

September 7, 2018

Wendy Jacobs
Durham County Commissioner

**RE: Reduce Right-of-Way Width for Farrington Road
MPO Meeting on September 12th**

Dear Commissioner Jacobs:

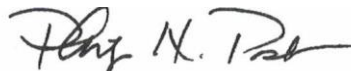
At the MPO meeting on September 12th I will be speaking as strongly as possible to ask you not to reduce the required right-of-way width for Farrington Road to 80 feet, and I respectfully ask you to reject the recommendation of the technical committee. Please do not give away the opportunity for a Complete Street System to serve SW Durham County and Leigh Village on Farrington.

Many reasons to keep the current 110-foot right-of-way for Farrington are as follows:

- As we anticipate needed street and pedestrian improvements for 2047, it is too early to give up right-of-way width for a key arterial such as Farrington.
- Go Triangle, as part of their Leigh Village Station improvements, will be re-aligning Farrington Road and will widen Farrington Road to four (4) lanes. Surely if Go Triangle thinks Farrington needs to be four (4) lanes, then the MPO should not diminish the right-of-way width so that four (4) lanes are not possible.
- We need a Complete Street System in SW Durham County. Complete Streets would include (1) travel lanes (with median); (2) on-street bike lanes on both sides, (3) sidewalks on both sides and (4) the ten (10) foot multi-use path called for on Greenway Plans. Using NCDOT standards, you cannot fit all four (4) of the above elements in an eighty (80) foot right-of-way, because there is simply not enough width.
- Based on my meeting with Commissioner Reckhow, Andy and Go Triangle, this reduction in right-of-way width is purely so that Go Triangle does not have to change their site plan. However, as we discussed in the meeting, Go Triangle has other options: they can request a reduction in the hundred fifty (150) foot buffer to the 140 right-of-way. Such a reduction towards 140 seems very reasonable since they are providing a thirty (30) foot buffer to the occupied homes on Farrington, but a one hundred fifty (150) foot buffer to the trucks and passersby on 140!
- The technical committee thinks traffic will grow on Farrington from 13,000 in 2018 to 18,000 in 2047. I think they are badly mistaken and I will bring pictures of actual development projects under construction that will likely result in the 2047 traffic projections actually occurring in the next few months or few years.

Please consider these facts and please do not reduce the one hundred ten (110) foot right-of-way width for Farrington Road.

Sincerely,



Philip N. Post, Board of Directors, Oaks 3
Neighborhood

Cy To: Andy Henry; Ellen Reckhow