

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

51

PLEASE PRINT

Name Louis W. Dougherty Jr Project 5240-819
Address 282 Riverdale Dr.
Macon GA ~~31204~~ 31204

Do you support the project? No

Comments I There is too much traffic on Riverdale Dr,
Abbeville St + Belvedere Dr north - Gilchrist Ave Drury
Prado, + only look will a little make life on the above
streets. Miserable, running at night - road is 217 way
around.
I Eliminate the cul de sacs - do not send
more traffic than Riverdale, Abbeville + Belvedere.

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? _____

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? Basically yes
but do not understand why it has to be

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

Georgia Department of Transportation Public Meeting Comment Card

52

PLEASE PRINT

Name
Address

BRIAN R. EADES
2983 VICTORIA CIRCLE
MACON, GA 31204

Do you support the project? No.

Comments I AM A NATIVE OF ATLANTA AND THEREFORE, I AM FAMILIAR WITH TRAFFIC CONGESTION. TO SUGGEST THAT FOREST HILL ROAD (OR WIMBISH ROAD FOR THAT MATTER) NEEDS WIDENING IS ABSURD. THESE BEAUTIFUL, TREE-LINED STREETS ADD TO MACON'S CHARM + THE DESTRUCTION OF SIMILAR STREETS IN ATLANTA HAVE DESTROYED THE CHARM THAT THAT CITY ONCE POSSESSED. IF YOU IMPLEMENT THESE "IMPROVEMENTS", YOU WILL DESTROY A CHARMING, ESTABLISHED NEIGHBORHOOD. PLEASE FOR THE SAKE OF MACON'S CHARM + SENSE OF COMMUNITY, RECONSIDER THESE OPTIONS. I FAIL TO SEE THAT FOREST HILL ROAD OR WIMBISH ROAD REQUIRE ANY WIDENING. THERE REALLY IS NO NEED TO DO THIS. IT IS A WASTE OF TAXPAYER MONEY + I WOULD ALSO ADD THAT THE TAXPAYERS ARE AGAINST IT.

REAL

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

Signs _____ Word of Mouth _____

Furthermore, the latest census records indicate that Macon's population decreased. Why are we widening roads + "improving" the infrastructure if the town is declining in size? In closing,

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 _____

PLEASE RECONSIDER

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? Ambiguously.

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? ~~no~~ Yes

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

June 14, 2001

2983 Victoria Circle
Macon, GA 31204

SZ cont.
p-2

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

Mr. Keepler:

I attended the meeting hosted by your organization on June 11 at Springdale Elementary School and I must admit that since that time, I have gone out of my way to traverse Forest Hill Road at various times of the day in an attempt to encounter different traffic conditions. As long as responsible drivers continue to obey the speed limit, I do not honestly see that a traffic congestion problem exists on this road. Furthermore, your organization has revealed that this project is planned to handle Macon's future growth. However, I think that you may be a bit overzealous in your anticipations for population increases in Bibb County over the next few years. A recent article in *The Macon Telegraph* revealed how the City of Macon's population has been on the decline. This is largely due to the overall poor quality of public schools along with the rampant crime problem that plagues this town. Therefore, I fail to see that our city should waste federal and state tax dollars on expanding the infrastructure of a town that is declining in population. This "build it and they will come" philosophy runs counter to logical and rational thought.

As I am sure you know, if this road widening project is allowed to proceed under its present plan, it will severely jeopardize the residential character (through increased noise levels and volume of traffic) of several historically significant post-war subdivisions located in close proximity to both Forest Hill Road and Wimbish Road. These subdivisions include Glenwood Forest, Forest Lake, Lockchapee Landing, Rivoli Park, Glen Cove, Lundy Terrace, Wimbish Woods, Kings Forest, Thornwood, Wimbish Hills, Walton Way, and Northminister. A portion of the Ingleside neighborhood, including Drury Drive, Ridge Avenue, The Prado, Overlook Avenue, and Riverdale Place, would also be adversely affected by the proposed road widening. This portion of Ingleside features outstanding examples of early-twentieth century domestic architecture and the proximity of a four lane road to these streets would destroy their historic integrity within the neighborhood as a whole.

5 cent

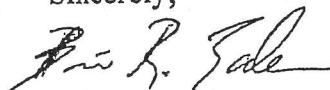
Letter to Mr. Dreihaupt, P.E.
June 14, 2001
Page two

Traditionally, north Macon has been the tax base that keeps the City of Macon from going entirely bankrupt. If Forest Hill Road is widened under the present proposal submitted by Georgia DOT, those residents who are able to vacate these neighborhoods will do so. They will either move out into the county or out of Bibb County altogether. In either case, it will reduce the City of Macon's tax base. Subsequently, potential homeowners will naturally be reluctant to purchase a home that fronts a three- or four-lane road due to the high noise level and the proximity of traffic moving at a high rate of speed.

