



June 9, 2021

Re: Road Closure Application 5-B-21-SC

Members of the Planning Commission:

Late yesterday morning Richard Clark (applicant to the above referenced closure of Glenmore Drive) emailed me and other members of the West Hills Community Association unsettling news, that if proven to be accurate, changes to complexity of what initially was a simple request to remedy a technicality prohibiting the erection of a privacy fence.

Mr. Clark's email was supported with a screen shot of the Planning staff's recommendation to deny the application to close based on the possibility it will deny access and prevent any future plans to use that roadway as a portal to the West Hills park. Any plans to expand facilities at this location—especially for vehicular access—is opposed by the WHCA officers and executive committee.

Those who've received this 11th-hour heads-up from Mr. Clark, have expressed strong opposition for several obvious reasons. These include the following:

1. Adjacent property owners along Bennington will see increased traffic going to and from Glenmore—which has NO traffic at the moment.
2. The intersection of Bennington and Glenmore is in a section of Bennington which experiences speeding traffic and is an existing hazard to our neighbors in that stretch of roadway.
3. Precious green space—the very essence of any park—will be sacrificed to accommodate parking.
4. The tranquility of that area of the park will be destroyed.
5. If the city has funds for such a project, the West Hills community would rather see those resources allocated for speed humps and/or a sidewalk along Bennington between Corteland and Sheffield Drives.

The WHCA Executive Committee will review all available information, including any ideas from the City Parks & Rec Department, City Engineering, and other governing bodies to make an informed decision on any future course of action.

In light of this latest news, the WHCA respectfully requests a minimum 30 day postponement to allow the West Hills community to become better informed and share their perspectives on the potential short- and long-term affects to the community and our park.

Respectfully yours,

Leland C. Hume
President
West Hills Community Association
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