

★ **Roll Call Number**

Agenda Item Number

41

Date December 17, 2007

Letter and petition in opposition to the construction of the Waveland Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail north from behind 6059 N. Waterbury Road to 56<sup>th</sup> Street.

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ to receive and file

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
COLEMAN				
HENSLEY				
KIERNAN				
MAHAFFEY				
MEYER				
VLASSIS				
TOTAL				

**CERTIFICATE**

I, DIANE RAUH, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\* Please  
for Walnut  
Creek Trail  
on 12/17  
again

651 61st St 41  
Des Moines, IA 50312  
Oct. 9, 2007

Council Member Chris Hensley  
City of Des Moines, IA

Dear Mrs. Hensley,

I attended the Oct. 3, 2007 "Waveland Trail, Phase 1 Kick-off" 7 P.M. meeting at 5101 Grand Ave.

I was pleasantly surprised that the attendees against the Trail far outnumbered those for it.

Points discussed included the following:

1. Why do we need to connect the present "new" trail to the 56<sup>th</sup> Street I-235 bridge from approximately 6059 N. Waterbury Road?

A. Everyone in Des Moines is never going to have a bike trail in their back-yard - or even within a block or 2 of their back-yard, so, why is this trail needed?

2. "Federal Funds" are available for construction of this trail.

A. "Federal Funds" seem to always be regarded as "free money" (mammon from Heaven?) It is not! Federal Funds are from our taxes and should not be used unnecessarily.

B. We were advised that "Federal Funds" will not maintain these trails - the City of Des Moines (our local taxes) will do the maintenance.

2.

We were told that Parks Dept. employees maintain the trails - not Street Dept.

It's still paid for by our local taxes.

I noticed, back in January, 2007, following our heaviest snow of last winter, that the bike trail running from Grand Ave. (near 63rd St.) and under the 63rd St. bridge, at Walnut Creek was cleared by about the same time (and maybe before) the first snow-plow came through our street...

I had walked to the bike trail - it was about 0° F. I saw no bicyclists nor walkers, but our taxes had paid for a prompt clearing of snow from the bike trail.

Then there was the flooding of the trail this spring - I observed it at the Grand Ave. bridge and the Walnut Creek bridge - the trail was under water. City employees had placed "saw horse" & other barricades there and silt and debris probably had to be cleared from the trail - paid for by our taxes.

Asphalt trails deteriorate - I found that when riding my bicycle, particularly on a section of the trail in Windsor Heights, near Wal-Mart Tree roots (or similar) had caused the asphalt to bulge up and become hazardous - there were also areas with nasty cracks developing. It has since been re-paved. The point is, local taxes

3.

pay for all of this maintenance, past, present and future.

The maintenance of the trails is expensive. I don't believe we need even more trails and more (tax) expenses!

3. Construction of this proposed section of trail, along/over Cummins/Gulf Creek will be difficult and expensive (even if "Federal Funds" pay for it). The area on the east side of the creek, behind 6039 and 6055 N. Waterbury Road is very narrow, between the homeowners back fences and the east edge of the creek bank - 25 feet or less - the trail construction south of there required tearing out all trees, plants etc. to a minimum width of 40 feet. Much of the West side of the creek (especially 6102 Woodland Road) appears to be privately owned to within a few feet of the creek bank.

4. I obtained the following 39 (counting my own) signatures on a petition to stop any further bike trail through our area. [Petition attached, herewith] I obtained these signatures in April-June, 2006, when further construction appeared imminent. When notices/meetings did not occur, I held this petition, hoping further trail construction had "blown over."

4.

In summary, we appreciate walking out our back yard, into the woods. Many of us miss the natural growth and the foot path that used to exist from approximately 6059 N. Waterbury Road to near Grand Ave. and is now the asphalt bike trail. We don't want to lose more!

I could go on, but this letter is already longer than I had intended.

I trust you will pass this on to others in City Government who are involved in this matter.

I appreciate the great amount of time you spend for the City of Des Moines.

I also appreciated the fine manner in which Richard Brown conducted the Oct. 3, 2007 meeting (even though I feel he represented the "dark side").

