analyzing and addressing the Vineville problem, especially when there is at least one other alternative which reduces the Vineville volumes (the Northside Drive alternative.) There are win/win solutions to Forest Hills Road and most of our other roads but our engineers appear unable/unwilling to discover them. Since construction for this road would be several years away, there is not any need to rush the approval of this EA. There is plenty of time to address the concerns contain herein and those among other concerned residents, and to be certain that what we build is truly the best and most appropriate option for our community.

Historic Growth Rates for Forest Hills Road

		•											· ·	
ID#	LOCATION	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
447 Forest Hills 449 Forest Hills 452 Forest Hills	s Rd S of Wimbish Rd s Rd S of Forest Hills Ter s Rd S of Newport Rd s Rd N of Northside Dr c Counts Macon-Bibb Co	12,524 6360 7316 1865 punty 199	6,264 7835 2185	6339 5552 2134	7588 8705 2207	6711 6244 2326	7483 9372 3085	12,789 7523 9912 3758 ning &	7820 10164 3063	8387 10357 3046	14,114 8531 11008 2977	13,278 7918 10089 3481	12,776 7679 9690 3278	14,422* 8668* 10938* 3384

Source: Traffic Counts Macon-Bibb County 1987-1997, DOT data published by Planning & Zoning

* indicates an estimated volume. Almost all volumes for 1999 are estimated, and as such shouldn't carry the same credibility as historic counts.

Comparing 13 years from 1987 to 1998 (the last year an actual count was recorded)

#445	S of Wimbish Rd 1/10 of 1 % annual growth from 1987 to 1998
47	S of Forest Hills Ter 1.8 % annual growth from 1987 to 1998
+49	S of Newport Rd 3% S of Newport Rd annual growth from 1987 to 199

...449 S of Newport Kd-- 3% S of Newport Rd annual growth from 1987 to 1998

The one section which section which experienced a significant growth (#449) would be noteworthy except when one considers that its growth was early, probably due to development now completed. The annual growth on this section has been ½ of 1 % since 1992. This same flat growth rate is found on all the sections counted by the GDOT for at least the last six years. By using estimated volumes for 1999, *Traffic Counts Macon-Bibb County 1990-1999* finds, from 1995 to 1999, total growth rates of 7 %, 3 % and 5% (annualized growth of 1.75 %, 3/4 of 1% and 1.25%) for the three sections of Forest Hills within the project area. However, if one examines the last five years for which we know an *actual count* was taken (1994-1998) one finds negative growth on all three sections!!

These growth rates would indicate a well designed two-lane facility north of Wimbish could be adequate for years to come and would make any reasonable person consider the scale of the design needed north of Wimbish. The EA forecasts of traffic volumes are in serious conflict with the historical growth rate for Forest Hills Road without any justification offered for their validity. Incredibly, from 1998 to 2024 the EA predicts 4.6 % (from 12,776 to 27,600 cars per day) and 4 % (from 7679 to 15,500) and 3.8 % (from 9690 to 18,900) annual growth for the three sections of Forest Hills Road GDOT records volumes. Even if one uses the EA's inflated 1999 volume estimates (from 14,600 to 28,400, etc.) the EA boldly predicts 4% annual growth for sections of Forest Hills Road. This growth bends credibility beyond the breaking point.

Gary C. Schultz 253 Albermarle Place Macon, Georgia 31204-1307 478/477-7661 gcschultz99@yahoo.com

June 19, 2001

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

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

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RE: Project Nos. 5240-8&9

Gentlemen:

Page 1 of 1

I write to object to the planned widening of Forest Hill Road (Macon, Georgia) and the conversion of Overlook Avenue, The Prado, and Drury Drive to cul-du-sacs.

This project will seriously degrade the in-town neighborhood character of what we know as the Ingleside area. I have lived in North Macon for twenty-three years and have driven on Forest Hill Road and Wimbish Road almost daily during my residence. Traffic slows slightly in the early morning and late afternoon hours, but never to the point requiring the scope of work proposed. This project will inalterably change the home life and neighborhood appeal of our area and and certainly make it less family-friendly. The only benefit I see is speeding access through our once-quiet residential neighborhood for people living outside the area. The closing of Overlook Avenue and the Prado will fimnel all the traffic to\from the Stinsonville area to Riverdale Road, Albermarle Place, Belvidere, and Ridge Avenue. Traffic on Albermarle (and Riverdale and Belvidere) is already heavy, the 25mph speed limit is not enforced, several pets have already been killed, and we are waiting with dread for the first child to be hit.

