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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

PUBLIC MEETING

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES

- - -

Room 400, City Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Thursday, November 20, 1997
2:10 p.m.

- - -

BILLS 970246, 970552, 970583, 970593, 970594,
970595, 970596, 970610, 970611, 970612, 970669,
970671, 970672, 970673.

- - -

PRESENT:

COUNCILMAN FRANK DiCICCO, Chair
COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN, Vice Chair

COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO
COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
COUNCILMAN FRANK RIZZO
COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ
COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER
COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL

- - -

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2 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: If I can have
3 everyone's attention, the Committee on Streets and
4 Services will be starting very shortly. So if I can
5 get everyone in order here, we will get started with
6 the next committee. Thank you.

7 Good afternoon. The Committee on
8 Streets and Services is now in session.

9 My name is Councilman DiCicco. In
10 attendance at today's committee hearings are, to my
11 right, Councilman Nutter, Councilman Rizzo,
12 Councilman O'Neill. To my left is Councilman
13 Mariano and Councilwoman Miller.

14 If anyone during the time of the
15 hearings wishes to testify, when you come up to the
16 table, would you please bring the microphone as
17 close to your lips as possible and state your name
18 for the record.

19 The clerk will read the title of the
20 first bill.

21 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970246, An
22 Ordinance authorizing and directing the revision of
23 lines and grades on a portion of City Plan No. 377
24 of an area bounded by Knights Road, Mechanicsville
25 Road, and Medford Road, by placing on the City Plan

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2 McCarthy Circle, Galdi Lane, Galdi Spur, Cliffe
3 Drive, Cliffe Spur, Cliffe Court, Duffy Lane, and
4 Gleason Lane, including the dedication to the city
5 free and clear of all encumbrances of the beds of
6 McCarthy Circle, Galdi Lane, Galdi Spur, Cliffe
7 Drive, Cliffe Spur, Cliffe Court, Duffy Lane, and
8 Gleason Lane, all under certain terms and
9 conditions.

10 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Please state your
11 name for the record.

12 COUNCILMAN BRIAN J. O'NEILL: My name
13 is Brian O'Neill. I am the City Councilman
14 representing the 10th District, which includes this
15 area in question in this bill.

16 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Philadelphia,
17 right?

18 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: In Philadelphia,
19 yes. Thank you, sir. City and County. Not Liberty
20 County; Philadelphia County.

21 This is Liberty Square, but not
22 Liberty County.

23 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Just checking,
24 Councilman. Thank you.

25 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: By way of

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2 background, the development that you are going to
3 hear testimony about today is a development of small
4 single homes that was built in the mid to late
5 '80s.

6 It is called Liberty Square. You
7 drove through it. It is up right next to Franklin
8 Mills, across Knights Road from the Franklin Mills
9 Mall.

10 It looks like a regular development
11 with city streets. It gets trash pickup. You go in
12 and out of that development. There is no sign
13 saying these are private streets, or anything. It
14 is complete access to the public.

15 The only difference is that the
16 streets themselves have never been dedicated and
17 accepted by the city.

18 Now, during this period of time when
19 this development and others were being built, there
20 was more or less a real estate boom in the city,
21 which ended in the late '80s, early '90s.

22 And prior to that time -- I am going
23 to guess the cutoff was around '83 -- when a
24 developer went to build a new development, the city
25 put in the streets. And there was a

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2 per-foot-of-frontage assessment charged to each lot,
3 which was just passed along to the homeowner as part
4 of the sale price.

5 The city lost money on that because
6 the per-foot charge was much less than the actual
7 cost of putting the street in.

8 The Streets Department told
9 developers around '83 or so, "No more. If you want
10 to put a street in, put a development in, you pay
11 for the street. You guys are out there, there is a
12 big real estate market," and they were right. These
13 developments were going to be built without that
14 installation by the city.

15 So they allowed a street to be built
16 that wasn't quite up to the specs of a full city
17 street that would have to be built if it was
18 dedicated and accepted by the city.

19 They accepted it at a lesser spec.
20 And it was a spec that would be accepted for the
21 trash trucks of the city to go down and pick up the
22 trash. They require a certain amount of stone,
23 concrete, asphalt, whatever that is.

24 So there was a spec that was given to
25 the builders. And these streets were built in

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2 accordance with that spec.

3 On the other hand, the Water
4 Department said, except in one case, a very small
5 development, which isn't before us today, "We will
6 only accept our full specs for water and sewer. And
7 we will accept that water and sewer system once it
8 is put in, because you are going to be building it
9 exactly the way we would if we put it in."

10 The Water Department also needs to
11 put in the water and sewer prior to this time. They
12 were losing even more money on it than the Streets
13 Department.

14 So that's what happened in several
15 developments. This is the first one that's being
16 brought before the committee and the Council to now
17 accept those streets as city streets.

18 What is the effect of it? The effect
19 is that, instead of homeowners, who are paying
20 top-level taxes -- you can't get taxed for these
21 homes any more, this home of this value, than they
22 are. Because they came in at the height of the
23 market.

24 Most of them couldn't get what they
25 paid for their houses, but they are taxed at

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2 new-home-construction level.

3 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Could you give me
4 an average?

5 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Probably about
6 \$2,500 a house.

7 And the houses probably average in
8 the high '90s to the low 100's, in terms of what
9 they sell for.

10 Now, they basically don't sell for
11 much more than the row homes in the area. And they
12 are small, modest singles.

13 The effect is that the city, if
14 repairs have to be made on the street -- which there
15 aren't any today, but when another winter comes, who
16 knows -- if a pothole has to be filled, the city
17 will go out and fill it, if this passes.

18 If the street ever needed to be
19 totally repaved, either the coating of asphalt, as
20 we do throughout the city, they would be eligible
21 for that paving.

22 If someone in this development said,
23 you know, we have never had a full, certified,
24 18-inch deep, or whatever a full city street is,
25 that they would have had if the developer had built

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2 in the specs of a full city street -- he built
3 something less than that, which the Streets
4 Department gave him the specs for -- that would be
5 the construction of a street in the parlance of the
6 department and the city. It would be their having
7 their street reconstructed or constructed, which we
8 never do.

9 We never go out, hardly ever go out,
10 and see a street in this city actually being dug up
11 to the bottom, filled with stone and concrete and
12 asphalt.

13 But if that were done, each of these
14 homeowners would have to be assessed per linear
15 foot. So I can assure you it will never happen.

16 We are never talking about a full
17 construction of a street. We are either talking
18 about black-topping it or we are talking about
19 pothole repair. That's it.

