

Meadowbrook Hills C.O.H.E.S.I.V.E. and D.A.R.E. Meeting
Task Forces on Concerns Over Health Effects Surrounding Interstate Emissions and Drilling
Activities, Resources & Environment

June 14, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. - 12:00
RE: I-275 & Oil Drilling Issues

Nancy Adadow Gray provided the group with hotline information regarding air quality and pollution.

Nancy Adadow Gray provided the group with a recap of information regarding a history of efforts toward achieving a living wall:

~ Dale Countegan, Director of Planning & Community Development, City of Farmington Hills was identified as the contact person for a natural living wall.

~ Thomas Biasell, Director, Department of Public Services, 27245 Halstead Road, Farmington Hills was identified as the contact person for a “bricks and mortar” constructed wall.

~ Many homeowners were against the building of the Preserves, however, the original owner(s) of the undeveloped land may have filed litigation against the City of Farmington Hills if (he) had been stopped from developing the land. In lieu of a commercial development, the land was populated with cluster homes now known as the Preserves. The four homes which were built facing Eight Mile, as part of the Preserves are actually considered part of Meadowbrook Hills. Different criterion had to be met with these four homes.

~ Monies set aside in the city coffers for repair of the trees and brush that were destroyed in the building of the Preserves ranges from \$200,000 plus. Shabbir Boxwala reported that the Preserves contractor(s) had made attempts to get the money back from the city since nothing had been done with it. An additional \$300,000 of federal money was earmarked by Senator Stabenow, which has since been lost due to time constraints on spending the money within an allotted time frame. It seems that recently the Preserves have been granted some of all of this money from the city which was put aside by the builder when the trees were cut down in order to restore some of the lost green belt between the Preserves and I-275.

A general discussion of I-275 issues ensued. Larry Shoup mentioned that M-DOT did accomplish noise studies and also mentioned that M-DOT’s standards are to use the “lowest noise technology”. Obtaining M-DOT’s noise studies through the FOI Act was suggested countering the suggestion by Robin Polletta that the group could look into an independent study being done on noise levels. Larry Shoup believes that M-DOT would only use M-DOT’s engineered study results.

Larry Shoup mentioned other factors which heighten the noise levels of I-275 such as a near constant nine mph wind velocity in this area from the southwest and northwest, the lifting effect of the sound, the fact that I-275 for necessary reasons was constructed to overpass both Eight Mile and Nine Mile Roads, which lifts the sound to levels that might not be served by

constructing a wall for noise reduction. Larry Shoup also stated that a manufactured wall would give optimum noise reduction only to those living closest to it, adding that a manufactured wall would undoubtedly have height limitations.

Bob Townsley restated that the State of Michigan paid \$3 million to diamond cut the southbound side of I-275 also reporting that when he drives on the southbound side it is indeed quieter. Jeff Johnstone raised the point that from his residence on Southfarm it was difficult to discern any noticeable reduction of the noise and that the northbound side of I-275 may be the side that should receive our focus of attention.

Toni Johnstone and Giuliano Zuccato volunteered to pursue the avenue of M-DOT using asphalt as well as petitioning M-DOT to consider lowering the speed limit. Robert Townsley and Larry Shoup have volunteered to pursue a manufactured wall with the City of Farmington Hills. These two sub groups will form the task force COHESIVE.

Nancy Adadow Gray willingly passed her torch over to Giuliano Zuccato and Toni Johnstone, who will now be co-chairing two committees. There was no time left to address the oil drilling issues. Oil drilling issues are scheduled to be represented at the next meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 30, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the home of Giuliano Zuccato, 38571 Northfarm Drive.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon

Minutes prepared by Toni Johnstone