

08CA030

----- Original message -----

From: r2hill37@rap.midco.net

To: mayor@rcgov.org; patti.martinson@rcgov.org; ron.weifenbach@rcgov.org;
sam.kooiker@rcgov.org; deb.hadcock@rcgov.org;
/bill.okrepkie@rcgov.org/bill.okrepkie@rcgov.org; lloyd.lacroix@rcgov.org; ron.kroger@rcgov.org;
malcom.chapman@rcgov.org

Date: Tuesday, September 09, 2008 3:21 PM

Subject: Proposed Extension of West Chicago Street

Dear Mayor Hanks, and City Council Members

I am writing in regard to the proposed extension of West Chicago Street to connect with the roads in the Westberry Trails subdivision.

If this is kept in the proposed Major Street Plan it has a serious effect on our property at 105 S. Berry Pine Road, and on the adjoining property to the south, as it would virtually drop the value to 0 for resale to anyone but the City.

The proposed Route is unfeasible for several reasons. As shown the grades would reach up to 26% for several hundred feet. The city's collector road standards call for 8% or less. To bring the grade down to this would entail making hairpin type turns to get up the hill. This would lengthen the road considerably. The steepest part of the road is all solid rock which would probably have to be drilled and blasted out for most of the distance up the hill. As a retired Civil Engineer I feel this would make it economically unfeasible to build.

Putting this road at that location would increase the traffic on the existing part of West Chicago which runs right in front of Pinedale School. This area is already quite congested both before and after school. This additional traffic would alter the quiet and family-friendly composition of this neighborhood.

For these reasons I am asking the Council to delete the extension of West Chicago from the proposed Major Street Plan.

If you have any questions please feel free to call me at 343-5610. I would be available to show you the area at any time.

Sincerely,
Ron and Jeannette Hill

08CA030

----- Original Message -----

From: [Dennis and Peggy Titze](#)

To: sam.kooiker@rcgov.org

Sent: Tuesday, September 09, 2008 11:38 PM

Subject: City Council Meeting 9-15

September 9, 2008

Dear City Council,

My name is Peggy Roberts Titze. My address is 208 N. Berry Pine Road. I am writing to oppose the City Planning Department's Major Street Plan to extend West Chicago to connect with the Westberry Trails subdivision. Please vote "No" concerning this proposal.

I am a Rapid City Area Schools elementary teacher. I do not teach at Pinedale, but I do understand the grave danger of this proposal for the student population at Pinedale. The school is also a community center. There are ongoing activities evenings and weekends. The potential risks of the increased traffic are much too great here.

I am also concerned about the wildlife and plant life. There is a natural draw adjacent to 105 S. Berry Pine. The flora and fauna are prolific. Continuing West Chicago through this area would be devastating to the flora and fauna.

My last concern is the extreme cost of such a project through this wilderness area. The city has not been able to maintain the existing street, up the hill, from the base of West Chicago and South Canyon Road towards Pinedale Elementary School. I do not understand the Planning Commission's recommendation to continue West Chicago, requiring an even greater grade to reach Westberry Trails.

Please honor my request, and vote "No" concerning the City Planning Department's Major Street Plan to extend West Chicago to connect with the Westberry Trails subdivision.

Respectfully,

Peggy Roberts Titze

08CA030

----- Original message -----

From: [Barton R. Banks](mailto:Barton.R.Banks)

To: patti.marthison@rcgov.org; sam.kooiker@rcgov.org; karen.olson@rcgov.org;
lloyd.lacroix@rcgov.org; malcom.chapman@rcgov.org; ron.weifenbach@rcgov.org;
deb.hadcock@rcgov.org; bill.okrepkie@rcgov.org; ron.kroeger@rcgov.org

Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2008 12:07 PM

Subject: West Chicago Extension

Banks, Johnson, Colbath, Sumner & Kappelman, pllc

Attorneys and Counselors at Law

From the Office of: Barton R. Banks

Dear Council

Most of you know who I am and I think that Malcom knows that I have children who attend Pinedale School. In that regard, I am writing to you concerning the proposal to extend West Chicago to Westberry Trails. As I understand it, the proposal will create substantial additional traffic right in front of Pinedale and has already been approved by Planning.

While I applaud this Council for its recent development efforts and planning for Rapid City, the extension of West Chicago would not be one of your crown jewels. This proposal will create significant traffic right through a quiet residential neighborhood and school zone with two cross-walks where many children and adults cross the street (often in groups) every morning. In addition, it is important to note that the students at Pinedale are largely very young (K-5) who ride bicycles and are otherwise inexperienced pedestrians. While I realize that you can post speed limits and local law enforcement to try and control the speed and flow of the additional traffic, we all know that people frequently exceed posted speed limits and fail to stop for pedestrians -- especially when they are late for work or school in the morning. I drive Nemo Road every day and I can assure you that the traffic you are attempting to handle includes numerous teenagers (and others) who often drive very fast and/or reckless in the mornings regardless of the time of year. Accordingly, I believe that this proposal is a time bomb which promises to get a small child killed and I hope and trust that this Council will not approve it for that reason.

I don't profess to know the best route to provide secondary access to Westberry Trails (which should not have been developed to this point without one) but I can't believe that this proposal is the best option. For example, the Timberline area just to the north of this proposed route is a neighboring residential area which is already developed and does not involve numerous school children attempting to cross the road every morning at 8:00

a.m. In addition, there may be other plausible locations to the south where several landowners are presently landlocked and require legal access. Have these possibilities been explored? I would think that prudent planning would require that there are no alternatives to routing this traffic right in front of one of our grade schools.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Barton R. Banks
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