

From: [Scott McCullough](#)
To: "Michael Kelly"
Cc: [Timothy Herndon](#); [Julie Boyle](#); [Sandra Day](#); [Kyle Hayden \(KHayden@usd497.org\)](#); [Sandra Day](#)
Subject: RE: Planning Commission Consideration of Submittals for Langston Commons and Langston Heights near Langston Hughes ES
Date: Thursday, July 02, 2015 2:28:04 PM
Attachments: [Langston Hts Dev.pdf](#)

Michael,

Assistant Superintendent Kyle Hayden provided the below information and attached drawing to me on June 12, 2015 after I requested that the district consider a pedestrian connection from the west. This information will be shared with the Planning Commission.

Scott-

I appreciate you reaching out to me to talk about this development issue. I discussed the proposed new sidewalk from the Langston Heights development to the west side of Langston Hughes with Dr. Doll and our Facility Planning & Progress Committee. The group is not in favor of it for multiple reasons. I've attached a drawing that hopefully illustrates things.

The district already plans to build a new access road with sidewalk accessibility from the south end of the neighborhood during the 2016-17 school year. This sidewalk will provide for a safe connection to paths off of Renaissance Drive and Langston Way. This should sufficiently serve the new homes directly west of the school district's property. The other homes to the north are served by an existing sidewalk on Palisades.

The existing sidewalk along Palisades connects to Diamondhead Drive and the roundabout at George Williams Way. At the request of the city, the district recently constructed a new sidewalk running along the south side of Diamondhead Drive and connecting into the north side of the Langston Hughes playground. In addition, the district built an ADA accessible sidewalk into the playground area and ran it to the front door of the school. The district was originally opposed to building both of these sidewalks but did eventually agree to it at a cost of over \$15,000.

The newly proposed sidewalk that would run east/west along the north side of the district's property connecting Langston Hughes to Silver Rain Rd. This would be a long stretch of sidewalk that would run across an undeveloped large open green space. The proposed sidewalk would also be unlit and relatively close to the existing Palisades path.

Thanks for understanding the district's position.

Kyle

Please let me know of any questions.

Scott McCullough, *Director*

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From: Michael Kelly [mailto:job4mike6@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 02, 2015 2:21 PM
To: Scott McCullough
Cc: Timothy Herndon; Julie Boyle; Sandra Day
Subject: Planning Commission Consideration of Submittals for Langston Commons and Langston Heights near Langston Hughes ES

Good afternoon Scott,

Caveat: I am speaking only for myself and not for any group I am involved with.

After our friendly discussion of a few days ago, I had another thought on the Langston Commons Block Three lots abutting the western boundary of LHES playground..

Has USD 497 provided you or your colleagues any written explanation of their plans and preferences for the northern and western boundaries of the USD 497 property to the west of Langston Hughes ES or the future use of the land west of LHES beyond the not yet designed Renaissance Drive extension in the district's 2017 Capital Improvement Plan? I have heard similar, but only hearsay statements, from you and Bob Santee/Tim Herndon development team. Is USD 497 on public record with you or your planner on this issue related to the subject submittal beyond the verbal discussions you described?

Note that I have copied USD 497 Communications Office Director, Julie Boyle, so she may discuss with the district staff, if she thinks it would be useful to do so. I think it would improve the factual basis of the upcoming July 22, 2015 Planning Commission deliberations if the district would make its plans (even if very preliminary) known in a more formal way.

Thank you for your time on the previous phone call, for the professionalism displayed by you and your colleagues, and for your careful consideration of my concerns.

Respectfully,

Mike Kelly
1123 Brynwood CT
Lawrence KS 66049

Homes w/ students
who might utilize sidewalk

Existing Sidewalk on Pelicades
to Diamond-head connected to George
Williams Way

Proposed Sidewalk

* at least a \$25,000
expenditure in an
utilit area across
green space

Kro Highway

800 ft

Kangston Highway

Planned
Access Road
& Sidewalk

This comment regards the pedestrian service challenges posed by property development west and northwest of USD 497's Langston Hughes Elementary School.

Construction on Langston Heights residential lots is underway

RM-24 zoned parcel to north of Langston Heights remains unbuilt

Langston Commons residential lots remain unbuilt

Unless pedestrian easements shown are built, school children residing in RM 24 apartments, Langston Heights, and Langston Commons will have no direct walking path to school

This violate Transportation 2040 Chapter 5, Table 5.5

"Whereas it is not necessarily critical for routes to schools to be picturesque and visually captivating, there are basic pedestrian needs for the student, including a safe and secure continuous sidewalk with safe street crossings and direct connections to neighborhoods. Cities in the region have been participating in the federal "Safe Routes to School" program which funds studies that address these issues."

Requested rezoning does not comply with Transportation 2040 plan and should not be approved absent additional pedestrian easement and sidewalk provided at Rockway Drive and Silver Rain Road intersection east to USD 497 boundary

Unbuilt pedestrian easement at Andrew John and Palisades needs to be built to provide proper elementary school level of service

No exceptions to Lawrence Complete Street Policy Section 5 paragraph (b) exist that would preclude the construction on either pedestrian easement shown.

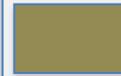
Mike Kelly



Langston Heights Residences
under construction and
future unbuilt RM-24 Site



Diamondhead Development Lot



Langston Commons Block 3 Lot



Langston Hughes Parking Lot

W. Harvard Road

Langston
Hughes
ES

Pedestrian Easement



Missing at Rockaway Drive
And Silver Rain Road

Pedestrian Easement Recorded
but unbuilt at Palisades Drive
and Andrew John



USD 497 Unbuilt-
Renaissance Drive
Extension

North



Langston
Commons unbuilt
residential lots