

I would like to express my comments regarding the planned zoning change for the new development. I think few would disagree that Knoxville has experienced tremendous growth in the last few years which has strained our infrastructure, namely the road, schools and traffic. During early development many believe the roads were not designed and built to allow for expansion. Most of the road in the county do not have shoulders which for one makes it bike unfriendly therefor we build the green ways to accommodate. As developments have gone in they often are built up the the right aways leaving no room to expand the roads to accommodate the additional traffic. Living in the Choto area for the last 9 years, some new homes have been built along Northshore and the traffic reflects it. The other night it took 35 minutes to go from Harvey & Northshore to Northshore and the Pellissippi which used to be a 15–20-minute ride. Now the Planning Commission wants to allow 5 homes per acre on a 44-acre parcel. Realistically, the average home will have at least 2 cars or another 300 cars on these busy and narrow roads. You all need to travel Harvey Road that is narrow and curvy. Some have said we will have to widen Northshore soon - where? There may be a few limited areas where it could be made for one more land but not 2 more. And from the Concord circle to Harvey, 3 new bridges would have to be constructed, again not realistic. Additionally, a large development is being constructed at Northshore and Beals Chapel in Lenior City. We cannot expect all those new residents will shop and work in Loudon County, many will travel on Northshore contributing to more congestion.

I don't need to address the overcrowded schools in the County. For those of us who have lived here for decades and seen all this growth and congestion are at the least disappointed in the way the Planning Commission addresses these requests. I would ask that this request be denied or at least scaled back to lesser homes per acre. If a developer is going to develop then they need to help fix the issues with the roads and schools.