Much is said about urban sprawl and how to avoid it. The best remedy is to maintain the neighborhood appeal of urban areas. If the only objective of government road builders becomes the fastest possible flow of traffic from one side of town to the other, urban neighborhoods suffer, and young families with children wanting a safe place to play look for a sub-division likely built on ever-diminishing green space. If Forest Hill Road becomes another Vineville Avenue or Northside Drive, the character of one of the oldest, and most appealing, Macon neighborhoods will be lost forever.

The few traffic problems that exist on Forest Hill Road could be solved by the simple construction of left-turn lanes at the busier intersections. The Prado and Overlook Avenue could be left open, insuring easier access for emergency vehicles and maintaining a better balance of traffic to/from the Stinsonville area.

If state agencies insist on completion of this project, the least they could offer is agreement to erect speed bumps on Albermarle, Riverdale, and Belvidere to give some protection from the already-heavy 40 mph traffic.

Sincerely, 06/19/01 GCS: C:\My Documents\010619DOT.doc

STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMILB-3213(5) **Bibb** County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135 Georgia Department of Transportation **Public Meeting Comment Card** PLEASE PRINT Name Address Do you support the project? Comments DEVE, 2nd avn lenes Forces 0 F Simple 2'dation How did you hear about this meeting? Radio Newspaper. Word of Mouth Signs 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 _ ne better Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? \leq 1004 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? With

STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5) Bibb County P.I. Numbers, 350520 and 351130/351135

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June 18,2001

Harvey Keepler State Environmental/Location Engineer Ga. Dept of Transportation 2993 Aviation Circle, Atlanta, Ga. 20330

Dear Mr. Keepier:

Some 35 years ago I moved to Macon and located on Forest Hill Rd. At that time, this street was in the outskirts of Macon; I never dreamed that 35 yeaars later this neighborhood would be faced with devaluation of property, house and air pollution, destruction of trees and shrubbery and a general degrading of the entire area,

That is what's going to happen to my house. About one-third of py lawn will be gone and automobile traffic will be much nearer my front door. Amoulances and fire oecantment conveyances: which already use this noute on a regular basis) will sound as if they are coming in the house. Bust and air collution will be the norm for this street and ditimately no one will want to buy my house if I should want to sell.

The people who live on this street are mostly of retirement age and therefore are trapped by this situation if clans are carried out as presented recently. We wonder why we were not contacted earlier in the game to give our input. That would have been the sensible thing to do. We also wonder if there are not alternatives to this massive infusion of concrete in this road widening effort.

I am particularly opposed to placing sidewalks on onr side of the "improvement". In the other areas of town where these sidewalks have been laid, I very rarely see aryone walking. It seems to me that there has been an extractionary expenditure of funds (tax monies) with very little payback.

Although I am not a traffic engineer, I would like to make these suggestions:

. Eliminate some of the traffic by prohibiting large trucks from using Forest Hill as a through route. Atlanta makes big trucks use I-285 instead of going through downtown..

. Use traffic lights to slowdown traffic at the critical times of the day (going to work, coming home from work) . Post speed signs for 35 miles per hour speed limit. . Restrict left hand turns to certain locations.

It would seem feasible also, to conduct a campaign to excourace use of four and five lane roads for downtown

157

When Bibb county voted for the 1 cent sales tax, I thought road improvement was for repaying badly deteriorating roads and for paying dirt roads, replacing dangerous bridges, and for upgrading traffic signs and signals. The present use of these funds seem to me to be wasteful and unnecessary. I hope we can make improvements without waste and only with full input of the people who are going to be most affected by these changes.

Eincereiv . Accelline S. Scoti 1203 Forest Hill Rd.

Macon, Ba. 31210

Jone 16, 2001

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Larry R Dreihaud. P.E Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration Atlanta Federal Center of Forsyth St. S. W. Suite 177100 Atlanta, Ba 30303

Dear Mr. Dreihap: Some 35 years ago I moved to Macon and located on Forest Hill Rd. At that time, this street was in the outskirts of Macon; I never dreamed that 35 years later this neighborhood would be faced with devaluation of property, noise and air pollution, destruction of trees and snrubbery and a general degrading of the entire area.