Judging from the ambiguous comments I heard from Georgia DOT employees at the public meeting held at Springdale Elementary School, the consensus appears to be that this area will remain residential after the existing 22 foot wide two-lane Forest Hill Road is widened to two 13 foot lanes separated by a 14 foot paved flush median (dual turn lane) with sidewalks and curbs. *In essence, this proposed route will be twice the size of the existing route.* I cannot honestly see how this area could remain residential if a proposed road of this magnitude was in place. When I consider this, another recent road widening comes to mind. Zebulon Road (recently widened to a four lane road with flush median) is obviously evolving into a commercial corridor. Major commercial growth has taken place just west of Foster Road while Carlisle Place (an assisted living facility with its various in-house support services) is quite obviously a commercial use. Between these two commercial zones are upper middle class homes that have been adversely affected due to their location along said road. Although current zoning in this area has not allowed extensive commercial development, the highest and best use of Zebulon Road has definitely become commercial and developers will continue to pressure the Macon-Bibb County Planning and Zoning Commission to recognize this. I fear that if the proposed widening of Forest Hill Road, as presented by Georgia DOT is allowed to proceed, this traditionally residential area will become another commercial corridor, eventually displacing thousands of residents.

In closing, I would like to say that although I do not agree with Georgia DOT's proposal concerning the intended widening of Forest Hill Road, I respect their opinion. However, as a concerned citizen of Macon, I think that we would be committing a great civic travesty if we allowed Georgia DOT to proceed with the intended designs for Forest Hill Road and Wimbish Road without consulting qualified independent city planners and civic-minded engineers who may be able to share with us other equally viable options that would alleviate the assumed traffic congestion while simultaneously preserving the integrity of our neighborhood. Thank you for your consideration regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Brian R. Eades

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

54

PLEASE PRINT

Name
Address

Betty Edwards
656 Trout Hill Rd
Macon, GA 31210

Do you support the project?

NO

Comments

I live between Wimlish & Old Lunde
The topography here is a hill with about a 60'
grade a sidewalk will be used by state boarders
someone is going to be killed here. Traffic
speeds now & this will make thing worse.

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?

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

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel?

needed from us -

would like to know
how much footage is
to move traffic
as presented

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?

from I-75 to I-475 Eventually

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

DOT Does NOT give Residents
enough time to write comments &
complaints to proper agencies, after presenting

June 15, 2000

St-ent-2

Dear Mr. Keeper,

This letter is to complain about the way in which the Forest Hill Rd Corridor in Macon, GA. has been handled by DOT.

The presentation is an obvious segmentation of the overall Parkway plan - DOT has only given the citizens of Macon one segment in the plan - This is immoral if not illegal.

The needs statement of DOT states that "90% of traffic turns left or right on Vineville Avenue" - That means only 10% of people using this road go forward onto Park Pl.

How can DOT justify the expense of a new bridge, displacement of many persons & destruction of the area based on this number ???

It becomes obvious that DOT feels the "Build it & they will come" mentality will give it numbers to justify the building of this Parkway in the next few years - It is unnecessary -

54.3-

It also becomes obvious that the developers who stand to make millions of dollars from the undeveloped land from Log Cabin to Pk Pl. are also behind this destruction.

The numbers at present do not justify this destruction - DOT is using numbers from the 2000-2005 estimates of 12% growth - We have only grown 1.3% last year!

I urge DOT go back to the drawing board at this time. Review these plans with citizen input - Perhaps take a look again at what Walter Huland proposed at one time -

Betty Edward
656 Forest Hill Rd
Macon, GA.
31210

June 14, 2000

51-4-

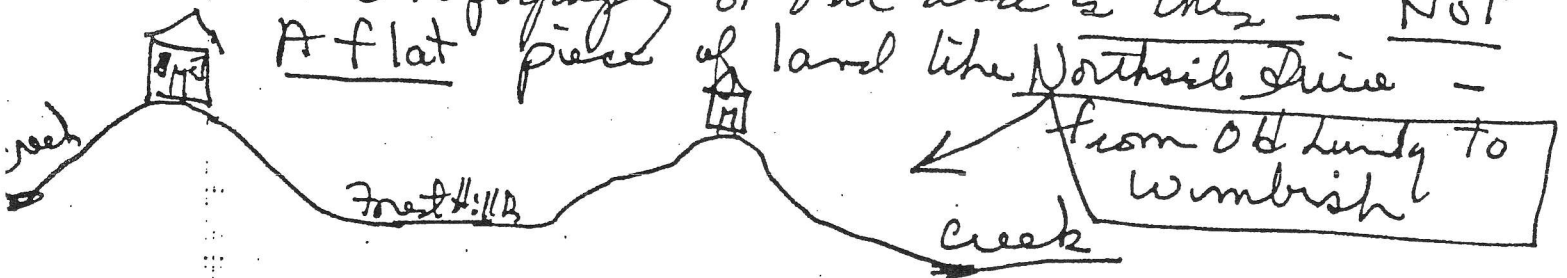
Dear Mr. Keepler,

This is a follow up letter to the one I wrote June 10th about project 8-9 Forest Hill Rd in Macon. I still reiterate that this road should not be built as proposed. This project must be reviewed.

I received a copy of the map of our block from MacLan, Attobelli ass. and have had time to study it and have discovered what I feel are 2 major errors in this map - The placement of houses to the ^{roadway} ~~roadway~~ and the placement of Sewage + Sabbath Creek.

