

MEMO



TO: Chairman Harry Dryer and Members of the Planning & Zoning Commission

FROM: Larry Miller, Building & Planning Manager

DATE: July 11, 2025

SUBJECT: Major Street Plan

Mr. Haynes, a property owner along East Main Street, has submitted a request asking the City to remove a future street connection (shown through his property) from the Major Street Plan (MSP). The planned connection would extend East Main Street north to connect with North Donna Drive, as shown on the maps in your packet.

This request has been reviewed by staff. Based on current conditions and planning priorities, staff have identified the following considerations related to the request:

- The property in question has greater long-term value to the City as a commercially developed site generating sales and property tax, rather than as a future street corridor.
- Observations indicate that the City's current focus in this area is the continued commercial development of Main Street.
- The City does not currently own any right-of-way across Mr. Haynes's property for the proposed connection.
- There are no formal engineering studies, designs, or development timelines for the road.
- Construction of this segment, likely including a bridge over an existing creek, would involve substantial costs.
- No alternate route is proposed; past amendments to the MSP have included relocations rather than removals.

- The 2018 Jackson City-Wide Transportation Plan (prepared by Lochmueller Group) retained Donna Drive as a north/south corridor and did not recommend its removal.
- In 2014, the City paid to oversize North Donna Drive near East Elementary to accommodate the street expansion in the future.
- Donna Drive is planned as a critical link between Jackson Blvd., Main Street, Ridge Road, and Greensferry Road—part of the City's overall traffic network.
- With new growth in Savers Farm and rural subdivisions near Greensferry, alternate east-west routes are needed to reduce traffic on narrow, winding roads.
- Corner properties on collector routes are often more valuable for commercial development, not less.
- Amending the MSP sets a precedent and could lead to more requests that weaken the City's street network.

The Planning & Zoning Commission is the deciding body on amendments to the Major Street Plan. If the Commission approves the request, a public hearing would need to be scheduled before the final approval.

Mr. Haynes' original letter is attached for your review.