

# PRELIMINARY REPORT

## B: Wilcrest Drive

**APPLICANT:** Rolando Guajardo

**JURISDICTION:** COH

**PRECINCT:** Harris County Pct. 4  
**COUNCIL DISTRICT:** J

### **PROPOSAL:**

Rolando Guajardo is requesting the reclassification of a segment of Wilcrest Drive from Beechnut Street to Bissonnet Street in the Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP).

### **APPLICANT'S JUSTIFICATION and HISTORY:**

The applicant is making this reclassification proposal to provide safer solutions to stop the speeding and reckless driving that the applicant contends has caused fatalities and cost his community thousands of dollars in property damage. The applicant states that the current designation of the corridor as a Major Thoroughfare is not an appropriate classification, as the classification limits the solutions available for traffic control, as speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic signals are not permitted. Therefore, according to the applicant, the classification of this existing corridor is insufficient.

The applicant states further that his request is to reclassify a 1-mile segment of Wilcrest Drive is justifiable due to the persistent problems connected with the corridor and the concern of the homeowners in the area. The applicant maintains that the reclassification of this segment is necessary, as it is a residential section in Alief, a Complete Community. However, the applicant contends that the current designation of the corridor as a Major Thoroughfare does not comply with the City of Houston's vision for a Complete Community. The applicant asserts that Wilcrest Drive enables speeding and reckless driving. He states further that homeowners have bedrooms less than 20' from Wilcrest Drive and are in fear of cars crashing into their homes. According to the applicant, several crashes have already occurred which places pedestrians, bike, and bus riders continually at risk of serious injury or death. The applicant states that one of the crashes nearly decimated the pool association's fence and cost the Homeowners Association (HOA) over \$22,000 to replace. Additionally, the applicant states that less than two months after the initial repair of the fence, a similar crash occurred, costing the HOA another \$7,700. The applicant states that the budget of the HOA is extremely stressed, and that the repair costs are devastating. Therefore, the applicant is requesting to reclassify the 1-mile segment of the corridor, to provide better options for the community, to help deter dangerous destructive driving, and reduce the injurious effect that the current classification is costing the budget of the HOA.

Additionally, the applicant states that Wilcrest Drive is a corridor utilized by the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (METRO) for bus route 161, and that it is classified as a METRO Boost Route because of its high ridership, yet the applicant contends that there are no safe crosswalks along the corridor, causing pedestrians to cross the street while having to dart in and out of traffic. Finally, the applicant states that this portion of Wilcrest Drive is designated as part of the City's High Injury Network (HIN), however the numbers are only reflective through 2019.

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