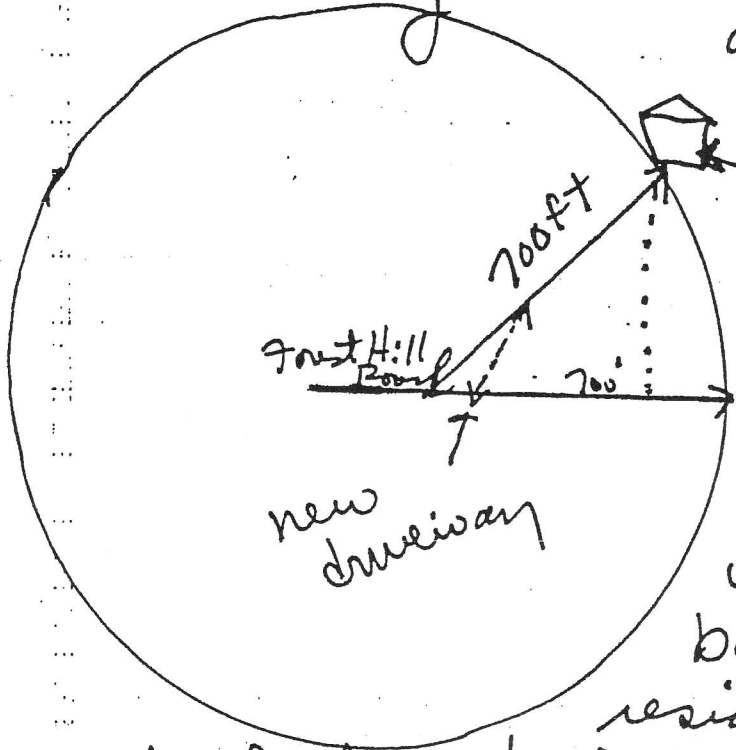
I am not an engineer, but I do have a degree in math and have a good idea of placement and distances. First let me address the placement of houses -

The topography of our area is this - NOT
A flat piece of land like Northside Drive -



Many, Many, houses are located on hilltops! Undoubtedly measurement of distances was done by footage uphill - the placement of ~~many~~ ^{many} homes on the maps is wrong - They

are drawn too far back from the actual road. This is what I think was done wrong - The houses are placed as if the land was flat - NOT A hill



as if the land was flat - NOT A hill (actual home)

as drawn on map by map makers

when the new road is built many of the residents can not get out of their driveways - They will need steps to their houses - This is a crucial point and every person I have talked to is concerned. The driveways are too steep AS they are now -

My second point is this -

Both sides of Forest Hill Rd from Wimlish to Old Level are watersheds. The amount of ^{excess} rainwater from Wimlish Road to Vineville will flow into the creek behind our house - I question the solutions the engineers have come up with to get the water to the river -

54.6-

The amount of rain water will be enormous and there will be flooding at the bottom of the hill where these creeks & streams converge - Many residents on either side of the road are worried about this -

In closing I want to add my complaint as to the way DOT has handled this project and how neighbors have been kept in the dark - We were told that this project was put back for a while and then suddenly it's reborn - presented - AND residents have only 10 days to respond with no alternative except to VOTE "No Build" or TAKE A FOUR lane Expressway - The Engineer & DOT people have been very arrogant to the people here - It must be revised -

If you have any questions I may be contacted at 478 477-6288

Betsy Edwards
656 Forest Hill Rd
Macon, GA 31210

54-7-

June 10 2000

Dear Mr. Keeper.

I am writing to express my objections to the concept known as Project 849 Forest Hill Rd Macon, GA - as proposed by MacLand Altobelli Associates. Part of the Northwest Parkway - I think less intrusive proposals for a neighborhood area must be considered by GADOT. I must say Do NOT Build this As proposed.

Today I traveled to Atlanta, and Deaton on State Road 155. Traveling on Conder Rd, one sees it is obvious that roads can be built to handle traffic and preserve beautiful neighborhoods at the same time. Conder has 4 lane neighborhood roads that open into wider business corridors & then again into 2 lane with turn lanes in residential areas.

I then traveled on Wieuca Rd. The same thing happens here - Beautiful tree lined streets 2 lanes with turn lanes connecting two of Atlanta's busiest sts - Peachtree Rd + Roswell Rd.

I see Forest Hill Road as very much like Wieuca. Connecting Northside Dr + Vineville. The Engineers from GADOT should use these streets as models - models for what can be done in Macon - keeping neighborhoods with aesthetic appeal - NOT Freeways & Parkways

VOID of trees & wildlife and clean air - what is now a beautiful cool, shady corridor will become an oven that bakes in the sun and just adds more hot air to our city - We must preserve these areas (some trees are 75 yrs old OAKS, Hickories, Pines, Elms. Tower over the street - These cannot be replaced by 10 ft saplings planted after they have been destroyed by DOT - Cherry Trees are NOT the only thing Macan has - Cherry Trees are NOT means.

