

Hello,

As a resident of the Brookhaven subdivision for nearly 12 years, I wanted to share my thoughts on the proposed development near our neighborhood.

The roads around here are getting more congested all the time. In the past, rush hour was typically from 4:30 to about 5:45; now rush hour starts at 3:30 and does not stop until after 6:00. It doesn't necessarily bother me that "rush hour" is so extended anymore and is way longer than an hour – it's just the sheer volume of traffic and the number of cars that are the concern. It is now normal during this new rush hour for cars to be lined up west from the light at West Emory and Byington Beaver Ridge Road to the backside of the sports park. In the past it might have been lined up to the entrance of Brookhaven neighborhood at the worst of times.

I understand the need for more housing in our area. I have no concern about that. I am concerned we keep adding more housing without making any fundamental changes to our roadways. Adding a traffic light may help with people trying to turn, but what we need are roads to accommodate the volume of cars. It seems West Emory/Karns Valley has become a major thoroughfare for people traveling between north Knoxville and West Knoxville/Oak Ridge. Adding more homes will definitely make this worse.

Additionally, working in the public sector here in the Karns community and having children of my own, I can directly see the impact of traffic delays on the children of Karns going to and from school. Adding more housing without making any substantial changes to our local roadways will only impact our children in a negative way.

With several new subdivisions already under construction nearby, our current infrastructure is unable to cope with the ongoing growth. The roads, utilities, and public services are already overburdened, and additional housing will only worsen the situation.

I strongly urge the commission to reconsider this proposal and focus on enhancing our infrastructure before approving any new developments. The well-being and quality of life in our community are at stake.

Thank you,

Bryant Pickney

bryantpickney@icloud.com