20 Many of the streets in my district,
21 and throughout the city -- and I happen to live on
22 one of them -- have less of a spec, there is less in
23 the construction of the streets, than our full city
24 streets. They have been accepted and dedicated over
25 the years by the city.

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2 They are usually referred to as
3 country roads. Country roads because they're
4 asphalt over dirt. They don't have a base.

5 These streets have a base, they were
6 built with a spec that was given to the builder.

7 Now, would anyone on my street ever
8 ask for a full city street to be constructed and pay
9 thousands of dollars for it? No. They will take
10 the blacktop over the dirt.

11 And it is up in Somerton and Fox
12 Chase and out in Roxborough and parts of Chestnut
13 Hill, I believe. It is in the older sections that
14 are on the perimeter of the city that were farms and
15 all when they were being built.

16 So what we're asking, what I am
17 asking and the neighbors are asking, is that this
18 Council recognize that these are full city streets,
19 these are full city taxpayers -- this is not a
20 private community, it is not gated in any way -- and
21 just give them the same rights and privileges as to
22 their streets as everyone else in the city has.

23 And I would ask you first to look at
24 the Ordinance, which took me two years to get
25 drafted. And it was David L. Cohen's good-bye gift

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2 to me when he left the government.

3 But there are provisions in here that
4 I don't think are needed. And I think they just
5 burden the homeowners' association and this
6 transaction from private street to city street.

7 And I will go through them by
8 section, and I would just ask for them to be
9 deleted.

10 I will let the city comment on
11 justifying it. But from where I sit, I can't see
12 the justification.

13 Because, remember, we were dealing
14 with homeowners here. We are not dealing with some
15 big corporate entity that is coming in with a deep
16 pocket.

17 The first is under Section 2, the
18 filing of an agreement satisfactory to the Law
19 Department by the owner or owners of property
20 affected hereby.

21 I mean, it is all the homeowners'
22 association. There are no neighboring properties
23 affected here.

24 To release the city from all damages
25 or claims for damages which may arise by reason of

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2 the city plan changes.

3 If somebody can suggest one that's
4 valid, I will withdraw my request to delete. But I
5 can't imagine one. I think this is pro forma
6 language that comes in a lot of these deals,
7 particularly where, say, you are striking a street,
8 but there is another company that might be affected
9 next door.

10 This isn't the case here. These are
11 homeowners that are all in the same neighborhood and
12 they are all signing a petition for the same action
13 by the Council.

14 The next section under Section 2 that
15 I would like to be deleted, subsection, is C, the
16 filing of agreement satisfactory to the Law
17 Department by the party in interest to release,
18 indemnify, defend the city for all damages or claims
19 for damages which may arise by reason of the City
20 Plan changes authorized herein.

21 We don't have people, when they buy a
22 house on a city street, have to do any of this. And
23 I can't understand what damages will come out.

24 The only people that can sue us --
25 now, if we want them to release us, that's

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2 different. We can prepare the forms. They will all
3 sign. I don't have a problem with that at all.

4 I just have a problem with burdening
5 this with hiring lawyers and draining taxpayers that
6 we're getting pretty good taxes from.

7 The next paragraph for deletion is D
8 under Section 2, the filing of an agreement
9 satisfactory to the Law Department by the party in
10 interest to make any and all changes, adjustments,
11 and additions to curbing, sidewalk paving, and
12 cartway paving, as necessary by the Water
13 Department, then it goes through the sewers.

14 This wasn't built without the city's
15 knowledge. When this builder built this
16 development, he did everything the Streets
17 Department and Water Department told him he had to
18 do. So there is no need to change anything.

19 This is a development where the curbs
20 are where they were told to be, the sidewalks are
21 where they were told to be, the street was where it
22 was told to be, the sewers, everything.

23 So to me, again, this just burdens
24 the record and the ordinance. And I think anything
25 that might prevent this from happening, I would like

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2 to eliminate.

3 Getting now to -- I am just trying to
4 follow this -- E, again under Section 2. E is the
5 filing of a bond with corporate surety satisfactory
6 to the Law Department to cover the cost of the work
7 under Section 2D, which I hope we have just
8 eliminated.

9 But, again, this isn't corporate.
10 Homeowners filing bonds and surety, when all we are
11 asking them to do is take the same city street and
12 just dedicate it to the city, I don't understand the
13 need for a bond or corporate security.

14 And, again, we are talking about
15 expenses and legal costs that I don't think the
16 homeowners should have to bear.

17 The next one I would ask you to
18 delete is G, the payment by the party in interest.

19 Basically every time it says, "party
20 in interest," it might as well say, "the homeowners'
21 association."

22 By the party in interest, the cost of
23 advertising a public hearing by the Board of
24 Surveyors on the City Plan changes authorized by
25 this Ordinance.

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2 I mean, come on. These are
3 homeowners. We don't charge homeowners for these
4 kinds of things. We do charge corporate people that
5 request bills. But I would ask that be deleted.

6 And the last section under Section
7 3 -- I'm sorry; Section 4. Section 3 is okay.

8 Section 4 is the \$200 charge. And we
9 have always, when the bill is at the request of area
10 residents, we always eliminate the \$200 charge. So
11 I would ask that that be deleted.

12 And other than that, I would just
13 mention there are the President, Vice-President of
14 the Association here, Commissioner Rebstock, who
15 lives in the development is here to testify.

16 They forwarded, I believe, a copy of
17 a petition to the chairman. I would like to hand in
18 a copy of the petition, the original, for the
19 record, from the homeowners.

20 And I would like to mention that as
21 you hear the names of these streets, they are all
22 named after police officers and firefighters who
23 were killed in the line of duty. And it was the
24 first development where a builder did that.

25 Every street was named. Lists were

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2 gotten from the FOP and the Firefighters' Union.

3 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I am glad you
4 mentioned that. Because that was going to be one of
5 my questions.

6 I have relatives who live across
7 Mechanicsville Place. On Mechanicsville Drive,
8 actually. And when I go up there to visit them and
9 this was finally completed, I saw that the Galdi
10 Lane -- I had an uncle who was a police officer
11 whose name was Galdi, but he was not killed in the
12 line of duty. That was going to be one of my
13 questions.

14 I always thought it was dedicated to
15 police officers. But for what reason, I didn't
16 know.

17 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Some of them
18 actually have the first name, where there was
19 another with the same last name.

20 But I wanted to mention that, because
21 they are all last names of heroes.

22 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you,
23 Councilman.

24 The deletions that you have
25 requested, has any discussion between yourself and

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2 the Law Department taken place regarding that prior
3 to today's hearing?

4 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: No, sir.

5 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: So I assume we may
6 be hearing from the --

7 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Yes. And I am
8 willing to listen --

9 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Okay. I just
10 wanted to check if that was done prior to this.

