BRINK

Better Roads in North Knox

Clark Hamilton, President

1200 Stillwell Street Knoxville, TN 37912 Phone: 865 689-3177

April 9, 2013

RE: BRINK's opposition to approval of agenda item 4-SE-13-F

To: All Commissioners of the Metropolitan Planning Commission

BRINK (Better Roads in North Knox) is an organization formed in 1987 to work for better road projects in the Northern portion of Knox County. We have been advocates and supporters of every major road project – both local and state projects - in this area for the past 25 years.

We urge you to follow the recommendation of the City Engineering Department and the MPC staff and turn down the request for the 4 variances on Merchants.

The City of Knoxville in 1987 gave approval for the widening and improvement of Pleasant Ridge Road from the I-640 Bridge north to the city limits. The first portion – from the I-640 Bridge to Merchants - has already been completed. The remaining portion – from Merchants north to the city limits includes plans for reworking Merchants from Pleasant Ridge back to Wilkerson Road.

To allow these variances will hamstring this project and destroy the planned improvements to this critical stretch of Merchants.

Sincerely,

Clark Hamilton

President, BRINK - Better Roads in North Knox