



March 10, 2017

Mr. Greg Travis
Houston City Council Member, District G
900 Bagby, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-1562

Re: Nottingham Drainage and Paving Project
CIP M-000247

Dear Councilman Travis:

We offer this letter of support for your comments on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at the Houston City Council meeting during discussions on the proposed Bike Plan and to confirm our position on the Kirkwood project.

The Nottingham Task Force (NTF) was created last summer to represent the neighborhoods adjacent to Kirkwood in our negotiations with the city to get a satisfactory roadway cross section through our neighborhood. One of our initial actions was to conduct a formal survey of our neighbors on several of the issues to guide our decisions as we developed the NTF positions and Plan.

That initial survey reflects that 85% of our neighbors do not want bike lanes along Kirkwood. We developed and negotiated for off street dual use pathways as an alternative to the PWE proposal when PWE made it clear to us there would be bike lanes on Kirkwood. Our alternative NTF Plan is supported by 85-95% of the neighborhood. However, we think the neighborhood would still prefer that bike lanes are removed from the project.

In our letter to Ms. Carol Haddock, PWE, on August 2, 2016 we stated,

“We have followed the Kirkwood project through the Capital Improvement Project process for 10-12 years. The project was planned to add drainage to reduce flooding in the area, to replace the existing Kirkwood pavement and to preserve and protect the tree-lined median. The original project which is apparently 90 percent designed, is very acceptable to our residents.

The changes you now propose to the original plan come as a surprise, with massive new costs, unneeded and unwarranted left turn lanes and bike lanes, and unnecessarily destroy our tree-lined medians...”

The original design without bike lanes is still very acceptable to our residents.

Faced with the mandate from PWE that it intended to build bike lanes as part of this project, we worked to develop the original NTF Plan which removes the on street bike lanes in favor of 6-foot dual use pedestrian/bike pathways located (and protected) behind the curb. When PWE refused to meet with us to discuss the bike lane issue, we met directly with Mary Blitzer of BikeHouston to develop a joint position on the off street, dual use pathways (referred to as side paths by BikeHouston) as the neighborhood's preferred alternative to the proposed on street bike lanes, consistent with PWE's context sensitive design approach.

On October 31, 2016, we signed a joint letter with BikeHouston to Ms. Haddock stating our agreement and joint preference for the off street dual use pathways.

While we still have some additional issues to resolve on this project, we would simply summarize the NTF position, which we believe is the neighborhood position, on the bike lanes as follows:

1. Opposed in general to bike lanes along Kirkwood.
2. Adamantly opposed to on street bike lanes along Kirkwood.
3. Faced with the mandate for bike lanes, supports dual use pedestrian/bike pathways located behind the curb.

We appreciate your continued efforts to help us achieve a workable solution for the Kirkwood project and other projects in District G.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Mandery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David Mandery
Nottingham Task Force