

From: [Mark Phillips](#)
To: [Steve Careccia](#)
Cc: [Dave Hurtado \(daveh@compasschurch.info\)](mailto:daveh@compasschurch.info); [Rebecca Zook](#)
Subject: FW: Our efforts with our neighbors
Date: Monday, December 07, 2015 9:10:45 AM

Steve, Dave Hurtado asked that I pass this along to you for your reference.

Mark

From: David Hurtado [mailto:daveh@compasschurch.info]
Sent: Saturday, December 05, 2015 9:22 PM
To: Mark Phillips
Subject: Our efforts with our neighbors

Mark- can you please see to it that Steve from the city of Goodyear receives this...

Per our discussion last week with the city, here is a list of things we have done with our neighbors' interests in mind (if you might remember, the idea was to get these efforts out as part of the record):

- A couple of years ago our Lead Pastor went door to door with Starbucks cards in an effort to build a bridge with the neighbors (prior to him becoming the Lead Pastor there was a history of contentiousness between the two sides).
- When we have big events such as “Trunk or Treat”... we purposely position our light towers and sound system in the opposite direction of our neighbors (positioning the entire lay out with them in mind in hopes of making it less intrusive on them).
- As it relates to the opening of the 161st exit:
 - We sent out an initial letter to them telling them we were excited about our plans for expansion and were intending to open up discussions with the city of Goodyear to open the exit on 161st. We also asked for their input and offered to meet over coffee or lunch so that we could show them our future plans and open it up for them to discuss their concerns
 - The only response we received back was from one person who stated that they would love it if our people would stop parking on 161st; to which we replied that we thought the opening of 161st would solve that problem.
 - Once we received the date from the city for our hearing, we sent another letter to our neighbors... This time we mentioned one of the neighbor's concerns about parking on 161st and how we believed that the opening of the exit would help this problem (this problem was relatively new to us... while we have known that people were parking on 161st, we didn't know how big of a problem it was in the eyes of our neighbors). We offered them notice of the meeting and notified them that Goodyear would also be contacting them about the upcoming meeting, and finally we offered, again, to meet to discuss any issues prior to the meeting.
 - We received one response simply stating that they were not for it (we offered to meet and discuss with no further response... in the same email

we also offered some possible concessions that we were considering to see if that might relieve some of their concerns... no reply)

- The only other response was from someone on the day of the first city-arranged meeting... They wanted to know what time and where the meeting was... We kindly offered the information to them in a timely fashion so that they could make the meeting
- At the first meeting:
 - We offered the neighbors some concessions for the opening of the exit on 161st.
 - We would strongly advocate to our church membership that they STOP parking on 161st (believing that the issue of parking congestion would be solved).
 - We would put in a gate to close the entrance/exit when not being used (stated that we would want it closed and locked on off hours so that we don't have problems with loitering/littering)
 - We would be willing to make the exit a "no right turn" so that people leaving our parking lot would be instructed to refrain from turning into their community.
 - This seemed to answer the concerns of the two neighbors who came to the meeting
 - At the Second meeting:
 - Only one of the two people at the first meeting came back to the second meeting (the one that came back brought many neighbors and was no longer agreeable to the resolutions from the first meeting).
 - Apparently there was some kind of mix up and the neighbors said that they received notice about the 1st meeting after it already had taken place.
 - We were shocked at the negative response because our invitations to meet and discuss the issues were never accepted.
 - The council seemed to indicate that they wished both sides could get together and come to some resolution:
 - Our Lead Pastor tried to speak with the neighbors after the 2nd meeting but was received with contentiousness from those present
 - As frustrations continued to rise on both sides, it was clear that both sides left feeling like there was no resolution in sight.

At this point, after our last meeting with the city, we were really swayed by the suggestion that a public street should be accessible to anyone (whether for residential or commercial use) whose property is adjacent to that public street. If this is truly the case then we need to advocate for the opening of that exit as it is the best thing for our church moving forward.

And while we have other ideas for how we could minimize the impact on our neighbors (such as putting up a Compass sign every Sunday asking our people to turn right onto Van Buren rather than left so that traffic doesn't collect on 161st) we do not feel it is best to mention it to our neighbors at this point because they seem content to collect concessions from us, but appear unwilling to concede anything from their side of things.

We hope you can see our heart of not wanting to be an enemy to our neighbors while still trying to do what is best for our church moving forward. At this point we believe our attempts at amicability have been rejected by our neighbors and are content to wait on the city's decision on the issue.

David Hurtado

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