I have lived on Forest Hill Rd for 27 years - and I think a common sense approach for this road is a better solution - My ideas follow -

- ① Many Residents have lived here as long as 50 years - LISTEN to their input -
- ② Hear what the Citizens Advisory Committee has to say and do NOT dismiss them AS idiots -
- ③ Consider alternative plans - Walter Dulosh had one that was acceptable to many people

Here are the things I object to and what I would change - The Topography of the region must be taken into consideration - The Hill incline on Forest Hill must be looked at - It is not a flat corridor!

- ① Widen the two lanes from 70 ft to 75

Wimbish to 13 ft. Add Turn lanes
at Streets

(2) Delete the turn lane ~~at 14 ft~~ -
IT is dangerous and will be a
passing lane - people already pass on this
hill at excessive speeds - A center lane
will be deadly

(3) Eliminate side walk for Old Lund to
Wimbish - This will be the best
skate boarding hill in Macon. It is
dangerous here with Trucks speeding
down the street now - widening this
will make it worse

(4) Delete red light at old Lund OR
Consider putting Speed Strips to slow
people down in this area - Wrecks
occur here because people speed & do not
pay attention to their driving - wider
faster streets will not solve this problem

(5) Delete Median from Wimbish to Vinwell
Decrease size of streets - We do not need
an area here that looks like Eisenhower
parkway - There is no justification for extending
this road on to Park Pl - as 90% turn onto Vinwell

(6) Do not Block Streets to become

5-4-10-

Cul de sacs - This will only make congestion worse -
This is a bad idea for keeping traffic flowing
and for emergency vehicles -

The Proposals as presented are deadly -
Common Sense tells you that someone will be
killed here very soon on this new road -
Maybe it will be a child skateboarding on the
sidewalk as big pig trucks barrel along -
Maybe it will be a driver who has had to
wait an extra minute at the red light at Wink's
Road. I can see the rage building up he
speeds down the hill only to confront a
new traffic light placed at Lockhopper Rd -
OR maybe it will be me or a neighbor who
is trying to turn into their driveway - If I'm
making a left turn. I will have to wish
a car passing me on the left as I try to
get into a center lane. I know, because they
do it now!! With no center lane! I will
have to be careful turning right because cars
will use the center lane to pass me there also
risking head on collision with neighbors who
are trying to turn from that lane. What a
nightmare for us who live here -

Will the irony be that DOT can rename
this street in the memory of someone who killed here
I have not done so yet. This is a point.

5911-

June 15, 2000

Dear Mr. Dreihays,

This letter is to complain about the way in which the Forest Hill Rd. corridor in Macon, GA. has been handled by GA DOT.

The presentation is an obvious segmentation of the overall parkway plan - DOT has only given the citizens of Macon one segment in the overall plan. This is immoral if not illegal -

The needs statement of DOT states that 90% of traffic turns left or right on Sixville Ave. - That means only 10% of people using this road go forward onto Park Pl.

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It becomes obvious that DOT feels the "Build it, & they will come" mentality will give it members to justify the building of this parkway in the next few years. It is unnecessary -

who stand to make millions of dollars from the undeveloped land from Log Cabin to Park Pl, are the ones behind this destruction -

The numbers at present do not justify this expense and destruction - DOT is using numbers from the 2000-2005 estimates of 12% growth - We have only grown 1.3% last year -

I urge DOT to go back to the drawing board at this time - Revisit their plans with citizens' input - Perhaps take a look again at what was proposed by Walter Kulash

Bees Edwards
656 Forest Hill Rd
Macon, GA 31210

55-16-

June 10 2000

Dear Mr. Dreikamp,

I am writing to express my objections to the concept known as Project 849 Forest Hill Rd Macon, GA - as proposed by Mackend Altobelli Associates. Part of the Northwest Parkway - I think less intrusive proposals for a neighborhood area must be considered by GA DOT. I must say Do NOT Build this as proposed.

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VOIDS of trees & wildlife and clean air - what is now a beautiful cool, shady corridor will become an oven that bakes in the sun and just adds more hot air to our city - We must preserve these areas (some trees are 75 yrs old) OAKS, Hickories, Pines, Elms tower over the street - These cannot be replaced by 10 ft saplings planted after they have been destroyed by DOT - Cherry Trees are NOT the only thing Macar has - Cherry Trees are NOT the answer

I have lived on Forest Hill Rd for 27 years - and I think a common sense approach for this road is a better solution - My ideas follow -

- ① Many Residents have lived here as long as 50 years - LISTEN to their input -
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- ③ Consider alternative plans - Walter Kulosh had one that was acceptable to many people

Here are the things I object to and what I would change - The Topography of the region must be taken into consideration the Hill incline on Forest Hill must be looked at - It is not a flat corridor!