11 Any questions from this Committee?
12 Councilman Rizzo.

13 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: First of all,
14 Councilman, I congratulate you on your persistence
15 to get this done. It has been around for a long
16 time.

17 My only question is, is this a unique
18 situation in Philadelphia?

19 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: No. There are
20 others. I think I may have six or seven other
21 developments like this; some smaller, a few slightly
22 larger. They were all built around the same time.

23 I think Councilwoman Krajewski has a
24 few. I am not sure if Councilman Nutter has, but I
25 think they may be in those areas.

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2 Because that's where construction was
3 going on. That was the only place we had ground to
4 build new construction.

5 What happened -- I really should
6 clarify -- when the builder went to build, there
7 weren't streets on the map, except for the outside
8 streets; in this case Knights and Mechanicsville, I
9 believe a little bit of Medford. It was a wooded
10 area that no one had ever wanted to build on
11 before.

12 The choice was to come to City
13 Council and have streets dedicated, which would have
14 meant you have to do X number of stones and X number
15 of inches of stones and concrete, or whatever, to do
16 what the spec was for a city street then.

17 Which, by the way, this whole program
18 is no longer in existence.

19 Two things happened. One, the
20 Streets Department started opposing these at the
21 Zoning Board. These were actually done by Zoning
22 Board authorization.

23 The Streets Department initially went
24 in and said, "We don't want any more private
25 streets." Why? Because we are eventually going to

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2 have to take them over.

3 This has happened cyclically through
4 the history of the city. The country road that I
5 live on someone allowed to be built, even though it
6 is just dirt and asphalt, a couple of inches of
7 asphalt over dirt.

8 But these were country roads. They
9 were, at that time, in the '20s or whatever, we were
10 allowing builders to do that.

11 So the Zoning Board was allowing
12 these developments, even though they didn't have
13 what we call a certified city street as their
14 frontage. The Zoning Board said, "We will make an
15 exception to that requirement, because you will have
16 this private street that the city has speced out and
17 said they would okay if we okayed this variance."

18 Later -- and I guess it was around
19 the late '80s -- the Streets Department began
20 opposing at the Zoning Board these developments, and
21 there were no more.

22 After that it got even better.
23 Because there was a very small development like this
24 that went through the Zoning Board.

25 In fact, in that case, the builder

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2 was going to build, even though it was only for five
3 or six homes, a full city street.

4 So the Streets Department couldn't
5 oppose that. It was the exact street they would
6 have accepted had it come through a Council
7 ordinance.

8 A nearby neighbor opposed that
9 granting of the variance, which the Zoning Board
10 did. And the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, about
11 three years ago, ruled -- and it was actually in my
12 district; Thackery is the name of the case -- that
13 the Zoning Board cannot take away the discretion of
14 the City Council and authorize a street that the
15 Council hasn't exercised its discretion on.

16 So now a builder can't even go to the
17 Zoning Board and do this, whether the Streets
18 Department agrees with it or not.

19 So we have really changed in the last
20 ten years. We are talking about a finite number of
21 developments that are never going to happen again in
22 our lifetime.

23 The Streets Department has evolved
24 and changed its position on it. What they now tell
25 a developer in this situation is, "You have got one

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2 choice. But what we'll do is, we'll lower the specs
3 that we had in '83, '84, '85 for a full, dedicated
4 city street, because they're being built in areas
5 that don't carry traffic.".

6 They go in -- you go into these
7 developments and come out of them again, but they
8 are not through streets, they are not Academy Road
9 or Broad Street or anything like that. The little
10 developments that you drive in and you have to drive
11 out again somehow. And so the city Streets
12 Department reduced its specs.

13 There have been several developments
14 built since these that I referred to, and they have
15 been built. I have introduced the ordinances,
16 Streets Committee has passed them. And they don't
17 look or feel any different than the streets in front
18 of you today.

19 But they don't have that history
20 where they were built in a period of transition,
21 between when we used to pay for the streets and when
22 the developers started having to pay for the
23 streets.

24 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Councilman, this
25 effort, this hard work, and also the input from the

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2 community, can the Streets Department citywide
3 identify similar situations?

4 And maybe we can mirror this similar
5 effort to correct this discrepancy citywide, not
6 just --

7 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Well, I think we
8 are well on the way to doing all of them. Because,
9 as I said, most of them are in my district.

10 But what I have wanted to do is not
11 bring all the bills in front of the Streets
12 Committee until the neighbors themselves have had a
13 chance to meet, consider what it means, make sure
14 they are 100 percent behind it, they know what's
15 going on, and not wake up one morning and someone
16 say, "You now have a city street." Have the
17 petition process.

18 And this is the first development
19 that has been the most organized and has come
20 forward.

21 COUNCILMAN RIZZO: Thank you.
22 Congratulations.

23 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Any other
24 questions for this witness from the committee?

25 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: And I will be

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2 here to answer any questions or comments?

3 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Is there anyone
4 else here who wishes to testify for or against this
5 bill?

6 Good afternoon.

7 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
8 Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. My name is
9 Paul Lonie. I am the Survey Bureau Manager, and I
10 represent the Department of Streets in this action.

11 And I would like to report on Bill
12 No. 97046. Let me pre-empt that a little bit. I am
13 going to give my testimony.

14 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Correction,
15 970246.

16 MR. LONIE: I'm sorry. I would like
17 to give my testimony as I submitted it, then I will
18 answer questions as it comes along.

19 This is an Ordinance authorizing and
20 directing revisions of lines and grades on a portion
21 of City Plan No. 377 of an area bounded by Knights
22 Road, Mechanicsville Road, and Medford Road, by
23 placing on the City Plan McCarthy Circle, Galdi
24 Lane, Galdi Spur, Cliffe Drive, Cliffe Spur, and
25 Cliffe Court, Duffy Lane, and Gleason Lane, all

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2 under certain terms and conditions, including the
3 dedication of the city free and clear of all
4 encumbrances of the beds of McCarthy Circle, Galdi
5 Lane, Galdi Spur, Cliffe Drive, Cliffe Spur, Cliffe
6 Court, Duffy Lane, and Gleason Lane.

7 This is not an Administration
8 Ordinance, but an Ordinance recommended by
9 Councilman Brian O'Neill of the 10th Councilmanic
10 District on behalf of the affected property owners.
11 No party at interest has yet been identified.

12 McCarthy Circle, Galdi Lane, Galdi
13 Spur, Cliffe Drive, Cliffe Spur, Cliffe Court, Duffy
14 Lane and Gleason Lane are not on the City Plan and
15 are not legally opened.

