

CITY OF HOUSTON

Bill White

Public Works and Engineering Department

April 29, 2005

Mr. Gary Trietsch, P.E. Texas Department of Transportation 7721 Washington Avenue Houston, TX 77007



Mayor

Michael S. Marcotte, P.E., DEE Director P.O. Box 1562 Houston, Texas 77251-1562

T. 713 837-0037 F. 713 837-0040 www.cityofhouston.gov

RE: Loop 494 from north of Kingwood Drive to Sorters-McClellan Road

CSJ 0177-14-10; CSJ 0177-15-003

Dear Mr. Trietsch:

Engineers in our Traffic and Transportation Division have reviewed the 30 % preliminary design plans for the aforementioned project. Our specific concerns are the sight distance and vehicle storage issues for Kingwood Drive motorists traveling over the vertical curve caused by the elevated railroad tracks just east of Loop 494. We request the roadway pavement west of the railroad tracks be elevated to match the elevation of the railroad tracks to improve traffic operation. In the future when the City widens Kingwood Drive to a 6-lane cross-section, we will address raising the roadway to the east of the railroad tracks.

We also request that as a part of this project Kingwood Drive be widened to a 6-lane boulevard section from the railroad tracks to the Eastex Freeway (US 59). We had discussed this with your staff at the time of the US 59 design, however we were told that it was too late in the design for this change to be implemented. We request that this issue be revisited so that we can coordinate all the proposed improvements in this area.

Thank you for your assistance in these matters. Please contact me to further discuss these issues.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Marcotte, P.E., D.E.E.

Director

Public Works & Engineering Department

MSM/JRW/RD/RK/rf

xc:

Council Member Addie Wiseman

John R. Whaley, P.E. Robert DeShurley

Sally Wegmann, TxDOT

Fawzi M. Abou-Hossa, TxDOT

Jesse Garcia, R. G. Miller Engineers

MAY 1 3 2005

Council Members:

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Michael S. Marcotte Director P.O. Box 1562 Houston, Texas 77251-1562

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Public Works and Engineering Department



June 24, 2005

Mr. Gabriel Johnson Director of Transportation Texas Department of Transportation **Houston District** P.O. Box 1386 Houston, TX 77251

RE:

Loop 494 from north of Kingwood Drive to Sorters-McClellan Road

Proposed Improvements along Kingwood Drive

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Please find attached our conceptual design for Kingwood Drive immediately east of Loop 494. Any future widening of Kingwood Drive would be accomplished by holding the outside curb lines in place and making improvements within the existing esplanades, ultimately resulting in a sixlane divided roadway with left turn lanes at key locations. Additionally, the profile of Kingwood Drive immediately east of Loop 494 would be raised to be approximately equal to the elevation of the Union Pacific Railroad crossing.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Rick Kovacich, P.E. at (713) 837-7250.

Sincerely,

John R. Whalev, P.E. Interim Deputy Director

Traffic and Transportation Division

c: Dan Krueger

SCANNED ON

LOOP 494 KINGWOOD BLVD Not to Scale CITY OFHOUSTON P.N.:05008
P.M.: G. SCHATZ
SHEET NO. 1 OF 1 DATE: 06-23-05 CITY OF HOUSTON
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING STREET WIDENING AND STRIPING PLAN KINGWOOD BLVD @ LOOP 494 ROYAL FOREST DRIVE