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City Council Meeting
1 June 2023

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CITY CLERK

Dear Councilpersons,

I am writing with regard to the proposed zoning changes for the plot of land at the corner of Wabash Avenue and Keane Lane. At the last meeting of the Council that considered this proposition the Members and the attendees were given several sheets that showed the proposed buildings. Although these sheets gave us nice drawings; elevations, floor plans, foundations plans, there was no site plan attached. Therefore I do not know the exact location of the planned entrances and exits to this development. Mine main concern is one of...

Safety:

Entrances and Exits

Wabash Avenue – it is my understanding that there will be one entrance onto Wabash Avenue, requiring a “cut” that was previously determined by INDOT to be unsafe. No reason has been given as to why this is now considered safe. The statements made at the previous meeting seemed to indicate that there would be a right (East) turn only allowed at this new entrance. I cannot imagine that people wanting to go West will actually turn east to find another way to go the other direction. So do they then turn onto Keane Lane and go South all the way to Poplar? Or do they turn South, go through Woodridge, likely Berkley or Woodbine, and turn West onto Wabash from Woodridge Drive?

Keane Lane – This seemed to be designated that it would be a left (South) turn only. Again, do you imagine that drivers will actually go to Poplar, or is it more like that they will travel through Woodridge to access a main road? Or will the turn right on Keane to Wabash, which is the more intuitive, although illegal, move.

I think it is naïve to believe that residents of this proposed development will follow the rules of the road. People don't follow the rules currently. There are many instances of drivers going North on the one-way South section of Keane. The stop sign at Berkley is regularly disregarded, especially by people traveling South. I live on Berkley, as do many families with young children. We have runners and walkers, kids on bikes and trikes, parents and grandparents pushing strollers, people walking dogs. When there is a wreck on Wabash, traffic is routinely routed through Woodridge and drivers speed down the street without regard for the safety of the residents. It makes it very dangerous.

Without knowing the layout of the site in its entirety, I can only surmise that putting 32 townhomes on little more than an acre and a half of land requires that plot to be completely filled with buildings. Since these are multi-bedroom units, it

is safe to say that there are likely to be children living there. Where are they to play? The street? The driveways? The sidewalks? Are there sidewalks? Has this been considered and accounted for?

I know that State offers financial incentives for developers to build population-dense housing. The Wabash/Keane site is just not appropriate for this particular project.

As was brought up at the last meeting, and indeed at the ones six years ago, safety should be the top priority. Safety for all residents, not only those in the Woodridge Subdivision and Keane Lane, but those in the proposed project, those drivers on Wabash and Keane, the customers of the Dental Office and the Kindermusik Studio, the walkers, riders and bikers who will be affected by the intrusion of this development.

Please protect the citizens of this area and say NO to the proposed zoning change.

Thank you for your time,
Gretchen Bauer Jennermann
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Terre Haute, IN