16 These streets have improvements not
17 made under the supervision of the Department of
18 Streets.

19 The purpose of this Ordinance is to
20 grant the authority to place McCarthy Circle, Galdi
21 Lane, Galdi Spur, Cliffe Drive, Cliffe Spur, Cliffe
22 Court, Duffy Lane, and Gleason Lane on the City Plan
23 15 feet wide and variable width.

24 The Department of Streets will not
25 oppose this ordinance if a party in interest is

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2 named.

3 However, if the party in interest is
4 the homeowners' association, we would like to have a
5 copy of the association's bylaws so the Law
6 Department can determine if the association has the
7 legal authority to become the party at interest.

8 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Any questions of
9 this witness from the Committee?

10 Is there anyone else here who wishes
11 to testify either for or against the bill?

12 MR. LONIE: Can I testify further?

13 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Yes, sir.

14 MR. LONIE: Again, this testimony was
15 given on the bill as presented, not the amendments.
16 The Streets Department would oppose those
17 amendments.

18 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I was just going
19 to ask you that question. Would you explain why.

20 MR. LONIE: Well, for two reasons.
21 The Streets Department, in writing this ordinance,
22 was driven by the Philadelphia Code, which is again
23 something that's done by City Council.

24 We are not necessarily opposed to the
25 paving and a lot of the other things that the

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2 Councilman has stated. Our concern is more with the
3 legal issues involved.

4 When the Councilman asked that
5 Section 2C be removed -- and that's a filing of
6 agreement satisfactory by the party in interest to
7 release and indemnify the city -- if we go ahead and
8 City Council passes this ordinance, we know that
9 there are certain things that have nothing to do
10 with the paving. What I was mainly concerned with
11 were the streetlights.

12 That if someone drives in there and
13 has an accident or runs over a child because these
14 are decorator lights, and not to city
15 specifications, and they become legal city streets,
16 then the city is liable for something. And they can
17 be sued simply because the streets, as given, were
18 not up to code.

19 There are no sidewalks in this
20 development. And, again, any handicapped
21 individuals that would be there have no access,
22 except through the cartways, to get to public
23 transportation.

24 And there is just a lot of different
25 issues that I feel that have to be addressed.

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2 One of the things that's goes to, not
3 necessarily in this, but in some of the other
4 agreements that will release the homeowners for some
5 of the obligations that every other homeowner in the
6 city has dealt with over the years.

7 Every place has been assessed, every
8 street in the city, except for certain country
9 lanes, and has dealt with these things. And they
10 have dealt with them in a cheaper format,
11 guaranteed, in 1929 or 1937.

12 But it is difficult to single out
13 this development unless -- again, that's Council's
14 decision, not ours. All we can go by is the
15 Ordinance as written.

16 And we feel that it is our
17 responsibility to protect all the citizens of the
18 city, and not just the people in this development.
19 And that's why, assuming the amendments we change --
20 we are not interested in the physical structures;
21 that's minor, in this case. In some of the other
22 ones, it is.

23 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: Paul, I won't
24 get into your statement, or say anything about your
25 statement that the Streets Department had nothing to

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2 do with these streets. They actually speced them
3 out and agreed to them. Because they wouldn't have
4 trash pickup had the Streets Department not speced
5 them out and told them what they would accept as a
6 street for that purpose.

7 But as far as streetlights, I do not
8 want to muddle this hearing with streetlights. It
9 is my intention at a later time -- not by Ordinance,
10 because we don't have to have an Ordinance to light
11 streets -- for the city, once they are city streets,
12 to go in and put the same kind of streetlights they
13 have in every other neighborhood in the city,
14 regular, city streetlights.

15 So I would say, as far as that's
16 concerned, that's a nonissue. Because I don't know
17 how the city can have a city street and not have
18 regular streetlights.

19 I mean, a lot of people put extra
20 streetlights in on their street. That's about what
21 they have. That's what the builder left them with.
22 That's what the city allowed.

23 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: My question was
24 along the same lines when you brought up lighting.

25 Did not the city approve the lighting

1 BILL 970246

2 for those streets, even though it was not a typical
3 streetlighting?

4 MR. LONIE: No, they did not.

5 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: How did you get
6 to --

7 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: See, you had
8 three players here. You had the Streets Department,
9 which said, you have to build this kind of a street
10 or we won't have trash delivered. The builder did
11 that.

12 They didn't get involved in the
13 streetlight. The guy couldn't sell houses without
14 some kind of lighting outside. He put lighting in.

15 The Water Department said, we will
16 accept the water system and the sewer system, but
17 you have to build exactly what now if a builder
18 comes in, the Water Department and the Streets
19 Department are on the same page, doing the exactly
20 thing.

21 It just wasn't the case for a window
22 of about five or six years. There was a different
23 requirement in the Streets Department then there was
24 in the Water Department.

25 Lights were never really talked

1 BILL 970246

2 about. My intention is that once these developments
3 become city streets, they will have city lights.

4 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: And I --

5 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: And the Streets
6 Department will do it much quicker if they think
7 there is some liability exposure on their part.

8 If we relieve them of it, they will
9 never put them in.

10 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: So presently --
11 and correct me if I am wrong -- is that the lighting
12 that is in there now is the responsibility of the
13 association?

14 MR. LONIE: That's correct. I
15 believe it is the individual owners.

16 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: And that will
17 continue until the city puts --

18 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Isn't this
19 something kind of in reverse order of what we just
20 did at Market Street East? Where they had us put in
21 new decorative lightings, and their lighting and
22 they are responsible for certain things? So it is
23 kind of reverse order?

24 MR. LONIE: That is true.

25 One of the things that, again, is

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2 very important -- I think it is important to put
3 this in the testimony -- is that there are certain
4 legal expenses that are going to be incurred by the
5 homeowners, the costs of the Ordinance and the
6 things that as an Ordinance progresses have to be
7 paid by someone.

8 If City Council says that we will pay
9 it, we will pay it. That's your decision.

10 But there are some things that still
11 have to be borne.

12 All these individuals will have to
13 remortgage their properties. They will have to
14 obtain surveys so that the -- because their deeds
15 now run to the centers of the streets. If they are
16 dedicating that ground, we need to know where the
17 ground is.

18 The Streets Department never laid
19 that out, so we don't know, except from a builder's
20 plan, exactly where the streets are. As far as we
21 are concerned, they are private driveways.

22 That's what dedication is all about.

23 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: And we can help
24 them with that. That's why we are here. That's why
25 they pay us taxes. I mean, these people pay high

1 BILL 970246

2 taxes. This is not a group -- they are in front of
3 the Board of Revision of Taxes every year. So these
4 are the things we can work with them on.