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Mequiline D. Sutt JEaueline 3. Scott 1463 Forest Hill Rd.

Macon, Ga. 31210

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JUNE 11.2001

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TO WHOM IT NON CONCERN

RE: PROPOSED WIDENING OF FOREST HILL RD.

Forest Hill Rd is a street designed to be a neighborhood connector, not a superhighway. Except for certain times of day (in the a. m., at lunchtime, and in the evening) this is a relatively quiet street. There are plentyof other roads which serve (or could serve) as thoroughfares--Riverside Dr, Northside Dr, and Vineville, Forsyth Rd.

There is no need to "promote" Forest Hill Rd as a major conduit for excessive traffic. Although I am sure that rempers flare when there is momentary slowdown, what is everyone racing to? Will seconds and minutes matter, when we know that widening streets induces more speed and less caution?

There must be some alternative solutions to reducing traffic slowdowns in the morning, noon and evening when people are cominghome from work. I'm not a traffic or roads engineer, but I'm sure someone with experience could find solutions.

I'm most particularly opposed to sidewalks-- feel that they are unnecessary. Where they have been installed in Macon, I have yet to see more than one or two people using them. Very poor use of tax money, I think

When the 1 cent sales tax was proposed, I voted for it. I wanted to see some of the pot holes filled and some major streets repayed. More than anything I wanted to see lights (traffic) synchronized.

Instead, neighborhoods have been threatened, and some invaded with extensive and long term "improvements". Some neighbirhoods have had yards reduced to the extent that roads are practically running through their porches and front rooms.

Forest Hill Rd is a neighborhood of mostly older people who moved here years ago. Most of us feel trapped by the proposed changes WE'll lose yards, plants and shrubbery. There will be increased noise and pollution.

We just don"t want it and see it as an unnecessary expenditure of local, state and federal funde..

Mrs Jacqueline S. Scott 1463 Forest Hill Ed.

	P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/3511 Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card
	Public Meeting Comment Card
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159 06-11-01 MACON-Bibb Cocoty Road Committee Sumo: I still protect this turning Torest Dele Road into a speedway, I have heard so many humore as to what is planned that I don't know plan to ask anymore, so I plan to attend your meeting to try to understand some of the persyle, Thank you for allowing question & hopefully answers. Marprem Skipper 1430 Forest Hill Pol 31211 Ph. 474-8665

154 06-18-01 MR. HARVEY D. KEEPLER STATE ENVIRONMENT AND LOCATION ENGINEER DEPT. OF TRANSPOTATI 3993 AVIATION CIRCLE ATLANTA; GA. 30336-1593 RE: TIP MCN 25 SiR: I Live AT 1430 FOREST HILL READ MACON, GA. 31210 There Attended EVERY open meeting Concerning our STREET, STRENGLY to the OrigiNAL PLANS for 5 LANES I thank you for your REDESIGN TO 3 LANES, however Why do we need A SidewALK ALONG this speed WAY? Who USES SIDEWALKS ANYMORE? ESPECIAlly close To heavy TRAffic= going Too FAST for Walkers So Now I ask That you lower the speed limit TO help Keep pedesTRIANS SAFe " This could make Forest HILL Rd. less dANGEROUS, ALSO, please JUT A SToplichT where bocchoppee meets Forest HILL RD. Well, I've had My SAY, Now you have yours, Respect Fully Marjone M. Skipper P.H. # 1-478-474-8665

RE: TIP MCN 25 G F Ms. Murjarie Skijper 1430 Forest Hill Ka blicon CA 31210-2332 STATE ENVIRONMENT AND LOCATION ENGINEER MR. HARYEY D. KEEPLER ATLANTA, GEORGÍA 30336-1593 3993 AVIATION CIRCLE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION JUN 2 0 2001 2022&/1893 Iullullunllullunllullunlluhlunlluhlu 1002 NUL 61 0N 61 PM i

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Comments re: Forest Hill Road, Bibb County, Georgia STP - 3213(1) and STP 3213(3)/BRMLB - 3213(5), P.I. Nos. 350520 and 351130/351135

161

Public Hearing, Monday, June 11, 2001, Springdale Elementary, Macon, Ga.