(1) Widen the Two lanes from Nottville to

Wimbish to 13 ft - Add Turn lanes at streets

(2) Delete the turn lane ~~at 14 ft~~ - IT IS DANGEROUS and will be a passing lane - People already pass on this hill at excessive speeds - A center lane will be deadly

(3) Eliminate side walk for Old Lund to Wimbish - This will be the best skate boarding hill in Macon. It is dangerous here with Trucks speeding down the street now - widening this will make it worse

(4) Delete red light at old Lund OR Consider putting Speed Strips to slow people down in this area - Wreckers occur here because people speed & do not pay attention to their driving - wider faster streets will not solve this problem

(5) Delete Median from Wimbish to Vineville - decrease size of streets - We do not need an area here that looks like Eisenhower parkway - There is no justification for extending this road on to Park Pl - as 90% turn onto Vineville
(6) Do not Block Ct. + + +

5.19-

Cul de sacs - This will only make congestion worse -
This is a bad idea for keeping traffic flowing
and for emergency vehicles -

The Proposals as presented are deadly -
Common Sense tells you that someone will be
killed here very soon on this new road -
Maybe it will be a child skateboarding on the
sidewalk as big pig trucks barrel along -
Maybe it will be a driver who has had to
wait an extra minute at the red light at Winkler
Road. I can see the rage building up as he
speeds down the hill only to confront a
new traffic light placed at Lockhopper Rd -
OR maybe it will be me or a neighbor who
is trying to turn into their driveway - If I'm
making a left turn. I will have to wish
a car passing me on the left as I try to
get into a center lane. I know, because they
do it now!! With no center lane! I will
have to be careful turning right because cars
will use the center lane to pass me there also
risking head on collision with neighbors who
are trying to turn from that lane. What a
nightmare for us who live here -

Will the irony be that DOT can rename
this street in the memory of someone who killed here
I hope not. Please reconsider this Project -
2011 11 17 11:11 AM

June 14 2000

Dear Mr. Diekamp,

This is a follow up letter to the one I wrote June 10th - about the project 8+9 Forest Hill Rd in Macon. I still reiterate that this road should Not be built as proposed.

This project must be reviewed -

I received a copy of the map of our block and I have studied it along with the large map at Moreland Attobelli - I have discovered what I feel are 2 major errors in this map - They are the placement of homes in relation to the roadway and the placement of the Savage & Sabbath Creeks -

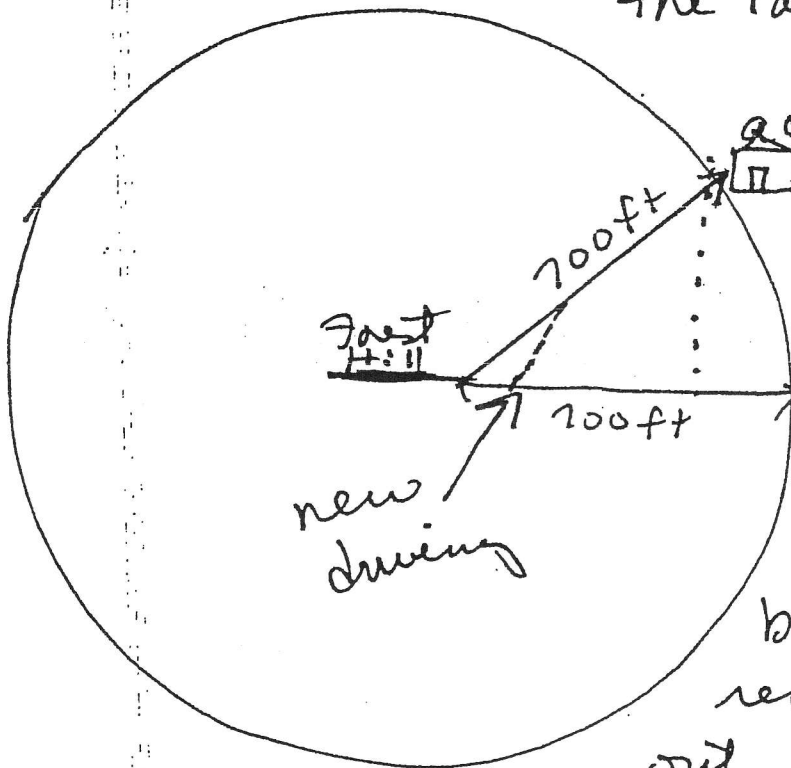
I am not an engineer, but I have a degree in math and have a good idea of placement and distances - First, let me address the placement of houses -

The Topography of our area is this - Not A Flat piece of land like Northside Dr. This must be taken into consideration



Many, Many homes are located on hilltops!
 Undoubtedly measurements of driveways
 were done by footage uphill - the
 placement of many homes on the map
 is wrong - They are drawn too
 far back from the actual Road -
 This is what I think was done wrong

The houses are placed as if
 the land is flat not a hill



actual house is up here -



house as drawn on
 MAP is here

When the new road is
 built many of the
 residents can not get
 out of their driveways - They

will need steps to get to the street - This
 is a crucial point - Every person I have
 talked to is concerned - The driveways are
 too steep as they are now -

My second point is this -
 The creeks are all wrong - Therefore I
 question their solution to drainage problems

to Wimbish are waterbeds. The amount of excess rainwater from the 5 lane Wimbish Vincible road will flow into the creek behind our house. A question the solution the engineers I have come up with to get this excess water to the river. The amount of water will be enormous and there will be flooding along these creeks and streams. Especially at Old Jerry, Lockchayee area -