5 And they are ready and willing to
6 accept our help in doing this. But they shouldn't
7 have to go out and hire lawyers or be in fear of
8 some legal problem if we are just doing what we
9 should have done originally.

10 MR. LONIE: Well, I agree.

11 And if Council is willing to take
12 that responsibility -- with the Streets Department,
13 like I said, it is difficult to do that. And that's
14 why we have some of these provisions in the
15 Ordinance.

16 And if City Council wants to take
17 those provisions over, that's fine. As long as, you
18 know, the monies are available.

19 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: And, obviously, we
20 are going to work. As Councilman O'Neill said,
21 these are city taxpayers, they are city residents,
22 they are city voters. They haven't been annexed
23 into the city; they have been there from Day One.

24 So thank you.

25 Is there anyone else here who wishes

1 BILL 970246

2 to testify for or against this bill?

3 For the record, I want to mention
4 that Councilman Ortiz is now with us.

5 Good afternoon, sir. Would you speak
6 into the mike and state your name for the record,
7 please.

8 MR. BOB ROLAND: I am Bob Roland. I
9 am President of Liberty Square Homeowners'
10 Association.

11 Basically, we are here today to try
12 to get the streets dedicated back to the city.
13 Because we believe we deserve the same benefits that
14 every other city resident gets, versus their
15 streets.

16 We have a problem with Police and
17 Fire not being able to find us. We are not on the
18 maps.

19 We pay -- like Councilman O'Neill
20 already said, we pay very high taxes. We pay city
21 wage taxes. A lot of us are city employees.

22 We request that we get the same
23 benefit that every other city resident has today, as
24 far as streets and benefits go, that goes with the
25 paying of taxes, paying your city wage tax.

1 BILL 970246

2 COUNCILMAN O'NEILL: If I may, I have
3 one thing, Mr. Chairman.

4 They shouldn't have to apologize or
5 explain to a potential buyer, if they are selling
6 their house, what this all means. Because it sounds
7 like a second-class homeownership.

8 And it shouldn't be, when actually
9 they are paying top dollar to us.

10 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any
11 questions for this witness from the Committee?

12 Is there anyone else here who wishes
13 to testify for or against the bill?

14 And if there are two or three of you,
15 you can come up and pull the chair around that table
16 in the interest of time.

17 Councilman Cohen has now joined us.

18 State your name for the record.

19 MR. FRANK REBSTOCK: Mr. Chairman and
20 committee members, my name is Frank Rebstock.

21 I would just like to reiterate the
22 concerns of our President, Mr. Roland, and also
23 thank Mr. O'Neill for basically doing a good job of
24 outlining our concerns.

25 And I would just like to make one

1 BILL 970246

2 quick point. And I believe the representative from
3 the city indicated that he was concerned about our
4 development being singled out in some particular way
5 regarding any type of special treatment involved
6 that the bill might entail.

7 And my point would be, we don't want
8 to be singled out. We would just like to be
9 accorded the same treatment as every other citizen
10 in the city.

11 We don't want anything more than
12 anybody, and we would ask not to be given any less
13 than any other constituent. And that's my only
14 concern.

15 And that would be my response to the
16 city's concern. Thank you very much.

17 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Point well taken.
18 Anyone else who wishes to testify?

19 Please state your name for the
20 record.

21 MR. PAGE KOCHAR: Good afternoon. My
22 name is Page Kochar. I spell, K-O-C-H-A-R. I am
23 one of the original homeowners of the McCarthy
24 Circle, Liberty Square.

25 I have come here to request the

1 BILL 970246

2 members of the Council that our streets be dedicated
3 as city streets. We got electric. We got gas. We
4 got telephone. We have cable. We have water. We
5 have mail delivery and trash pickup.

6 The only thing we deprived of is
7 pizza delivery. When I call the pizza delivery,
8 they say, "You don't exist. You are not on the city
9 map." I don't know why we are deprived of this
10 pizza delivery.

11 Thank you very much.

12 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. You
13 want to be treated equally. Since you are not
14 receiving any reduction in wage taxes or property
15 taxes, you feel as though you want to be treated as
16 every other citizen in the city paying high wage and
17 real estate tax. Okay.

18 Anyone else here who wishes to
19 testify?

20 Yes, I was a pizza delivery boy
21 myself once. I can understand that.

22 The clerk will read the title of the
23 next bill.

24 And for those of you who are new to
25 this process, we need to go through the calendar of

1 BILL 970552

2 bills that are before us today. And then after the
3 committee hearing, we will vote on the bills
4 individually.

5 So you are welcome to stay. But it
6 is just a little bit longer in time before we get
7 through this calendar.

8 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970552, An
9 Ordinance amending Section 1 of Bill No. 970457,
10 approved July 1, 1997, entitled, "An Ordinance
11 authorizing the owners of certain properties in the
12 9th Street Market to install canopies over the
13 entire width of the east and west footways of 9th
14 Street, from the north houseline of the intersection
15 of 9th and Christian Streets to the south houseline
16 of 9th and Wharton Streets; to install polls along
17 the curb to support the canopies; and to install
18 awnings over the cartway of 9th Street from the
19 canopies over the east footway only; all under
20 certain terms and conditions, to clarify that the
21 permission granted to install canopies includes
22 properties abutting 9th Street, between Christian
23 and Catharine Streets.

24 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. State
25 your name for the record, please.

1 BILL 970552

2 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Mike
3 Longshore, Streets Department, Permit Officer.

4 Councilman DiCicco, in reference to
5 the above-mentioned bill, we at the Streets
6 Department have been working closely with the 9th
7 Street Market, as you know. And we support and
8 recommend passage of this bill.

9 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

10 MR. DUANE H. BUMB: Good afternoon,
11 Mr. Chairman and members of Council. My name is
12 Duane Bumb. I am the Deputy Commerce Director. I
13 am here in support of this bill, as well.

14 I have some testimony, which I am not
15 going to read to you, as a favor to you all. But
16 just to say that we were before you just a few
17 months back on a bill almost identical to this,
18 which allows for canopies over the full width of the
19 sidewalk on those specific blocks along the 9th
20 Street Market, and allows for awnings on the eastern
21 side of the same blocks. And Council approved
22 that.

23 We subsequent to that found that we
24 needed to make some technical geographic corrections
25 to it. And, in fact, that is the sole reason we are

1 BILL 970552

2 back before you with this bill.

3 And so for all the reasons we cited
4 previously, we cite those again as the reasons why
5 we would advocate that this bill be passed.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: For the record,
8 Duane, how many years have those canopies been up?
9 About a hundred years?

