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5/12/2012

To Mayor Euille & Councilmembers:

I want to address two issues related to traffic/transportation re:BSAP:

1. Southern Towers is proposing to have a connecting street to the Heikeman properties. This means that when cars exit So. Towers onto Beauregard, they will then cross Beauregard in the middle of the median strip, over to the side of the heikeman properties, cutting down the trees and the street will end within this proposed development. In order to exit from the Heikeman proposed development, cars will only be able to exit onto Seminary Rd. Further, a traffic light is proposed on Beauregard in order for this to happen. There is already a traffic light at the intersection of Beauregard/Fillmore and with the proposed "traffic circle", there will also be another 4 way traffic light. Yes, this will cause a major traffic nightmare. This proposed connection should be eliminated from the plan.
2. ^{SRS's} Proposed traffic circle ^{response} at intersection of Seminary/Beauregard. Currently, we do not have any major traffic issues at this intersection. Traffic flows and there are not any major back-ups. The recent report/ltr from VDOT clearly states that "it is also noted that recommendation to replace the existing intersection of Seminary Rd/Beauregard is a good concept. However, VDOT recommends additional analysis prior to implementation". We do need further analysis as it relates to response time from fire, police and medics and to date, we have not seen any study regarding response time which I believe will be reduced. Again, the traffic circle should be eliminated from the plan. I can assure you that if these two traffic issues remain in the plan, we will have major traffic gridlock on all of the streets affecting this plan.

In conclusion, I am requesting that you defer your vote until sometime in September so that all of the parties involved are able to get together to draft a better plan. We cannot do this in a month and there is no reason that all of the parties involved cannot meet in May, 1-2 times in June and July. Since most people go on vacation in August, we would need some time in Sept. to go over whatever needed changes have been suggested and perhaps this plan can be brought back to council at your last public meeting in Sept. We cannot have another BRAC-133 done deal ^{in my neighborhood}. This plan is a major redevelopment for this neighborhood that needs much more clarification regarding financing, traffic/transportation, affordable housing and exactly how much money does housing dept. need for affordable housing, what trade offs does city want and greater accountability from housing office, along with answers for open space, parks, sewers, etc.

Thank You for listening to my comments.

Annabelle Fisher

