

REPORT

April 26, 2004

The following is my report:

1. **THE CONNECTION OF S.W. 127TH AVENUE ACROSS THE RAILROAD TRACKS:**

This would give us a way to go North without having to go South a mile first. It would give us easy access to the new commercial center being constructed at the intersection with SW 120th Street. But it would also increase significantly the amount of traffic through the Deerwood community. A traffic light would probably be needed at the intersection with SW 144th Street.

After several calls to the County, I was unable to find out if the connection was planned anytime soon. The cost of the construction is mostly paid for already by the developers on both sides of the tracks. The two lane portion of 127th Avenue from the railroad North to S.W. 120th Street should be completed within a year or two. The only gap would be the railroad crossing.

I would suggest that the Board send a letter to our County Commissioner requesting information about it. Maybe have a Board member meet with him or his staff. I would be glad to attend that meeting too.

2. **TURNPIKE TRAFFIC NOISE:**

The noise affects the units along the Northeast portions of our project the most, but it is a nuisance to homeowners who live several blocks away as well.

The State has a policy that they will normally not consider walls or other methods for existing highways. They say that if the highway was there before you were, you have little reason to complain. However in some cases they will make exceptions.

The only way we would have a chance would be to hire an Environmental Engineer who specializes in noise abatement. I will contact such an engineer who has been successful in the past with projects like ours to find out what it would involve and cost.

The problem will get a lot worse when the Shula expressway is extended. There will be overpasses at the Northeast and Northwest corners of our project as the expressway is extended to the intersection of S.W. 136th Street and S.W. 127th Avenue. When that is being planned we need to press for noise walls along our boundary lines.

For people in the North portion of our community, another noise problem is the airport. Private jet and helicopter traffic will probably increase. There is not much we can do about that. We need to keep an eye on what is planned at that airport.

The above are concerns that could be considered by an "External Affairs" Committee. If such a committee were formed they could also look into:

REPORT

3. STREET LIGHTS ALONG ADJACENT PUBLIC STREETS:

S.W. 122nd Avenue, S.W. 144th Street and S.W. 127th Avenue are too dark at night. We could work to get a Special Taxing Street Lighting District established to light them.

That Special Taxing District could also include maintenance of the landscaping within the medians and islands. The costs per household would be minimal and would be added to our County taxes, which would make it tax deductible.

4. COORDINATION WITH THE OTHER DEERWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS:

We need to establish some kind of coordination with the other HOAs in Deerwood. A committee of HOA Presidents would be one way. At the very least, an exchange of letters regarding common interests and goals. This should be pursued. If we all worked together, we could get a lot more done.

5. KENDALL FEDERATION OF HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS:

This organization represents the Kendall community before the Community Councils, County Commission, State and Federal government. Their boundaries are Bird Road to Coral Reef and Dixie Highway to Krome Avenue.

They have been successful in getting schools, governmental services and transportation improvements in the Kendall area. They will definitely be involved with the Shula expressway extension mentioned above. If our association is a member, we would be in a position to maybe influence the design.

Membership dues for our association to join would be \$250.00 per year. Meetings are the same night as our monthly meeting. Someone should attend their meetings in order to keep tabs on what is going on around us.

6. PLANS FOR THE COUNTY DEERWOOD PARK:

Finding out and publishing to the community what the County Parks Department plans for the park. I am sure everyone has noticed how much the facilities are being used.

We could also see if the park could serve as the school bus stop. That would prevent some of the damage to our entrance feature by the kids while they wait for the bus.

There are a lot of things that are outside of our community that can affect us. We could use a committee to keep an eye on them and let us all know. If one is formed, I would be glad to be a member of such a committee.

Robin Teagarden, Jr.
11901 SW 135 Terrace
Miami, Florida 33186