

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Raul Rizo-Patron <[raulrpsr@gmail.com](mailto:raulrpsr@gmail.com)>

**Date:** August 7, 2022 at 5:12:05 PM CDT

**Subject:** Sidewalk on West side of Wirt

I read over the weekend the August 2022 issue of the Hilshire Village Civic Club on Hilshire Village News. One subject that got my attention is what appears to be the current status of the subject from Westview to I-10. The article indicates that "Agreements with the City of Houston and Harris County are anticipated being completed in the next 30 days". "If everything goes well, the design on the sidewalk should be done in the next 90 days". After that, construction should start".

I wish to express my total opposition with this project, which in my opinion will give the residents of Hilshire Village more problems than benefits. My rationale is expressed below:

-Hilshire Oaks Court residences No. 2, 4 and 6 back up to Wirt. No.2, 4 and most probably No.6 have a drainage system in their backyards that drains water to Wirt. That is the way the properties were designed. In my 32 years as resident of No.4, I never had an issue disposing of the water in the backyard. The proposed sidewalk will block this drainage. Additionally, the sidewalk may compromise the foundation of the brick fences of the mentioned above properties. My question here is who will be responsible and liable for the cost in connection with potential damages to the fences as well as for the cost in designing and executing an alternative draining system. Certainly not the owners of such properties.

-Having almost 300 homes in Hilshire Village, I wonder how many residents will benefit with the sidewalk. In my opinion, we should have a survey with the participation of all the residents indicating who is in favor of or against the project, keeping in mind that there could be potential liabilities related to damages and associated cost in connection with the affected homeowners.

-Please keep in mind that because there is a sidewalk on the east side of Wirt we do not have to have a similar sidewalk on the west side. The width and surface of the two areas are different. The east side is much wider and flatter.

-The traffic from north to south on Wirt is more aggressive because of congestion and speed as shown in the attached pictures. Having pedestrians, strollers, bicycles, etc. on a narrow sidewalk is dangerous.

-The proposed sidewalk will have to bypass mailboxes, driveways, electric poles, etc. resulting in a very cumbersome design. Additionally, it will invite pedestrians from areas other than Hilshire Village with potential break ins as well as littering by flipping bottles and waste to our properties.

In summary, a sidewalk west of Wirt, in my opinion, is impractical and carries a potential liability. We should use our efforts, resources and money to improve traffic conditions on the west side of Wirt by means of a traffic light between Westview and I-10 to lower the speed which often goes way over the posted speed limit. Alternatives to a traffic light should also be taken into account.

I plan to bring a copy of this email to the Hilshire Village City Office.





