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Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 9:15 PM
To: Council Coments <CouncilComments@jonesboro.org>
Cc: City Clerk <CityClerk@jonesboro.org>
Subject: Reject ORD-20:030

Hello,

I'm writing in regards to Ordinance 20:030, which amends the "sidewalk ordinance" of Jonesboro and is on the agenda for the upcoming City Council regular meeting.

I read the action details for the first and second readings of this ordinance, and I appreciate the thoughtful discussion that has gone into it so far. Ultimately I'm not in favor of this amendment being made for several of the same reasons that were raised by Councilman McClain, Beverly Parker, and others in the previous readings.

1. The pedestrian safety objections made by the businesses in planned industrial parks, with relation to how trafficked the area is by large vehicles, have to be considered against whether pedestrians in the area will be safer (should they need to move to protect themselves) on a sidewalk, or on a rough/uneven patch of gravel or grass.
2. Of course you already know exemptions are like candy for kids - once you hand some out to a few, everybody else wants some too.
3. Cities grow, even here in the quasi-rural NEA. Industrial parks won't be 3 miles away from residential neighborhoods forever, and empty adjacent properties will not stay empty. Consistent accessible sidewalks are an investment and should frankly never be waived.

Thanks for taking the time to listen!

Zachariah Carlson