

From: Teddy Pruett [mailto:aprayzer@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 8:48 PM
To: penny_stanley@columbiacountyfla.com; tmurphy@columbiacountyfla.com;
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rusty_depratter@columbiacountyfla.com
Subject: Ambulance Road at Laguna Drive

January 13, 2017

Dear Commissioner,

I am attaching a letter I wrote to city and hospital officials last year. After I wrote the letter, Jack Berry appeared on my doorstep. He assured me that this ambulance access road on Laguna Drive would happen, he just did not know when. He also said it would be a wide road, requiring land from my home and/or that of neighbors. The Johns, the Robinsons, the Middletons and we are living in limbo in fear and anticipation of what this proposed road will mean to our lives and property values.

However, the Lake City Reporter of January 6 & 7 ran the article relating the fact that the county is involved and is not as enthusiastic about the road as the hospital authority seems to be. Please, please - if there is any way to avoid building this road, I implore you to stop it. Our lives will be changed so much for the worse and we will suffer financially. The road will not only be access for the ambulances, but it will open a wide avenue to the neighborhoods behind the hospital and we will be in the path of all the traffic going to and from Highway 90 to the north. There aren't many of us on this street, but it is of great importance to us.

I beg you to do everything in your power to stop the ambulance access road on Laguna Drive. Thanks so very much for any attention you give to this matter. We need your help.

Sincerely,

Bill and Barbara (Teddy) Pruett

www.teddypruett.com

Roy W. & Barbara E. Pruett

161 NE Laguna Drive

Lake City, FL 32055

March 24, 2016

We purchased our home on Laguna Drive in late December. After living in a large home on six acres in Cannon Creek Airpark, we decided it was time for the proverbial "downsize" and began looking for a smaller home and yard. After looking at many same-same new homes, we were totally taken in by the unique details and elegance of this 1939 charmer near downtown. It is not the type of neighborhood to which we are accustomed, so we drove the area at different times of the day and night to be certain that it was a wise decision.

One reason we chose the home was the quiet, cozy corner location. Vehicular traffic is forced to go very slowly due to the fact that Laguna Drive is a short street that makes a 90 degree turn and joins the 20 mph drive around Lake deSoto. We greatly enjoy watching the walkers, the strollers, the fishermen, the skaters, the bike riders, the ducks, and even the occasional helicopter. It is quite peaceful tucked away in our little corner bordering the wetlands.

Now, mere weeks later, we learn that this quaint home is to be steps away from an ambulance run. This fact was not made known to us and was not disclosed in any real estate dealing, but has obviously been in the works for some time. When it became known that we were going to purchase this house, friends said that the city owned the house at 185 Laguna and the triangular property at the intersection of Laguna and Lake deSoto Circle and were going to turn it into a park. I talked to Jackie Kite who assured me this information was erroneous. Other people said all the property belonged to the hospital, but the house at 185 Laguna was and is listed as being bank owned by a bank in California. All rumors appeared to be just that - rumors.

It is unclear to us whether the ambulance approach is a "done deal" or not. If it is, the actual law of Eminent Domain does not apply to us, as you are not taking our property per se. You are, however, destroying our property

value, ruining our peace and quiet, totally changing the complexion of our home and property, and turning our lives upside down. I cannot describe to you the anguish we have suffered since reading of this proposed road change in the newspaper.

We implore you not to go through with this proposed road change. However, if you proceed, we ask that you add \$200,000 to the budget for the purchase of our house. We only paid \$130,000 for this little house, but we have put another \$40,000 in improvements since we have been here and and we are still upgrading the home. We expect to be compensated for having to move again. We have planned a kitchen remodel, but have put it on hold, as we now feel that our lives are in limbo, wondering what lies in store for us. I don't even know whether to continue the landscaping. We will not live in the middle of an ambulance run with ER traffic speeding by 24 hours a day and we feel that this will devalue our property to the point we will not be able to recoup our investment.

In addition, you will be destroying the Crabb home at 185 Laguna, another historical Lake City home. There are so few of these homes left. They matter.

Thank you for understanding the unfortunate, unpleasant, unhappy position you have placed us in.

Sincerely,
Barbara (Teddy) Pruett
Bill Pruett
Copies to:
Mayor Stephen Witt
Eugene Jefferson
Wendell Johnson
Kristi Baker, Remax
Jackie Kite
Jack Berry
Loretta Chancy
Tim Murphy
Janet Creel
Waseem Khan, M.D.
DeKoven Adams
Ronald Foremen
Brandon Bell
Fred Koberlein
Dick Powell
Bonnie S. Green

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