

**From:** Shelly Campbell [mailto:shellykcampbell@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2011 3:42 PM

**To:** Harold Perrin; Donna Jackson; Charles Frierson; Gene G Vance; Charles Coleman; chrismooreplumbing@yahoo.com; Ann Williams; elgibson@sbrmc.org; John Street; Mitch Johnson; Darrel Dover; Rennell Woods Contact; Tim MCall; Mike Fears

**Cc:** Brian Malone; johnson@crye-leike.com

**Subject:**

City Council Member,

Placing the Fairgrounds this close to the growing area of Jonesboro, Paragould, and Brookland would only halt the connection of these cities. I have heard the Fair-board make references to the Fairgrounds connecting Jonesboro to Paragould. As I have once said, people will connect the two towns, not commerce and certainly not a District Fairgrounds. Like other residents that oppose this action know what the fair will bring: noise, lights, odor, crime, traffic, and low property values. The area between Jonesboro and Paragould has the potential to become a beautiful and properous suburb of Jonesboro. All those that wish to relocate out of run-down and dangerous residential communities in Jonesboro (like the residential area near the current Fairgrounds site) will stop looking for land and homes in this direction due to its proximity to the proposed Fairgrounds site. I have yet to talk to an individual that would be interested in living where I reside currently. The comments I receive are more like: "I will pray for you and your family that the city council makes the right decision and stops the Fair from building there." And to those that live among me that state that they welcome the Fair; well that statment is not entirely true. They do not welcome the Fair, but the opportunity to hook up to city sewer to avoid large out of pocket expenses to repair their own faulty systems. I have been utterly consumed with this matter and I fear that your minds are made up. I know that there is an opportunity here for you to hide behind the fact that the annexation is by the property owners and not the fair. But there is also an opportunity here for you to save OUR community-YOURS AND MINE. You know as well as I do what this will do to myself and my neighbors. I have spent endless nights balancing my teaching job with the responsibility I have to protect my home, my child, and future children. It took my husband and I one year to decide on a piece of property to purchase for our family. This is the largest invesment I have ever made. Please do not make my investment in this community a waste. Please do not force me to move and be in debt over the loss of my property's value. Please do not force my son to be subjected to the noise, lights, trash, animal contaminants in the air, and inappropriate behavior that will certainly come with the District Fair. Please do not force me to worry that each time my son goes outside to play that someone will hurt him. Please do not force me to lose any more sleep over something you have control over. You are the ones that speak for me when I do not have the strength or knowhow to stand on my own. Now is the time to speak up and make one decision that will certainly have the most impact on the residents of Jonesboro--not just the ones that will live near the proposed Fair-grounds, but all residents of Jonesboro, Brookland, and Paragould that stand to lose from this action as well. I ask you to listen to your heart and not the others around you that tempt you with incorrect information and threats of inappropriate building choices-such as "We will build in the county without your support." Now is the time to stop those that see you as "no obstacle." You are the ones we trust to keep our children safe. You are the ones we look to to protect our homes. You have the opportunity now to stand up for what is right and good in our town. Like

the Bay Bridge that was destroyed in less than two minutes by big business, you will be allowing the same to happen to us if the big business of a District Fair is built in my backyard.

Thank you for your time,

Shelly Jones

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