10 MR. BUMB: That's correct.

11 We are, I believe, going to try to
12 legalize those that are existing and to, more
13 importantly, legalize those we would like to help to
14 finance in the future.

15 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I just wanted that
16 for the record.

17 And I also wanted the neighbors from
18 the Northeast to hear that those canopies on 9th
19 Street, which we have all become accustomed to, have
20 literally been not legal for about 100 years.

21 So you guys are like new. Your
22 streetlights and your paving are relatively, new
23 compared to 9th Street.

24 Anyway, thank you.

25 Is there anyone here who wishes to

1 BILL 970583

2 Testify for or against this bill?

3 Are there any questions from the
4 committee for this witness?

5 Anyone here to wishes who testify for
6 or against the bill?

7 Thank you. The clerk will read the
8 title of the next bill.

9 THE CLERK: Bill 970583, An Ordinance
10 authorizing and directing the revision of lines and
11 grades on a portion of City Plan No. 278 by striking
12 from the city plan and vacating Robbins Street from
13 Tacony Street to Milnor Street, by relocating the
14 northwesterly house line of Milnor Street, 7 feet
15 and variable distance southeastwardly from Robbins
16 Street to Barnett Street, by relocating the
17 northwesterly curblineline of Milnor Street 7 feet and a
18 variable distance southeastwardly from Robbins
19 Street to Barnett Street, by reserving and placing a
20 right-of-way for drainage purposes and water main
21 purposes within the lines of Robbins Street from
22 Tacony Street to Milnor Street, and by reserving and
23 placing a certain 7 feet wide and variable width
24 right-of-way for drainage purposes and water main
25 purposes for the northwesterly portion of Milnor

1 BILL 970583

2 Street being stricken by this ordinance, all under
3 certain terms and conditions.

4 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: State your name
5 for the record, please.

6 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon,
7 Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. Again, my
8 name is Paul Lonie, L-O-N-I-E, since I forgot a
9 card, representing the Department of Streets.

10 And I would like to give testimony on
11 Bill No. 970583, An Ordinance authorizing and
12 directing the revision of lines and grades on a
13 portion of City Plan No. 278 by striking from the
14 City Plan and vacating Robbins Street from Tacony
15 Street to Milnor Street, by relocating the
16 northwesterly house line of Milnor Street 7 feet and
17 a variable distance southeastwardly from Robbins
18 Street to Barnett Street, by relocating the
19 northwesterly curblineline of Milnor Street 7 feet and a
20 variable distance southeastwardly from Robbins
21 Street to Barnett Street, by reserving and placing a
22 right-of-way for drainage purposes and water main
23 purposes within the lines of Robbins Street from
24 Tacony Street to Milnor Street, and by reserving and
25 placing a certain 7 feet wide right-of-way and

1 BILL 970583

2 variable width right-of-way for drainage purposes
3 and water main purposes of the northwesterly portion
4 of Milnor Street being stricken by this ordinance,
5 all under certain terms and conditions.

6 This is not an Administration
7 Ordinance, but an Ordinance requested by Mr. Robert
8 Cantor, President of Insinger Machine Company, 6245
9 State Road, Philadelphia, 19130, the abutting owner
10 on a portion of the southerly side of Robbins Street
11 who will be acting as the party in interest.

12 Milnor Street, 60 feet wide, is on
13 City Plan, legally opened and physically improved.
14 It was opened by bond and an appraisal is taking
15 place.

16 Robbins Street 60 feet wide is on the
17 City Plan legally opened and it is approved.

18 The purpose of this Ordinance is to
19 grant the authority to close Robbins Street, narrow
20 Milnor Street, and place the right-of-way.

21 This Ordinance is supported by the
22 Department of Streets and is recommended to your
23 committee for favorable action.

24 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Any
25 one else here?

1 BILL 970583

2 MR. MARTIN SOFFER: Good afternoon,
3 Chairman, members of the committee. My name is
4 Martin Soffer from the City Planning Commission.

5 The proposed Ordinance authorizes the
6 striking of unneeded minor streets in the
7 Wissinoming section of Northeast Philadelphia.

8 The purpose of this Ordinance is to
9 enable the adjacent businesses to use this area for
10 surface parking and to permit the expansion of a
11 self-storage warehouse company.

12 Therefore, by action at its meeting
13 on October 9, 1997, the Planning Commission
14 recommends that Bill No. 970583 be approved.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

17 Anyone else?

18 MR. ANDREW TOY: Good afternoon, Mr.
19 Chairman. My name is Andrew Toy, and I am here on
20 behalf of the City's Commerce Department.

21 I am here in support of the street
22 strikings being requested today on Robbins Avenue
23 and a portion of Milnor Street.

24 The Commerce Department has been
25 working with the Insinger Machine Company, Public

1 BILL 970583

2 Storage, and Councilwoman Krajewski's office for
3 over two years on this issue.

4 The closure of Robbins Avenue from
5 State Road, or Tacony Street, to Milnor Street will
6 accomplish a number of objectives focused on helping
7 us to retain Insinger, a manufacturing company that
8 currently employs around a hundred people.

9 Insinger, a long-time Philadelphia
10 company, located at Robbins Avenue and State Road,
11 manufactures high-quality industrial dishwashers for
12 hotels, restaurants, and other major users.

13 Insinger competes nationwide with
14 other companies located outside of Philadelphia.
15 Keeping good employees and a secured facility are
16 company priorities that the city can have an impact
17 upon.

18 By closing Robbins Avenue, we will
19 allow Insinger and its neighbor down the street, L &
20 R Shipping, to physically fence the street. This
21 will help to resolve the many car break-ins and
22 thefts that have plagued Insinger employees over the
23 last few years.

24 Even with stepped-up police patrols
25 and Insinger's purchase of a closed-circuit TV

1 BILL 970583

2 system, this problem has persisted. The closure of
3 the through street will also allow for additional
4 secured employee parking should Insinger or L & R
5 Shipping expand.

6 The other advantage is that it
7 addresses a concern of PECO Energy's that a
8 transformer box on Robbins Avenue be less accessible
9 to the public.

10 And, finally, the city should save
11 some of these sources, since we will no longer be
12 responsible for the maintenance of the street.

13 The small portion of Milnor Street
14 the city is proposed to sell at fair market value
15 will benefit the adjoining business Public Storage.

16 The relocation of lot lines will have
17 no impact upon traffic on Milnor Street. It will
18 allow Public Storage to expand very slightly its
19 storage space.

20 Essentially, the Milnor Street
21 relocation has made Public Storage amenable to the
22 striking of Robbins Avenue, which Public Storage
23 also abuts.