In closing I want to add my complaint as to the way GADOT has handled this project and how citizens have been kept in the dark. We were led to believe that this was on the back burner and then suddenly it's presented "as a done deal" with no alternatives except "no build or get a 4 lane Road". The engineers of DOT and Melend Atchell have been very arrogant to the people here - The Idea of having only 10 days for residents to respond is ridiculous -

Big Edward
656 Front Hill Rd
Macon, 31210

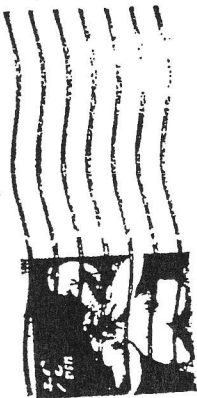
656 Forest Hill Rd
Macon, GA 31210

Harvey D. Keepler
State Environmental/Restoration Engineer
GA DOT
3993 AVIATION CIRCLE
Atlanta, GA 30336

30336+1314



JUN 20 2001



Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

55

PLEASE PRINT

Name M. Boyd Edwards
Address 656 Forest Hill Rd
Macon GA 31210

Do you support the project? No

Comments I think the proposed project will destroy a stable neighborhood. The widened street will contribute to excessive traffic that will pollute the air quality. It will also provide too much noise with additional traffic. I do not think the sidewalks will be safe for use by pedestrians. I see the project devaluing bread property. Please consider a perimeter Road around Macon for use by large trucks and folks who want to go to the Mall to shop. I recommend the No Build Alternative. A third lane is very unsafe.

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

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? _____
Citizens should be involved in all planning. This means that they have input prior to seeing a schematic drawing before then.

55-2

656 Forest Hill Road
Macon, Georgia 31210
June 10, 2001

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

Dear Mr. Keepler:

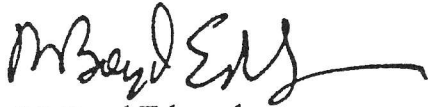
I have resided at 656 Forest Hill Road with my wife for the past twenty-seven years and still note that many of my neighbors have been residing on Forest Hill Road much longer. It is easy to understand that Forest Hill Road is an old and established neighborhood in Macon.

It is with that in mind that I am writing to you about the proposed widening and reconstruction of Forest Hill Road (proposed projects 8 and 9). I fear that if we allow Forest Hill Road to be widened and reconstructed that the integrity of the neighborhood will be destroyed due to increased traffic. I am especially concerned about the increased use by larger trucks who only wish to get from point A to point B as fast as possible and in the process they will pollute with massive amounts of exhaust as well as noise that disrupts the neighborhood setting. Our air quality is already suspect and we need to maintain our air quality at a high level in order to maintain a high quality of health for ourselves. This neighborhood is surrounded by two coal burning power plants (Arkwright and Scherer) and one is the largest coal burner in the State. I realize that these vehicles (trucks) do need a way to get from point A to point B and I think an alternate route via a perimeter road for Macon is better suited for this purpose.

I am also concerned that the present plan call for widening and addition of culverts and sidewalks. This simply will not work under the proposed plan because the widening will lead to more traffic and people driving faster. I think this is very dangerous and am concerned about my personal safety in leaving my driveway with increased traffic. I certainly would not use any sidewalks with this increased traffic load and faster driving on Forest Hill Road. It would simply be too unsafe.

Under the present concept, I recommend that the only alternative that can be accepted by me based on these facts are "No Build." I do not want to see my neighborhood destroyed by this project. That is what will happen because of compromising our safety from increased traffic and increased pollution. It will be an extremely dangerous situation if this project is allowed to proceed.

Sincerely,



M. Boyd Edwards

55-3-

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

To Whom This May Concern,

My Name is Troy Edwards my family and I reside at 629 Forest Hill Rd, Mcon Georgia Zip 31210. This Area I am informed will be Widen to Three Traffic lanes and Side walks on each side.

My Concern is more with the problems this action will incoure than just the actual widen of the Rd. We already have major problems with the traffic flow Amount and Speeding on this Road. I have tried to see if the Speed could be lowered to 25mph instead of the 45mph that no exist. because as you know people will always push the speed limit we now have. 60 plus speeders on this Rd. making difficult to enter From their driveways if hit could and probably killed at these Speeds. Not to mention there all many older residents in this area that makes this even a bigger problem. With the confusion of the center turn lane and the Road wider I beleave this will be even much more of a Problem Killing residents in this Area. You must slow the speed to 25MPH if you do this Change

Thank You
Troy Edwards

June 11, 2001

TO: DOT

57

~~Dear Mr. Duval:~~

In reference to project # 5240-849 Forest Hill Road Project, I highly object. I live on Osborne Place and travel Forest Hill Road on a regular basis and have no problems with the traffic on this road. At peak times, 7:30-9:00 in the morning & 5:00-6:00 in the evening, it is busy, as it is on all thoroughfares at that time but not excessively. Is it worth destroying a wonderful neighborhood with a four lane highway? Absolutely not!

West Paces Ferry Rd. in Atlanta carries much more traffic than Forest Hill,

And there has not been a need to fear
lose it and destroy these homes. 57

Are the people in the neighborhoods
complaining about not being able to get
onto Forest Hill Road - No - because
there is not a problem getting onto
Forest Hill Road. Those who are in a hurry
had to get on I-75 & go around.
Do not speed through our neighborhood.

