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Professional Security Consultants & Design, LLC.

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Knoxville - Knox County
MPC
Metropolitan Planning Commission
Suite 403 City County Building
400 Main Street
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in response following receipt of the "Notice of Public Hearing" concerning a "Plan Amendment" File Number 1-D-07-SP 1-Q-07-RZ which is a request for rezoning property located at Southeast side W. Emory Road, Southwest side Harrell Road, West side Painter Farm Lane.

I own and operate a small business located at 6403 West Emory Road, which is directly across the street from this parcel of property considered for rezoning. First let me say that I have no issue with the request for rezoning this parcel from PR (Planned Residential) to CA General Business. What I do have issue with concerning the request, is a longstanding traffic issue at the intersection of West Emory Road and Harrell Road.

My business is located at this intersection and the traffic situation is horrific and becoming worse with each passing day. There have been numerous traffic accidents at this intersection during the four years that we have operated at this location. With several involving serious injury and three that I am aware of involved fatalities. One vehicle ended up in our office causing much heartache to avoid an accident at this intersection this past Fall.

If this property is approved for commercial development there has to be something done with the traffic situation. Just within the past 6 month period and with the opening of the "Karr's Connector" which now flows a much higher volume of traffic directly onto West Emory Road 2.0 miles West of this location the wait to for accessing Emory Road from my parking lot has increased substantially, sometimes as much as 20 - 30 minutes during the 7-9AM and 3-6PM periods.

Again let me state that I am not against the rezoning of this parcel of property, because I have commercial property located there, but I do feel that before there is any rezoning done in this area there would need to a traffic study performed and especially following the opening of this new connector route I have asked for help from both Knox County and the State of Tennessee with this issue and have gotten nowhere with either. But this is what I would consider to be a great public safety issue and granting this request as it stands will only add to the issue. Please at this time vote against this request until there is a change in the traffic and safety issues this area presents.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Walker
President / General Manager
Professional Security Consultants & Design, LLC.