

From: Joseph Patterson III <joepatterson@me.com>

Subject: Petition to ban through traffic by trucks and buses on Henderson St/North St

Date: October 14, 2021 at 11:14:24 AM EDT

To: Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>

Cc: Mary Jane Nirdlinger <mnirdlinger@townofchapelhill.org>, "Mr. Chris Belcher"

<jchrisbelcher@live.com>, Carmen Cooley <carbell@aol.com>, Jane Little <littl002@juno.com>, Melissa

McCollough <melissamccnc@gmail.com>, John Norwood <johnhnorwood@gmail.com>, Katherine Polk

<katherine.polk@unc.edu>, Iris Schwintzer <earissch@gmail.com>, Regina Wheeler

<reginajaywheeler@gmail.com>, John Wilson <jfwmanteo@mac.com>, "Wade Dansby, Jr"

<wfdansby@gmail.com>, zmunger@nc.rr.com

Madame Mayor and Town Council members,

As you should be aware from recent correspondence, the sections of North St east of MLKB and Henderson St. north of Rosemary are the only access roads to Cobb Terrace for emergency equipment. They are both so narrow as to prevent two way traffic by vehicles any larger than compact cars. A lack of sidewalks on North St. forces residents to walk in the street to reach their homes. Shuttle buses from luxury student apartment complexes, vans, and trucks are using these roads as a cut through and present a substantial impediment to emergency vehicles reaching our homes in the case of an emergency, a hazard to residents' cars which must pull out of their lanes to avoid a collision, and an ongoing risk to pedestrians in the area. This is in addition to the negative impact of this disruptive traffic on the quality of life in our neighborhood .

These problems have been exacerbated by the traffic generated by the parking deck construction activities, but they existed before that project and will continue to exist once it is completed.

To address these problems, we hereby petition the Town Council to make it unlawful for buses and trucks to use these streets as a cut through, as it has in numerous other streets in Town.

Under the Town Ordinances (Sec. 21-6.1 - Bus and truck through traffic), it is "unlawful to operate a bus or truck on South Graham Street except for local service vehicles and delivery trucks making deliveries and/or pickups to houses and businesses on the street; and for buses stopping for receiving or discharging passengers on the street." We ask the Town to apply exactly the same restrictions under Sec. 21-6.1 to Henderson St. between Rosemary and North Streets, and North St. between Henderson St. and MLKB.

Legal prohibitions (Sect. 21-6) apply to truck traffic on 23 streets in Town, many of which are in close proximity to our neighborhood, so we are simply asking for similar protections provided to other Town residents.

We also ask that the Town act with urgency to modify the Ordinance and implement its enforcement. Our neighborhood will be under severe stress from additional traffic during the construction of the parking deck project and we need immediate protection. The Town staff is not set up to address these problems as they happen. Only the CHPD enforcing Town ordinances 24/7 can do that.

On behalf of our neighborhood,

John Wilson, John Norwood, and Joe Patterson
Cobb Terrace residents