If there is excess taxpayer money
sitting around, spend it when people need
and want these streets to be paved. Mayor
needs to get rid of the Concrete Concession,
and quit paving our neighborhoods in the name
of progress. Don't you will have pushed ~~your~~
tax base into Monroe & Jones Counties. We

All need aesthetically pleasing surroundings, and
we naturally migrate toward that. Vineville
Avenue used to be one of the nicest streets

in Mason. Now with the traffic, who **57**
wants to live on Vineville? The next step
will be to connect Ridge + four lane it
over to Forest Hill. You will then destroy
the value of Inghamside, one of ~~our~~ ^{our} strong
tax bases.

Please protect our neighborhood ~~and~~
by preventing a four lane Forest Hill
Road.

Sincerely,
Jay Jandaker
3395 Osborne Place
Mason, GA 31204

Faircloth-4

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

57

PLEASE PRINT

Name
Address

Gay Faircloth
3395 Osborne Place
Macon GA 31204

Do you support the project?

NO

Comments

Road
Your program will ruin numerous tax
paying neighborhoods. You say you are looking to the
future. These people can afford to move
and will. You are destroying our tax base.
Do not send more traffic through our
neighborhood. West Paces Ferry in Atlanta is not
4 lanes and it carries much more traffic than Forrest Hill.

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? _____

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? _____

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

58

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

Public Hearing, Monday, June 11, 2001, Springdale Elementary School, Macon, GA

I oppose the Forest Hill Road projects cited above, and find the Environmental Assessment for those projects sorely lacking in scope and accuracy.

1. Significant impacts from the proposed project extend beyond the narrowly defined limits of the project; the Environmental Assessment should include and address those impacts:
 - a) A historic neighborhood on Park Street will be significantly impacted by the induced traffic from the project and improvements required on Park Street subsequent to its completion.
 - b) A new "Northwest Parkway" is required to handle induced traffic that proceeds west from the project, impacting several quiet neighborhoods and agricultural areas.
 - c) Significant increases in traffic are projected for Wimbish Road and Old Lundy Road, the result of induced traffic from the project.
 - d) Historic properties and districts on and adjacent to Vineville, Hardeman/Georgia Avenue/Mulberry Street and Forsyth Avenue/Cotton Street will be significantly impacted by the increased traffic from the project and future improvements and widening required on the Vineville corridor subsequent to its completion. A substantial portion of the induced traffic would otherwise utilize Riverside Drive and I-75/I-16, sparing those districts and neighborhoods.
 - e) Increased traffic will be induced through Tom Hill Sr., which is currently congested due to commercial frontage and access.
 - f) Future projects are already anticipated for several of the areas cited above; feasible design alternatives for those projects will be severely limited by the increased traffic volume resulting from the Forest Hill Road improvements. Responsible planning dictates that both planning and environmental assessment be undertaken in a comprehensive rather than segmented manner.

2. On page 46 of the Environmental Assessment it is stated that "there would be no major adverse impacts to neighborhoods, services and/or community facilities as a result of project implementation." This statement is plainly false:
 - a) The EA itself identifies 39 residential properties fronting on Forest Hill Drive where noise levels of 74dBA are projected for the design year; no mitigation measures are "reasonable or feasible."
 - b) The termination of access from Forest Hill Road to Overlook Avenue, The Prado, Drury Drive (all of which will be cul-de-sac'd) seriously degrades access and emergency services to those neighborhoods and to the greater Overlook area. The nearest fire station is located on Forsyth Road at Ridge; the distance from that station to properties in the Overlook area will be increased by a minimum of 1.5 miles of circuitous local streets; the distance from a secondary station on Northside Drive will be likewise increased. Police and ambulance vehicles will be denied a choice of direct routes into the greater Overlook area. Local traffic will be forced through a limited number of local streets, substantially increasing traffic loads and speeds on those streets.
 - c) The nature of the neighborhoods served by Forest Hill Road will change when they become isolated enclaves rather than a larger coherent neighborhood anchored by the Forest Hill Road residential area.
 - d) The proposed improvements will marginalize residential properties adjacent to Forest Hills Road. Pressure will ensue for conversion of frontage properties from marginal residential to even more marginal commercial/office, completely destroying the residential quality of the immediate and greater area (Vineville provides an infamous local example of this process).