Sincerely,  
M. H. Van Dusseldorp  
M. H. Van Dusseldorp  
651 61st Street  
Des Moines, IA 50312

home phone: 277-7171  
cellular phone: 577-7011

cc: Richard Brown  
Park & Rec. Dept.

PETITION FORM

Date: April 12, 2006 - May

The Honorable Mayor  
And  
Members of the City Council  
Des Moines, Iowa

page one

We, the undersigned, hereby petition the Des Moines City Council for the following: Please stop all planned construction of the "Waveland" bicycle / pedestrian trail North from approximately behind 6059 N. Waterbury Road to 56th Street.

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	ADDRESS AND ZIP
<i>M. Van Dusseldorp</i>	M. H. Van Dusseldorp	651 61st St. 50312
<i>Janice F. Van Dusseldorp</i>	Janice F. Van Dusseldorp	651 61st St. 50312
<i>John Jacobson</i>	John Jacobson	662 61st St 50312
<i>Barbara Miller</i>	BARBARA MILLER	669 61st St. 50312
<i>Janet Morrison</i>	Janet M. Morrison	699-61st 50312
<i>Donald E. Alsin</i>	Donald E. Alsin	705-61st St. 50312
<i>Eldredge E. Baer</i>	ELDRIDGE E. BAER	713 61st St 50312
<i>Stacie Reynolds</i>	Stacie Reynolds	657 61st DSM 50312
<i>Steve Herndon</i>	Steve Herndon	6106 Woodland 50312
<i>Robert Hayes</i>	ROBERT HAYES	6111 Woodland 50312
<i>Richard J. Adams</i>	RICHARD ADAMS	6015 PLEASANT DR 50312
<i>Sharon K. Dougherty</i>	Sharon K. Dougherty	6103 Harwood Dr. 50312
<i>Martha J. Nyemaster</i>	Martha J. Nyemaster	694-61st St 50312
<i>Sara Minnis</i>	SARA MINNIS	6115 Harwood Dr 50312
<i>Kathy Kayser</i>	KATHY KAYSER	665 62nd St. DM 50312
<i>Heidi Garton</i>	Heidi Garton	6126 Harwood Dr DSM 50312
<i>Timothy Beatty</i>	Timothy Beatty	6126 Harwood Dr. DSM 50312
<i>Carmie Fitzgerald</i>	Carmie Fitzgerald	6124 Harwood Dr. DSM 50312
<i>Katherine F. Stone</i>	KATHERINE F. STONE	686 61st DM 50312
<i>Linda Church</i>	Linda Church	670 61st DM 50312

PETITION FORM

Date: June - July 2006

page two

The Honorable Mayor  
And  
Members of the City Council  
Des Moines, Iowa

We, the undersigned, hereby petition the Des Moines City Council for the following: Please stop all planned construction of the "Waveland" bicycle / pedestrian trail North from approximately behind 6059 N. Waterbury Road to 56th Street.

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	ADDRESS AND ZIP
	Gayle Tucker	6103 Woodland
	John M. Miller	6048 N. Waterbury
	RICHARD COLE, JR.	6059 N. WATERBURY RD.
	CLAIRE COLE	6059 N. Waterbury Rd
	Sharon Hart	6045 N. Waterbury Rd.
	Andy Bandstra	660 Rowwood Dr
	Dave Atkins	6012 Rowwood Dr
	George Kavnas	659 Rowwood Dr.
	Jan Habison	665 Rowwood Dr.
	John E Cooper	5908 Harwood Dr.
		5908 Harwood Dr.
	JOHN KERUIST	6102 Woodland Rd
	David Jordan	6025 Waterbury Cr.
		5924 N. Waterbury Rd
	STEPHEN H BAKER	677 61st St 50312
	PETE TORRES	6100 Pleasant Dr.
	Anna Nicohi	6106 Pleasant Dr.
	Shirley Conhill	6132 Harwood Dr
	LANCE KINSETH	6200 Woodland Rd.



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Waveland Trail, Phase 1