

Petition to the Chapel Hill Town Council

June 13, 2018

Jeff Charles, new resident of Chapel Hill and former Chair of the Chapel Hill Transportation and Connectivity Advisory Board. As Chairman, I participated in providing inputs that the Town Council has approved for Estes Drive.

Petition:

Council should consider forming an advisory committee (working group) of town residents and staff to consider and recommend transportation facility improvements for pedestrians, bicycles and cars on the section of Homestead Road within the town limits of Chapel Hill, similar the improvements recommended for Estes Drive and Weaver Dairy Road.

These improvements are needed for the following reasons:

1. Hundreds of town residents of Chapel Hill live off of and access Homestead Road.
2. Three schools access Homestead Road from Sewell School Road and High School Road.
3. The Seymour Senior Center is located on Homestead Road
4. Community access to the Chapel Hill North trails is on Homestead Road.
5. The Town is considering developing a track of land on Homestead Road for affordable housing and proposals for other developments.
6. Homestead Road is a major connector between Martin Luther King Boulevard and Old U.S. 86 and provides access to this side of Chapel Hill to Orange County and Carrboro.
7. It is also a major bicycle route for commuters and recreation cyclists to the Dairyland Road bicycle loops.

Improvements to consider include:

1. The widening of Homestead Road and increasing the lanes for cars
2. Complete sidewalks the entire length of the road that considers handicapped citizens and includes low vision standards.
3. Continue protected bike lanes on both sides of the road for its entire length
4. Consider adding crosswalks at the Senior Center and other appropriate places.
5. Request the Chapel Hill bus system to add bus stops on the road in other areas of higher density.

If the Council decides to form this working group I would volunteer to chair this group.

Respectfully,
Jeff Charles