

Carlene Bollinger Trust
2290 Fisher Trail
Atlanta, Ga. 30345

August 30, 2010

City Clerk of Ann Arbor, Michigan
100 N. Fifth Avenue
Ann Arbor Michigan 48107

Re: Path along Washtenaw Rd. on Properties 2731, 51, 81 Protest.

The basic premise of this letter of protest is that the project is not well founded. There is essentially little need for it go forward. In support of this contention, during the week of August 15, 2010 the path location was studied in detail and found to have virtually no use as a path. Almost no one appears to have used this as a means of travel. The grass and vegetation up to the road edge had almost no sign of foot traffic and no evidence of use by bicyclists. It is not being used! Following the inspection for signs of surface movement, the frontage was then monitored during day and evening hours for pedestrian and bicycle traffic. There was none. Why was this project proposed? Is it political and should we be concerned for that reason? This plan needs to be returned to sender for a needs requirement study.

If the project should ever come to pass, there are serious drawbacks for the property owners and also for individuals who might be tempted to use the path. For the latter the traffic in the right lane on Washtenaw Road is too close considering many vehicles are traveling 60 to 70 MPH. At those speeds and with 6 lanes of cars and trucks, any accident or mishap will impact large areas along the side of the road. People tempted to walk or use a path such as that proposed would be endangered. For property owners it is a security issue. If this path invites users, the more likely some will trespass for illegal purposes due to readily available access. There is already this problem without knowingly contributing to it. Property owners will need to deal with dogs having greater access, resulting in odors and increased clean up.

Perhaps the most serious implication for property owners will be a certain increase in the volume of the already incessant and continuous traffic noise. Ten feet plus adjacent installation can remove significant vegetation such as shrubs and bushes. Full replacement will take years and create additional expense for owners.

The idea that a property owner would wish to pay for an unjustified and unneeded endeavor, which would be detrimental to his or her well being, is beyond comprehension. Whatever monies the city has available in these days of uncertainty should be applied to a larger group of citizens who have some real needs.

William Stellingma
9/7/10

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