

Robyn Tice

From: Ericka Burnett
Sent: Monday, August 6, 2018 1:48 PM
To: Robyn Tice
Subject: FW: 18th Right of Way Vacation

From: stephen moody [mailto:sdunnmoody@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 6, 2018 1:41 PM
To: Gerald Wingate <gwingate@cityofpensacola.com>
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Subject: 18th Right of Way Vacation

Good afternoon Council President Wingate and respected council members,

I am writing to you today in regards to the East Hill neighborhood issue of a private property right for a right of vacation on 18th Ave.

To be direct, I fully support the request to vacate made by the Wiggins family, and having found them to be honorable and with integrity, believe they will improve the street and neighborhood greatly with their plans, far more than an antiquated sidewalk to nowhere.

On my relevant background: I am a Pensacola native, a long-time and avid competitive runner, cyclist, boater, and crave outdoor spaces and communities that foster intelligent community planning centered around diverse transportation and access to urban cores from outlying neighborhoods. I am a member of the Bayou Texar Foundation, the Pensacola Runner's Association, and served 5 years on the Ever'man Co-op Board.

What I do not favor is when start up efforts at change and modernization of disjointed street plans pick at individual instances of common sense policy and try to sabotage the efforts of neighbors and local community, in a sense of martyrdom to a larger cause. I laud the efforts of a Vision Zero and think there are great opportunities for innovation and positive change for walking, ADA, and cycling accessibility to our downtown and its outlying neighborhoods.

However, I firmly believe the 18th Ave issues to be moot when said criteria are considered for tis potential. There is currently, nor has been, any sidewalk on the adjoining property or across the street. Nor, to my knowledge, is there a larger master plan to create a contiguous sidewalk network into the northern section of East Hill along 18th Ave. In terms of one pressing issue facing our bayous, that of stormwater runoff and contamination, it would be of no help to long term cleanup to heavily ramp up the sidewalk grid. Furthermore, as East Hill has

regular issues with vandalism, theft, and break-ins, sidewalks can oftentimes supply an avenue through which those with ill intent can gain access and position on a property.

Lastly, as someone who encounters that block daily, for running or enjoying the open space of Bayview Park, a curbside beautification of trees would greatly improve the shade, as well as the evidence that tree-lined streets are a better deterrent to speeding than are sidewalks.

I hope you will all consider the motivations of individual property owners as prima facie when making decisions that will impact our neighborhoods for many years to come.

Thank you kindly for the opportunity to voice my concerns.

Regards,

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