

Amy Harvey

From: Jeanette Coffin
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2022 4:03 PM
Cc: Colleen Willger; Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; James Baker; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver
Subject: FW: Petition regarding W Franklin Street
Attachments: W Franklin Street SLM petition.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin

Jeanette Coffin
Office Assistant
Town of Chapel Hill Manager's Office
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

-----Original Message-----

From: Wayne Pein <wpein@nc.rr.com>
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2022 3:36 PM
To: Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>
Subject: Petition regarding W Franklin Street

External email: Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to reportspam@townofchapelhill.org

Petition

A. Paint Shared Lane Markings at travel lane centers immediately after an intersection and spaced at intervals not greater than 250 feet thereafter.

B. Paint 20 MPH at travel lane centers at appropriate intervals.

See Attached pdf.

Thank you,
Wayne Pein
204 Ridgecrest Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

West Franklin Street Petition

Wayne Pein
wpein@nc.rr.com

September 23, 2022

Petition

- A. Paint Shared Lane Markings at travel lane centers immediately after an intersection and spaced at intervals not greater than 250 feet thereafter.
- B. Paint 20 MPH at travel lane centers at appropriate intervals.

Background

On February 1, 2022 I emailed a petition with a supporting 19-page pdf paper, both shown at <https://chapelhill.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5398701&GUID=84942F00-78E0-49BA-9CD4-01D332F33C63>

In my paper, I critiqued the various potential proposed reconfigurations of West Franklin Street and made the case that the long term original 4-lane design was best.

On February 8 2022 I sent another paper that examined consultant RKA's rejection of "curb running bike lanes" as described in a February 2 Memorandum from Bergen Watterson to the Town Council. That same day I received confirmation of receipt of my paper from Jeanette Coffin.

Neither my petition or my papers were responded to in any way by Town Staff and Town Council.

Recently West Franklin Street was reconfigured with the so-called "curb running bike lanes" behind parking. These are technically not bike lanes but are semi-segregated bike paths. As I described in my initial paper, they result in numerous dangerous manufactured crossing conflicts, and remove bicycle users' rights-of-way with crossing bus, loading zone, handicapped, and other car occupants. Bicyclists also lose the ability to make vehicular style left turns.

Loss of right-of-way and conflict creation are confirmed by the "Pavement Marking Plan" document by RKA that depicts YIELD wording and green paint to highlight the produced high conflict areas. Further, every parked vehicle creates an uncontrolled crossing incursion by pedestrians into the bikeway though these are not – but should be – shown in green.

<https://www.townofchapelhill.org/home/showpublisheddocument/51347/637865036149770000>

Rationale

Bicycle drivers wishing to use the normal travel lanes to maintain their rights-of-way and avoid the created conflicts of the bikeways will be verbally and physically harassed by hostile motorists who incorrectly assume bicyclists are required to use the bikeways. That is a reason why the Town Council in 2000 voted to remove the "Bike Path" signs from sidewalks that had been inappropriately placed in the 1970s.

In order to support and advertise bicycle users' right as drivers of vehicles to use the normal travel lanes, Shared Lane Markings should be painted at lane centers. 20 MPH should also be painted on the pavement for added emphasis and because speed limit signs so far to the right off pavement and visually blended with roadside elements will be less noticeable to motorists.