

From: Jena [<mailto:geojena@suddenlink.net>]

Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 9:49 PM

To: Charles Frierson <cdfrierson3@hotmail.com>; Gene Vance <GVance@jonesboro.org>; Charles Coleman <crcjab@sbcglobal.net>; chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; Ann Williams <edgecoffeehouse@hotmail.com>; clgrehabman@yahoo.com; John Street <jwstreet@sbcglobal.net>; Mitch Johnson <johnsons3@suddenlink.net>; Larry Bryant <LJ@ljbryant.com>; Joe Hafner <Joeforjonesboro@gmail.com>; Bobby Long <blongjcc@gmail.com>; David McClain <DMcClain@jonesboro.org>

Cc: Harold Perrin <HPerrin@jonesboro.org>; Carol Duncan <CDuncan@jonesboro.org>; Donna Jackson <DJackson@jonesboro.org>

Subject: Please support sidewalks for Jonesboro

I have lived in Jonesboro for over 35 years and have seen many changes, both good and bad. Overall though, Jonesboro has been a progressive, well managed city. Our business leaders worked hard to keep our commerce sector very diversified, which served us well during recessions. Support for ASU has helped to bring more people and progress to our city. Our medical center growth has made us a regional star.

It is time now to pay attention to quality of life and safety issues. Sidewalks are something that people want no matter what some builders say. Of course, no one asks for sidewalks when a subdivision is already built, but put them in from the beginning and you will see people willingly pay for them. Families with young children and older people alike want to be able to walk and ride bikes in safety.

People care about their health and are also looking for neighborhoods that will feel like community. Sidewalks bring people outside and invite everyone to visit and get to know their neighbors. Right now we just have rows of houses with driveways that take the homeowner inside, never to be seen until the next day. We know that neighborhoods that form communities are safer because everyone looks out for one another. Talk to the police and they will agree.

I really don't see a downside to this sidewalk proposal. Yes, it is a new requirement, but every part of progress has new requirements...indoor plumbing, electricity, and as mentioned at the last council meeting, hard surface driveways. I don't think anyone would look at these improvements with their new requirements as bad or over burdensome these days. It is time to go forward with sidewalks and create a better community for Jonesboro.

Thank you,

Jena Williams
1702 Wembleton Drive
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401
geojena@suddenlink.net