58-2

- e) While historic properties in the project area may not be directly affected, the supportive context for those properties will be significantly changed from a rural residential collector to a divided four-lane arterial.
 - f) Children are required to walk to the McKibben Lane Elementary school; many must cross Forest Hill Road. Increases in traffic speed and volume potential affect the safety of those children.
3. Inadequate alternatives for the proposed project are presented.
- a) The proposed project, a drastic over-build (four separated lanes the entire distance from Vineville Avenue to Northside Avenue), and "no-build" are the only alternatives provided.
 - b) "No-build" is not an acceptable alternative, as safety issues do exist, and sidewalks are desirable.
 - c) An alternative which should be considered is reclassification of Forest Hill Road from an arterial to a residential collector, with thru traffic encouraged to use other, non-residential components of the system, namely Northside, Riverside, and I-75. Forest Hill Road currently functions as a collector, despite its current classification; the proposed project will change its form and function to that of an arterial, as witnessed by the required closure of residential streets now served by it (Overlook Avenue, The Prado and Drury Drive) and the noise impacts on residential properties fronting it. Retaining Forest Hill Road's current function is an obvious alternative.
 - d) The impact of straightening the segment of Forest Hills Road between Wimbish Road and Ridge Avenue and the proposed intersection improvements may well address most of the safety concerns, as the majority of accidents occur at those intersections and at the intersection of Forest Hill Road with Vineville and Northside.
 - e) The impact of increased volume and speed generated by the "preferred alternative" on safety is not addressed; it may well offset the benefits.
 - f) Commonly known "traffic calming" techniques that could alleviate speed and noise concerns are not employed. Excessive lane widths in the proposed cross-sections have the opposite effect of encouraging excessive speed.
4. Suggested configuration/improvements:
- a) Reclassify Forest Hill Road as a Residential Collector; enhance the alternatives for thru-traffic. to include a new I-75 interchange at Northside/Riverside .
 - b) Straighten the segment of Forest Hills Road between Wimbish Road and Ridge Avenue, with particular attention to providing safe access/egress for the Forest Pointe and Winship North apartment complexes (these are the two most dangerous areas on Forest Hill Road).
 - c) Improve/realign the intersections at Wimbish Road/Charter Northside Drive, Lockchapee Drive/Old Lundy Road, and Forest Lake Drive/Newport Road; provide signalization and dedicated left-turn lanes at all three intersections. Provide additional dedicated turn lanes where necessary.
 - d) Provide dedicated right/left/thru lanes from Ridge Avenue to Vineville to alleviate congestion.
 - e) Retain two lanes (one lane in each direction) for the balance of the project.
 - f) Select road cross-sections that will handle traffic volumes without encouraging excessive speed.
 - g) Provide sidewalks and delineated or (preferably) separated bike lanes the length of the project; this will provide non-vehicular alternatives, and support Macon's transit system.

Respectfully submitted by Daniel P. Fischer, 489 Ashville Drive, Macon GA 31210

Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

59

PLEASE PRINT

Name ROBERT L. FLEISCH
Address _____

Do you support the project? NO - NO

Comments Waste of TAX Money - Just
Developing Another Speedway through a
residential Area.

How did you hear about this meeting? Radio _____ Newspaper _____
Signs X letter to church Word of Mouth _____

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

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

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend? So what does

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you
this have to do with
desires of people.

Were your questions answered by the DOT personnel? No

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting? No

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

59

GADOT
Forest Hill Project
Macon, Ga.

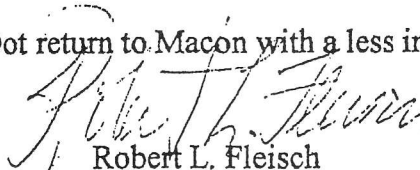
Gentlemen:

I am opposed to the widening of Forest Hill Road. I respectfully request that other less intrusive proposals be advanced and considered by GaDOT.

This is a residential area and the existing proposal will merely create another artery whereby traffic will exceed posted speed limits creating dangerous conditions for this residential area. Noise levels will increase and unwarranted traffic will be diverted over this route. The property values in the area will decline as a result of the ill planned proposal.

This project further, is a waste of tax dollars. Once you make this a connector artery then commercial properties will spring up and a further decline of property values will occur. Road improvements don't necessarily mean building projects that greatly increase the speed on a roadway. The recently completed North side project from Riverside to Forest Hill was certainly a project that should have been undertaken. However since it has been completed and traffic speed limits have been posted at 45 mph. The flow of traffic is 55 to 70 mph. Traffic enforcement and speed control will not occur as long as you have provided a high speed artery. Forest hill if completed under the proposal will start seeing 50-60 mph traffic through a residential area that also includes school arteries and churches.

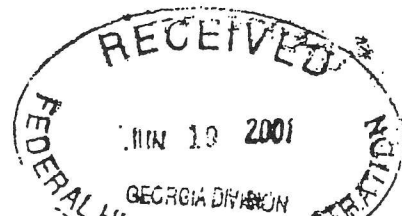
Again I respectfully demand that GaDot return to Macon with a less intrusive proposal.



Robert L. Fleisch
1052 Hill Place
Macon Ga. 31210

CC: Mr. Harvey D. Keepler
State Environmental/Location Eng.
Georgia Dept. Of Transportation
3993 Aviation Circle
Atlanta, GA. 30336

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



Georgia Department of Transportation
Public Meeting Comment Card

60

PLEASE PRINT

Name BERNARD D. FLETCHER
Address 4732 LATTIMORE DR
MACON GA 31210

Do you support the project? ^g YES, qualified.

Comments
Turn lanes are definitely needed. The turn around
St Francis Church is a major problem. But I do not
support grass medians, the speed limits should not be
increased, and 15' is just too wide.

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

Was the location of the meeting convenient for you to attend? O.K.

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community
McKIBBEN LANE would be best!

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
4 to 7 was planning for working + non-working

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?
Opportunity for input was provided with advance
notice.