

Tarra Jolly

Subject: FW: Opp to arbor acres

From: J D Wilson <jdwilson4820@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 4:13 PM

To: Gary Roberts <garyr@cityofws.org>

Cc: Rodd N Ring <roddr@cityofws.org>; Mayors Office <mayorsoffice@cityofws.org>; plylerdavid@aol.com <plylerdavid@aol.com>; Ted Kaplan <s4paradise@yahoo.com>; Jeff MacIntosh <jeffm@cityofws.org>; Denise Adams <denisea@cityofws.org>; fcmanager@forsyth.cc <fcmanager@forsyth.cc>; Janie Wilson <janebutlerwilson@hotmail.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reynolda Park Traffic

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Thank you for your forthcoming responses and clarification of fast-moving information regarding Arbor Acre's desire to increase its population by about 50% which will require changes in zoning. Also, thank you for mailing the notice about this zoning matter to our home; unfortunately, apparently it arrived only a few days ago while we were away for the July 4th holiday week. We only learned about the letter because a thoughtful neighbor emailed us yesterday, which caused us to interrupt our vacation and come home to see what was so urgent and on such a fast track.

While we have spent much of today--not on vacation--but trying to track down facts about this pressing matter, we also learned we have only until 5:00 pm TODAY to express our concerns in order for them to be provided to members of the City/County Planning Board in time for their consideration before taking action next week. If information is correct, it also appears a staff "report and recommendation" on this significant zoning change will be provided by 5:00 pm TOMORROW--before few voices have been heard? If that is our City/County process, then it needs review, as tax-paying citizens are not being given adequate consideration or respect.

Regarding the process, I would appreciate knowing what steps have been taken to inform me and other neighbors about this requested change in zoning as it appears legal requirements were not followed or may be inadequate.

For now, I urge you and those in your circle to postpone/delay/contine--whatever the appropriate language--the steps in this process for at least thirty (30) days to give citizens in our neighborhood appropriate time to collaborate creatively with Arbor Acres and the City/County to find reasonable and mutually agreeable solutions to a matter of great concern--concern of increased traffic on a road not intended for such; concern for our safety as we walk in the neighborhood; concern for access to our property by ourselves and others; concern for our property values; and concern for the protection of a historic neighborhood legacy.

Essentially, we are not opposed to Arbor Acres' growth, but it should not be at our expense by adding traffic to an already over-taxed roadway--increasingly treated as a throughway though designed only for casual traffic within the neighborhood. If this plan goes forward without innovative and mutually-agreeable traffic solutions, the historic character of an integral Winston-Salem neighborhood, initiated by Katharine and R. J. Reynolds, along with their niece Senah Critz Kent and her husband Charles, using renowned landscape architect Thomas Sears, will be destroyed.

Today, I have written to the CEO of Arbor Acres which, literally is our next-door neighbor as our property is separated only by a vine-covered fence, suggesting that to continue being a good neighbor the institution should proactively delay their zoning-change request until thoughtful conversation can be held with its many good neighbors. Together, I believe we can use creative dialog to find innovative traffic solutions that would allow their expansion to move forward.

Thank you for your time and interest in our concerns.

J. D. Wilson