I oppose the Forest Hill Road projects cited above.

1. I currently reside at 777 Forest Hill Road and have for the past 25 years. Needless to say I have had first hand experience with the traffic flow and changes over the years. There has not been a significant increase in the traffic flow on Forest Hill. I go in and out of my driveway several times a day and experience no real problem in integrating into traffic. On Forest Hill I very seldom if ever experience any traffic delays. As for implementing sidewalks I think it's a waste of tax dollars. Forest Hill is not the type of neighbor hood where people will access sidewalks. Certainly it makes sense around a school zone like McKibbon Lane but not the length of Forest Hill Rd.

2. With the widening of Forest Hill four lanes above Wimbish and three lanes for the rest of the road you will create a situation where you will have more cars, more speed, and more noise. In essence you will be on the road to destroying another neighbor hood by putting in a thoroughfare and changing the landscape from residential to commercial. To prove my point all you have to do is look at the transition of Vineville Ave. from residential to commercial since it has been widen and turned into a thoroughfare.

3. At the above public hearing I had the opportunity to look at plans for my house and my vacant lot next door. The plans are to fill in most of my yard leaving approx. 20 ft. to my front porch. This will obviously destroy my property value and due to increased noise levels above the projected 70 dba range will make my property unlivable. In addition by filling in my front yard drainage problem will be created. In my mind this is a totally unacceptable plan for property that I have owned for over 25 years.

Respectfully submitted by Ray Smith, 777 Forest Hill Rd. Macon Ga. 31210

STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5) **Bibb** County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135 Georgia Department of Transportation KAY_ Public Meeting Comment Card PLEASE PRINT Name Address Do you support the project? Comments NOW) owersm Radio vspaper about this meeting? Word of Mouth Signs 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? 5:30 P.M If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you _ 120 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?

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163 Sentlemen: I am opposed to the Forest Hillwedening as proposed Improving terest Hill to a four-la road with 15 median, from Vineville to Wimbush is completely out of character for that nighborhos and will destroy the residential nature of all the affected houses on and around Forest Will Ad, Those houses will be forced to turn commercial, further destroying Additional traffic, pushing more cars I feel improving Forest Hill to a three lane road similar to the southern Fores Hill improvement, Intersections of Wimba Ridge and Vineville can be improved to alleviate congestin. The proposal to Cul de sac Overlood, and Lado is inacceptable. Taking that action increases the traffic on connecting streets by Hor 5 fold, Kurdale, Albermarle, and Belocle will be effectively extended to the emof Prado_ and Overloop. I malso aposed to a Cul-de-sac of one or the other. To do that would double or triple. traffic on the other thru stret_ Over-

lease don't destroy our beautiful nighborhood_ Parkway. Dunderstand you must address. increasing traffic. your proposal will attract even more traffic to ourarea. Our nighborhood, started in the AZO'S should remain residential. Surely alternate solutions can be forend. Vaughan And 163

	5 STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3
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	Georgia Department of Transportation
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JULIAN N. SPARROW 729 Forest Hill Road Macon, Georgia 31210

164

June 17, 2001

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

Re: STP-3213(1),STP-3213(3) & BRMLB-3213(5), Bibb County PI Numbers-350520,351130, and 351135

Dear Sir:

I am opposed to the plan which was presented on June 11, 2001 for the following reasons;

!. The 1 mile of Forest Hill Road from its'intersection with Wimbish Road northward to its' intersection with Old Lundy Road does not appear to be the most logical choice because of topography. Lots are on both hills and valleys on the East and West sides of the street which will unreasonably increase costs.

- 2. Driveways are steep and the taking of frontage will render ingress and egress to residences impossible. We already have problems of this nature and this project is an accident waiting to happen. There have been several accidents with residents being "rear ended" when attempting to enter their driveways. This problem will be worse with this proposed project.
- 3. It would be far more logical to Use Wimbish and Old Lundy for the following reasons;
 - a. Topography is approximately level with the right of way
 - b. Homes are set well back from the right of way which indicates that someone anticipated a widening 50 years ago when this property was developed.
- 4. The one mile of Forest Hill which should be ELIMINATED FROM THIS PROJECT should be a limited access road from Wimbish to Old Lundy This will save both money and lives.

