

Edwards,Michelle

From: jeriharmon@gmail.com
Sent: Saturday, July 09, 2022 2:43 PM
To: outside email clerk
Subject: EXTERNAL -Closure of 27th Street

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Help Desk

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows,
Michelle Edwards,

We are writing in regard to the petition to close a portion of 27th Street between Oak and Wilson Streets. We are opposed to the closing of this Street as it serves the many needs of the neighbors that live in this area. We have lived at 2705 Oak Street for over 28 years and walk on 27th Street daily.

We understand the parental concerns of the petitioners in regards to the safety of their child. Our concern is that the closing of 27th Street would endanger the lives of other children, pets, and pedestrians in the neighborhood. Memorial Church is an integral part of this eastside neighborhood. The Church parking lot is a gathering location for children to play. There is a playground and Preschool for young children and older children play basketball on the Church's goal. Neighborhood children ride their bicycles to the church lot and the Church hosts several events for all the neighborhood families. In fact, the Church is having a Weenie Roast and Summer Game event today. Most neighbors walk to the Church to attend events and services. 27th Street provides a quick and easy alternative route for neighbors to travel to Memorial Church, Baeslers Market, and The Meadows.

If 27th Street were to be closed, neighbors would have to use 25th Street, 29th Street, or Poplar Street to reach the Church. Children and walkers would no longer be able to cut through the less traveled 27th Street but would have to travel on busy 25th Street or 29th Street that does not have sidewalks. I have never known of any traffic accidents to happen on 27th Street, but 25th Street has had several traffic accident in the last few years. As daily dog walkers, we avoid 25th Street and use 27th Street daily. We would never walk our dog on 29th Street as it has a steep incline, limited visibility, and no sidewalks. We frequently visit with our Wilson Street neighbors by walking the one block of 27th Street. If 27th Street was not open, we would have to walk an additional 5 blocks just to visit with friends that live one street away-- because our section of Oak Street does not have an alley. In other words, we could not take a walk around the block.

Closing 27th Street would also create an unnecessary challenge for the occupant of 2649 Oak Street. The home at 2649 Oak has a side garage and carport that can only be easily entered by the use of 27th Street. Three of the four neighbors that live directly on 27th Street are opposed to closing it. I do not believe that the petitioner (who has only lived in the neighborhood for a few months) should be able to inconvenience other children and pedestrians that receive benefits from the Street.

In conclusion, 27th Street has provided a safe alternative route for this quiet Eastside neighborhood to use to reach important services and businesses quickly and easily. The Street is primarily used by the residents of the neighborhood. After living near 27th Street for over 28 years, we can say without hesitation that traffic on this street is not heavy, and cars do not speed down the road. Any visibility issues on the Wilson Street side are due to the petitioners parking on Wilson Street near the 27th Street opening instead of in their garage.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Randy and Jeri Harmon