24 In summary, we see the passage of
25 this order as a win/win proposition both for the

1 BILL 970593

2 local businesses and for the city.

3 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

4 Any questions for these witnesses

5 from the committee?

6 Is there anyone here to wishes to

7 testify for or against this bill?

8 Seeing none.

9 The clerk will read the title of the
10 next bill. Thank you.

11 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970593, An
12 Ordinance granting permission to Jose Luis Garcia,
13 3310 B Street, to construct a cement deck
14 encroaching a maximum of 12 feet, 3 inches, onto the
15 east footway of B Street.

16 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Mr. Chairman, I
17 need to withdraw this bill. There is a problem with
18 the printing.

19 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: It has been
20 recommended by the sponsor of the bill that Bill No.
21 970593 be withdrawn.

22 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970594, An
23 Ordinance regulating the direction of movement of
24 traffic on St. Vincent Street, from Castor Avenue to
25 Loretto Avenue.

1 BILL 970594

2 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Good afternoon.

3 MR. CHARLES TRAINOR: Good afternoon,
4 Chairman, Council members. Charles Trainor, Streets
5 Department, to testify.

6 The Streets Department offers the
7 following testimony in opposition to Bill No.
8 970594, changing the flow of traffic on St. Vincent
9 Street, Castor Avenue, Loretto Avenue, from two-way
10 traffic to one-way eastbound traffic.

11 St. Vincent in this area runs from
12 west of Rising Sun Avenue to its T-intersection with
13 Roosevelt Boulevard.

14 For this approximately 1.5 mile
15 length, this major collector is a two-way street, 36
16 feet wide, with parking on both sides. Its
17 intersection with Castor Avenue is controlled by a
18 traffic signal and with Loretto by an all-way stop.

19 Traffic counts done three blocks east
20 and west of this location showed daily volumes of
21 3500 and 2200 vehicles respectively. These volumes
22 are relatively evenly split in both directions.

23 The hourly volumes between 7:00 a.m.
24 and 6:00 p.m. range from a low of 104 vehicles, to a
25 high of 299 vehicles. A change in the traffic flow

1 BILL 970594

2 will require half this volume to find an alternate
3 route.

4 This will result in an increase of
5 traffic on Castor Avenue, Cottman Avenue, Princeton
6 Avenue, Tyson Avenue, and probably Wellington
7 Street. It would also result in increased turning
8 movements at numerous intersections.

9 Police accident records show that the
10 intersection of Castor Avenue and St. Vincent Street
11 has averaged less than three state-reportable
12 accidents per year since January 1990.

13 A change in the direction of St.
14 Vincent Street will increase the hazard of this
15 intersection by having two lanes of eastbound
16 traffic, opposed by one exit lane eastbound and one
17 lane of westbound traffic.

18 This results in a head-on situation
19 on the north lanes of St. Vincent Street. In
20 addition, requiring the westbound to turn increases
21 the hazard to pedestrians and vehicles.

22 Therefore, because of the increased
23 hazard and the detrimental effect on circulation,
24 the Streets Department opposes this bill.

25 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Any questions for

1 BILL 970594

2 this witness from the Committee?

3 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: I have a
4 question.

5 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Councilman
6 Mariano.

7 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Mr. Trainor --
8 my nickname for Mr. Trainor is Dr. Know, just so
9 everybody here knows.

10 I hope there are some neighbors from
11 St. Vincent Street here.

12 Let me give you a brief history here
13 how this happens.

14 I do not invent these things. I
15 don't go around looking for streets to turn over.
16 The great residents of that street called me, and
17 they have a problem. And we tell them how to go
18 about doing this.

19 Now, I am not sitting up there on St.
20 Vincent Street; they are.

21 Mr. Trainor, this is not to pick on
22 you, but you get the big bucks, and you are here,
23 and you take the targets for just the end of my
24 conversation.

25 I asked the Streets Department

1 BILL 970594

2 because it has been my practice. I usually ask for
3 a temporary posting of this.

4 And the reason I do this is, very
5 many times -- and Mr. Trainor will probably testify
6 to this -- when you mess with directions of streets,
7 it is like a giant Rubick's cube. Once you mess
8 with one, it affects, believe it or not, traffic all
9 over the city. It really affects the traffic around
10 the streets a lot.

11 And that's debateable. I mean, it is
12 what the people up there live with.

13 So I asked for a posting. And most
14 of the time when I get a temporary posting, the
15 people change their minds because they see the
16 Streets Department is usually right with their
17 traffic studies.

18 About the three or four times I asked
19 for temporary postings, once it wasn't withdraw and
20 I had to make it law. Every other time I said,
21 "See," and the people realize their concern becomes
22 a bigger concern for the whole neighborhood.

23 And you cannot get a temporary
24 posting here, so that is why we are here today. If
25 we could have had that temporary posting, it would

1 BILL 970594

2 have probably happened in the summer, and we would
3 have had the experience of living through the
4 temporary posting and the problems that come with
5 that or the problems that don't come with that.

6 Now, everybody is going to testify
7 either for or against this. And, in their mind, and
8 that's perception, that's what we think is going to
9 happen. We do not know what's going to happen until
10 we actually post this.

11 Mr. Trainor is an expert from the
12 Streets Department. And they are guessing, too.
13 But it is more of an educated guess than I would
14 guess or some people that live in the neighborhood,
15 either way.

16 So the way I want to sum this up is,
17 this could have all been avoided, we might not have
18 been to this point, if we could have had a temporary
19 posting.

20 So as a District Councilman, and for
21 district prerogative, I need to have these temporary
22 postings.

23 So if you could take that back to the
24 Streets Commissioner. And tell him when I ask for a
25 temporary posting, it is not because I sit around or

1 BILL 970594

2 drive around and look for things to do -- because we
3 have plenty of things to do around here -- these
4 people are inconvenienced, they are down here now,
5 they wouldn't have had to have been down here, even
6 the people that oppose it, if we had a temporary
7 posting.

8 It could have lasted two weeks, it
9 could have lasted two months. There might have been
10 an accident every day. And I hope that wouldn't
11 have been the case. But we could have found out
12 what's going on.

13 Thank you, Mr. Trainor. That's where
14 I am on this.

15 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

16 Any other questions from this witness
17 of the committee?

18 Is there anyone here who wishes to
19 testify before or against the bill? You can all
20 come up, please.

21 MS. LORRAINE BRILL: I am Lorraine
22 Brill, President of Upper Northwood Community
23 Council. We represent home and school associations,
24 playgrounds, libraries, religious institutions, and
25 veteran organizations within our boundaries of

1 BILL 970594

2 Cottman Avenue on the north, Roosevelt Boulevard on
3 the east, Oxford Circle on the south, and Oxford
4 Avenue on the west, comprising the 53rd and 54th
5 Wards.