Enclosed is the map presented to property owners at the meeting. I have highlighted the more logical route for this project.

Sincerely,

Danne alicin (). X Julian N. Sparroy

FIGURE 1 Project Location Map

STP-3213(1), & STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5), Bibb County, Georgia P.I. No. 350520 & 351130/351135



Not to Scale

STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5) Bibb County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135

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P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135
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JULIAN N. SPARROW 729 Forest Hill Road Macon, Georgia 31210

64

June 17, 2001

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

Re: STP-3213(1),STP-3213(3) & BRMLB-3213(5), Bibb County PI Numbers-350520,351130, and 351135

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Sincerely, Julian N. Sparrow

FIGURE 1 Project Location Map

164

STP-3213(1), & STP-3213(3)/BRMILB-3213(5), Bibb County, Georgia P.I. No. 350520 & 351130/351135



STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5) Bibb County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135

Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

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STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5) Bibb County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135 Georgia Department of Transportation **Public Meeting Comment Card** PLEASE PRINT Name off WiA Address 204 Do you support the project? Comments How did you hear about this meeting? Radio___ Newspaper Word of Mouth Signs IPS 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?

STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5) Bibb County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135

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Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card
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Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

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ame ddress	PHILIP AND PHONDA TAYLE 252 RIVERDALE DR. MACON, GA 31204	·
o you supp	ort the project? <u>NO</u>	
• . •	THE TRAFFIC FLOW DOES NOT N THROUGH THESE NEIGHBORHOR	DDS.
	TE FORREST MILL IS WIDENEN DO NOT NEED TO CUL-DE-SI OVERVOOK I THAT MAKES" RIDGE AVE. EVEN WORSE	CUT THEOUGHS" OFF
How did yo	u hear about this meeting? Radio	Newspaper
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STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5)
	Bibb County
P.I. Numbers- 350520 a	and 351130/351135

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	P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135
	Georgia Department of Transportation
	Public Meeting Comment Card
	PLEASE PRINT 170
Name	KONNETH B-Taylor
Address	S74 HIGH POINT N. Pa
	MAUN, 60 31210
Do you suppo	ort the project? <u>No</u>
Comments _	Do NOT BURN THE TREES AFTER YOU EUS THEPA DOWN
ON THE	E RIGHTOEWays FURN WITH A Less INTANSIO Proposal - FURNST Hele Road
heile	· De JUST LIKE NORTH SIDE DRIV - 17 Speeklag
IF	YOU DO THIS PLEASE MATICE A TURN LANC IN TO HIGH POINS. ON WITH BUSH RO
N. P.O	ON WIMBON RO
	Signs Word of Mouth ation of the meeting convenient for you to attend?es suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community
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	e suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you
1000	
Were your o	questions answered by the DOT personnel? $\frac{1}{No}$
Do you und	lerstand the project after attending this meeting?
Please share	e your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings?

STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5) Bibb County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135 Georgia Department of Transportation **Public Meeting Comment Card** PLEASE PRINT Name Address Do you support the project? _____ Comments How did you hear about this meeting? Radio___ Newspaper Word of Mouth Signs 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? _____

STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMILB-3213(5) **Bibb** County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135 Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card 12 PLEASE PRINT Name Address TER, Do you support the project? TION IM PROVER Comments BADU APROX HORE DIFF How did you hear about this meeting? Radio_ Newspaper. Word of Mouth Signs / Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? $\sqrt{12}$ 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? $\sqrt{3}$ 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?

Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

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	PLEASE PRINT
ne	Martha Tisdale,
dress	465103xford Circle
GI 055	Macon GA 31210
	port the project? Not igntirety
you sur	port the project? Not Entirety
	To I object to the treatment of Foresh Hill Road as an I road and the noise and amount of traffic that the it
mments	to I object to the treatment of Foresh Hill Rous as it
rteri'd	I road and the noise and amound of trattic main
vill h	smay be curbed + guttered + impreved without adding
Road	smay be curbed + guillenes + improve commence
lune	S Width,
Up Se	not so rise to us to be noise, but any wider any furth not so rise to us to be noise, but any wider any furth be so. And forest Hill would bring the noise & traffic lase foo close to our neighborhood, he would also lose the you hear about this meeting? Radio also heat would so the notice of Newspaper
Drig	not so rise to the Will Would bring the noise & traffic
would	be so. That forest the ights rhosed the would also lose the
INCRE	ase for close how meeting? Radio alesthet is of Newspaper
low ara	The naturel
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Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card PLEASE PRINT Me dress 250 metrikt Alo. Metrik Alo.
Public Meeting Comment Card PLEASE PRINT Meeting Comment Card PLEASE PRINT Decon, ba 31204 you support the project? in part ments torn the on Ridge to Forget Hill is here here a consist of the meeting? Radio Low did you hear about this meeting? Radio Newspaper Newspaper Newspaper Word of Mouth Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? 400
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Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel?
Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? <u>U</u>
Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?
Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?

Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

PLEASE PRINT SAI Name Address MINSTERDY 31201 MACON (A 0 Do you support the project? meigun an unban artinial nist Commen dimi 111 Vonthurs NO COR a Detch Sunn MM Inn the Nont uston is dependant - on 01 nante hen - art nitas civen nother walni is nue · then no sik extrem Side a APAcon is alteredy a non attainant area - we do not need to creat Blather How did you hear about this meeting? Radio_ Newspaper HI way pollubi Word of Mouth Signs Was the instant of the meeting convenient for you to attend? If no, planet is a second s o attend? Was th 30 nvenient for you If no, 1 sonnel? Were and the second this meeting? Do ye Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? loud hav achieved quatur public input ml had been 7Mi h2 Commun

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Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

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ime Idress	PLEASE PRINT RA/ W/AlKER 650 COMMANCH DR MACUM, CA 31210	116
	port the project? <u>YES</u> We Voted Con this proje	
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STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMILB-3213(5) **Bibb** County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135 Georgia Department of Transportation **Public Meeting Comment Card** PLEASE PRINT ARNOCK Name Forest Address MACON, GA 31210 No Do you support the project? MORAL has come to address ime Comments whole ter, of this tou obtain the MORAL all the case and comport of the tilles his river wi hon al that the trine. hevelog i cal vor I dera are udg emen ain make How did you hear about this meeting? Radio_ Newspaper Word of Mouth Signs 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 25 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? 1V0 Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings?

Warnack-3 177 a further consideration is the stated prospect of streets leading into Forest Will Rd, becoming culde Sacs, Such closures makes access by fire department, police, ambalance extremely difficult Eand dangerous. The closest access would be Riverdale, a street now subject to very little traffie, Again a totally residential street would be subject to heavy traffic trying to get to The Pirado and adjoining properties. Riverdale is augure of the encroachment. Southern Bell, have very recently been at considerable expense to replace poles and lines on a large section of Forest Hill. are Forest Hill Pd. residents and Southern Bell, naive enough to believe clangesous inconsenience will period as these poles and plines are again moved? Indeed not! Is the firm doing over the road prepared to more and/or replace all mail bokes, repair all drive ways at their entrance to individual houses, restore grass and shrubbery? Most residences have planted shubbery trees etc. to protect their pontage. Surely, The great number so affected by destruction will expect and cesk for replacement or finds to allow such replacement. It is also evident that "replace ment " is a misnomer. Loss will have happened in any event!

Warnack a large mumber of the people on this stretch of road have owned their homes for 15-20 years on more - 42 years for us and some around usclonger. Does the Lity of Macon have no moral committment to this portion of its long form cite-- zeno and tox pargers? are these citizens primary propulses like traspoper to be through out like trash paper with meither morice nor legal re-. course. Does the City realize the incurrent loss of tary dollars ? Tax increase ? 30 to 40 00 for what? 2. Mr. Patterson states isrefintable dacts fin his comments on noise and happie in the appanded area - Vinewille and to dependent properties and the Vineralles to Worthside neighborhoods. Forest Hill Rd, is not a well policed road and the parerage speed is well above the speed limits Most drivers pay no attention to the posted sphool zone crossing. The traffic moter level fours 2 lessens about IAM to sesume at le AM. Thail botes must be replaced frequently as drivers choose to destroy mail loves rather than have accidente due to speed an easy prediction is that 55-les MPH would be the speed of crough autor to make Forest Hill Bd. a real speed hozard. The broadening of Zebulon Rd. is a perfect chample of increased spied due to added lane lanes. . Projects 5 and 9 are disaster plans for the pot only immediate residents but for those whose properties adjoin the area. Jokchapee, Old Lundy and others would be cut off from safe entry. We wish there were planners with moral concerns for those on whom they force the demolition - This portion of the citizening of Macon, Property taxes would indeed med lowering for those effected.

