

Roberts, Karin

From: Gerald Hughes <ghughes@isomedia.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 9:24 PM
To: EBCC; rvgooding@comcast.net; betsihummer@yahoo.com
Subject: SIDEWALK CONCERNS

EBCC

Steve Kasner informed me that you are no longer going to discuss the planned new sidewalk between 148th and 156th on SE 16th. at the mayor's request. Does that mean that you will no longer discuss it with your constituents?

This capital project of \$5-\$7 million will do little for our neighborhood. There is already a safe sidewalk on the north side and part of the south side. The road is well marked including cross walks at the bottom. I have ridden my bicycle on the hill at least 50 times safely.

Our neighborhood improvement funds are a little over \$500,000 to be allocated to 24 projects. The funds will cover only 3-4 projects out of the 24 even though all 24 could be completed for less than \$2 million ... essentially the slop in the estimate of cost of the sidewalk. And yet, each would improve our neighborhood in terms of appearance, convenience or safety.

I am trying to convince City Counsel members of this. I am taking each one individually on a tour of Lake Hills to show them how these funds could be better used. I ask you ' if this were your \$5-7 million, is this sidewalk the way you would spend it ' or ' could you do better to improve our neighborhood ' ? Think about it. It is OUR taxpayer money.

Then we must add the PSE element. Our lame duck mayor consistently approves anything that PSE wants. I suspect this sidewalk is tied into the PSE desire to run new transmission lines down this route. Remember this was NOT approved by the hearing examiner as part of the new 148th transmission project.

At the same time, our mayor has consistently tried to eliminate the EBCC. He campaigned for this in the last election and I have been told he said your constituents were 'idiots' for voting for the continuation of the EBCC (by 80%). The EBCC was created to provide a buffer between the City Counsel and staff and our area. The EBCC has rejected this project for many years and I hope you will serve your constituents and continue to do this, despite the mayor's desire.

Gerry Hughes