

RED CEDAR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Dear neighbors,

August 1991

Several major events are taking place that affect our neighborhood.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AUG. 28 ON WIDENING KALAMAZOO STREET

City and county plans to widen the Kalamazoo Street and Bridge to four lanes have been finalized and have passed an environmental impact report. A public hearing will be held August 28 at 7 p.m. at the East Lansing Public Library. If you are concerned about this, please come. Even if you don't plan to speak, the number of those who attend will speak about our concern. Written comments can be left at the hearing or sent to the Ingham County Road Commission, 301 Bush St., PO Box 38, Mason, MI 48854 any time up until 10 days after the hearing.

Kalamazoo Street and Bridge to be Widened to Four Lanes.

The city and county plan to use E. Lansing, county, state and Federal funding to widen the street and bridge to four lanes plus add a bike path across the bridge. The bike path would be on the north side of the road between the bridge and the marigold intersection, then cross under the bridge to join up with the River Walk path. Although the road itself will not be raised, the bridge will have to be raised for the bike path to cross under it and the length increased to about 99 feet.

Red Cedar Community Association Board Opposes Kalamazoo Widening

As a board, we have voted 10 to 1 (an abstention) to oppose the proposed widening. Traffic projected to 20 years shows no need for a wider bridge except for football game traffic. This lack of real traffic need concerns us greatly. Money for widening the road and bridge may be wasted. However, a widened street may attract more commuter and through traffic near or through our neighborhood. Increased traffic on Kalamazoo may result in increased flows to Marigold for those aiming for the Shaw or Wilson entrances to campus. Further, neighborhood children and others would have to cross a busier, four lane Kalamazoo Street to get to the bikepath/sidewalk on the North side--a real safety problem.

Besides the physical and social impact on our neighborhood, we are concerned about the environmental and aesthetic impact. The project will cut over fifteen existing trees and destroy some wet lands. While giving overall approval to the project, the Department of Natural Resources environmental impact report requires the creation of half an acre of wet lands, to replace those that will be eliminated, an expensive undertaking. Furthermore, the aesthetic appeal of the current wooded and curved two lane road will be reduced.

We are also concerned about the lateness and incompleteness of the information provided to the public on this whole project. The environmental hearings were not widely announced and this next hearing is poorly timed for genuine public response at August vacation time. Those most forthcoming in providing us information have been Mr. Robert D'Alcorn of the Ingham County Road Commission, Mayor Liz Schweitzer and Rep. Lynn Jondahl, who met with us and provided hours of staff time to help us find information.

RCCA Board Proposes rebuilding or replacing two lane bridge and Building Bike Path

We recognize that the current bridge needs to be rebuilt. We have also been requesting a bike path for years, even before the connection to the Lansing Riverwalk system, to make the road safer for both commuter and recreational

bicyclists. What we propose and request is the rebuilding of the current bridge or its replacement with another two lane bridge, the strengthening of the road bed against flooding (which the new plan calls for), and the building of a bike path on the South side of Kalamazoo Street, where it will be useful for traffic to and from our neighborhood. We would prefer a separate bike path and wooden bridge, like those built for Riverwalk, but a separate path or sidewalk on a slightly widened two lane bridge would be acceptable.

Whether you agree with us or disagree, please come to the hearing and express yourself or become better informed.

Marigold and Harrison Intersection to Be Further Modified

The city is about to further change the Marigold/Harrison Road intersection by restricting traffic outbound from campus on Shaw Lane from continuing west on to Marigold. Shaw traffic will now have to turn left or right. (Fire engines will still be able to get through.) The city will also make the experiment look better by putting a temporary flower planter at the mouth of Marigold St. as a barricade to through traffic.


Neighborhood Garage Sale scheduled for September 21-22

The combined Flowerpot and Ivanhoe garage sale will be held 9-5 on Sept. 21-22. (See the attached handout.) All are urged to participate. We will advertise and put up signs, so those who participate are asked to contribute \$1 for costs. Also if you have not paid your 1991 dues, \$2 per adult, please send them to Mary Dudley, our Treasurer, payable to RCCA

The Red Cedar Community Association Board

Bob Barrett	337-7688	1014 Lilac
Jim Bebermeyer, Vice-President	351-0191	1063 Lilac
Ken or Maxine Boland	337-0685	1226 Ivanhoe
Dennis or Karen Drobeck	332-8875	1167 Lilac
Mary Dudley, Treasurer	351-7497	1037 Narcissus
Rob Eschbach	351-3056	1228 Daisy
Margaret Geist	332-8015	947 Marigold
Roger Hamlin	351-3763	1240 Marigold
Ken or Liz Harrow	332-0422	1147 Daisy
George Kessler	332-6120	1127 Lilac
Donna King, Secretary	351-4297	1071 Lilac
Fred Kletke	332-6801	1130 Daisy
Jim Lorenz	332-6841	1014 Marigold
Anne Mervenne	351-9327	1151 Palmer, Apt. H
Brendan Prebo	337-0454	1143 Lilac
Joanne Russell	351-3145	1225 Daisy
Joe Straubhaar, President	332-6942	1145 Rebecca

We look forward to hearing from you.



Joe Straubhaar, President,
Red Cedar Community Association

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