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Warnack-3 (3177 a further consideration is the stated prospect of streets leading into Forest Will Rd, becoming culdesacs. Such closures makes access by fire department, police, ambulance extremely difficult & and dangerous. The closest access would be Riverdale, a street now subject to very little traffie. Again a totally residential street would be subject to heavy traffic trying to get to The Pirado and adjoining properties. Birerdale is aware of the encroachment. Southern Bell, have very recently been at considerable expense to replace poles and lines on a large section of Forest Hill. are Forest Hill Rd. residents and Southern Bell, naire enough to believe clangesvers inconsenience will exist as these poles and lines are again moved? Indeed not! Is the firm doing over the road prepared to more and/or replace all mail boxes, repair all driveways at their enfrance to individual houses, restore grass and shrubbery? Most residences have planted shubbery, trees, etc. to protect their prontage. Surely, The great number so affected by destruction will expect and cesk for replacement or funds to allow such replacement. It is also evident that "replace ment " is a misnomer. Loss will have happened in any event!

STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMILB-3213(5) Bibb County P.I. Numbers- 350520 and 351130/351135 Georgia Department of Transportation **Public Meeting Comment Card** warnack' PLEASE PRINT 11. Warpock Name Address 194131210 Do you support the project? $\underline{NO-NO-N}$ Comments 43 years at the above andress. destroy our HD year hedge Wall Screening us from oten their door und step The sneed wh 45-5001. roberty values would fall 60 or more People are afraid. herome boxes how. Most between Wimbisht N'S'd rom their mail their property 25-30 years and are not young you interest in what becomes of this stable inprogresid How did you hear about this meeting? Radio_____ Newspaper Traffic too fast to read signs signs Word of Mouth Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? Yes-why not Mckibben Lane If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community 17- bahly because they are apposed, too, How about the Niethodist Church? Same reason Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you No, but they were polite and made a good try, Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? Themeeting bad nothing to do Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? With understanding. Please share your suggestions on improving the way Georgia DOT conducts public meetings? The meeting was well planned. If the plan that is really ightening to property owners not only on Forest Hill but nat its now a neighborbood (surrounding area) would no longer exist! And how about property values.

STP-3213(1) and STP-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5)
	Bibb County
P.I. Numbers- 350520	and 351130/351135

P.I. Nu Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

J.

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		Publ	lic Meeting Co	omment Car	d		n
			PLEASE F	PRINT		178	3
lame Address	NAt 3860 Macon	Duerle n, GA	ook Ave. 31204	·····			
Comments <u>Cul-de-</u> <u>41124</u>	T ar SAC	n in At t LVK YEAS	5 op Full supp me end c of t ones	of Ove of Ove raffic f the w	placi vlook A low anes	ug A NE. I WILL R of For	feel sult est Hill
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Please sha			improving the v				

Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

	PLEASE PRINT	179
ame İdress	Sucon Wathlins 3860 Overlook Avenue Macon, GA 31204	
o you supp	ort the project? Yes	
omments <u>Aveet</u> <u>and</u> <u>Hill.</u> <u>Forest</u> <u>aenea</u>	Please make overlook Averrue where it connects to Forest alot of small children on o po many cars speed through E feel like this would increas Hill is widened, so a dead- se the amount of cars that he streets instead in our ner	trom Forest
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STP-3213(1) and STI	P-3213(3)/BRMLB-3213(5)
	Bibb County
P.I. Numbers-	350520 and 351130/351135

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	Public Meeting Comment Card
	PLEASE PRINT
Name Address	Fin i Abretha Watson 830 Forest Hell Ct Maeon ga
Do you sup	port the project? <u>No</u>
Comments Lee a Lance Lance Lance He	Jurn laxes at major intersections word expression Relp- Sodewalps added wo one the entire area and make this of friendly" approach - Current plan turns a neighbohood ins new Junners distict
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