6 We monitor zoning, traffic, and
7 quality-of-life issues that affect our community.

8 UNCC opposes City Council Bill
9 970594, which would change the 1400 block of St.
10 Vincent Street from its current two-way traffic
11 pattern to one-way eastbound.

12 If this change goes into effect, it
13 will have a major detrimental impact on the current
14 traffic patterns within the area bordered by Oxford
15 Avenue, Cottman Avenue, Roosevelt Boulevard, and
16 Tyson Avenue.

17 Within this area there are only two
18 major east-west through streets, Cottman Avenue and
19 Tyson Avenue, and two minor east-west through
20 streets, St. Vincent Street and Princeton Avenue.

21 And we have attached a map to our
22 statement so those people who are not familiar can
23 follow along.

24 Cottman Avenue is a major state
25 highway. It is called Township Line in Montgomery

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2 County. Goes from Jenkintown through to State Road,
3 which is near the Delaware River and I-95.

4 St. Vincent Street is a wide street,
5 with two parking lanes and two traffic lanes, one in
6 each direction, going from Oakley Street, near the
7 Montgomery County line, through to Roosevelt
8 Boulevard.

9 Princeton Avenue is also a wide
10 street, with two parking lanes and two traffic
11 lanes, one in each direction, going from Algon
12 Avenue to Roosevelt Boulevard.

13 Tyson Avenue is a wide street, with
14 two parking lanes and four traffic lanes, two in
15 each direction on most blocks. Some blocks have
16 islands, which reduce the traffic lanes to one in
17 each direction.

18 Tyson Avenue goes from Oakley Street
19 to Keystone Street, which is also near the Delaware
20 River and I-95.

21 Only Cottman Avenue and Tyson Avenue
22 cross the Boulevard. Princeton Avenue and St.
23 Vincent Street dead end at the Boulevard, but start
24 again on the east side of the Boulevard.

25 The point we are trying to make here

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2 is that St. Vincent Street and Princeton Avenue are
3 used mainly for local traffic by residents of the
4 area to access destinations within the local
5 community.

6 Both streets have four-way stop signs
7 at residential intersections, and traffic signals at
8 main north-south streets such as Algon Avenue,
9 Castor Avenue, and Bustleton Avenue.

10 It is almost impossible to speed on
11 St. Vincent Street because a driver has to stop at
12 every corner.

13 Some of the reasons we are opposed to
14 this bill are:

15 One, on the southwest corner of
16 Castor Avenue and St. Vincent Street is a new car
17 agency, Champion Toyota. The entrance to their
18 service garage is on St. Vincent Street, west of
19 Castor Avenue.

20 If St. Vincent Street becomes one-way
21 east, cars going to the agency that now enter from
22 Castor Avenue would have to travel east from Loretto
23 Avenue, through the residential part of the block,
24 in order to enter the garage.

25 On the northwest corner of Castor

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2 Avenue and St. Vincent Street is St. Luke's Lutheran
3 Church, with the entrance and loading for their
4 pre-school center on St. Vincent Street.

5 Making St. Vincent Street one-way
6 east will force the parents who drop off their
7 children to drive through the residential part of
8 the block twice as often as they do now.

9 Three, cars traveling on St. Vincent
10 Street, in a westerly direction from points east of
11 Castor Avenue, would have to turn on to Castor
12 Avenue if they cannot continue west on St. Vincent
13 Street.

14 Four, two lanes of traffic eastbound
15 from the 1400 block of St. Vincent Street would
16 require one of the two lanes to turn at Castor
17 Avenue, since only one lane could continue through
18 to St. Vincent Street after crossing Castor Avenue.

19 Five, westbound traffic that is now
20 distributed between St. Vincent Street, Princeton
21 Avenue, and Tyson Avenue would be diverted to
22 Princeton and/or Tyson Avenues.

23 Drivers who need to return to
24 westbound St. Vincent Street, west of Loretto
25 Avenue, would have to use one of the north-south

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2 streets, such as Loretto Avenue, Somerdale Avenue,
3 et cetera, to get there.

4 All these additional turning
5 movements that would occur if this one block of St.
6 Vincent Street becomes one-way could potentially
7 lead to more accidents.

8 Turning a perfectly good two-way
9 street into a one-way street for one block, thereby
10 disrupting the "through" traffic pattern, is not the
11 appropriate solution. It would only create more
12 traffic problems for the neighborhood.

13 We want the 1400 block of St. Vincent
14 Street to maintain its current status as a two-way
15 street.

16 Therefore, UNCC requests the members
17 of the Committee on Streets and Services to vote
18 against Bill No. 970594.

19 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Any questions for
20 this witness from members of the committee?

21 Councilman Mariano.

22 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Thank you, Mr.
23 Chairman.

24 Ms. Brill, I would like to thank you
25 for your detailed study on this. And I know you put

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2 a lot of time in it.

3 A lot of the things you stated were
4 pretty much what Mr. Trainor stated. There is a
5 perception here that this is going to be dangerous.

6 Is this just from your own personal
7 observation?

8 MS. BRILL: Absolutely. Yes. I live
9 at 814 Disston Street. And I do I drive on St.
10 Vincent Street a lot.

11 I use it purposely because maybe the
12 times that I go, but because it is a quieter street,
13 there is not a lot of traffic. And when you get to
14 the other side of Castor Avenue, and/or Bustleton,
15 it is the only way to access some of the north-south
16 streets on that side of Castor Avenue.

17 And I use it to come back. And,
18 again, because I am not looking for a lot of
19 traffic. I am one of the people that likes to take
20 a street where there is not a lot of traffic.

21 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: You live at 814
22 Disston.

23 MS. BRILL: That's around Montor.

24 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: How many
25 streets, for the people that don't know --

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2 Councilman DiCicco doesn't know anything above Broad
3 Street -- tell me, how many blocks away from this
4 1400 block of St. Vincent is it?

5 MS. BRILL: About ten blocks. I am
6 ten blocks west of 1400 St. Vincent.

7 But I drive through there a lot, as
8 do a lot of other local people going through the
9 neighborhood.

10 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

11 Miss Brill, I too want to thank you
12 for your testimony. Apparently you did spend a lot
13 of time on it.

14 And I just was wondering, have you
15 had any contact with the residents on St. Vincent
16 Street?

17 MS. BRILL: We did not know about
18 this until we saw the legal notice in the paper
19 about a week or two ago.

20 We called our political
21 representatives, and they didn't know about it,
22 either.

23 And, you know, we are concerned that
24 there should have been meetings with the people.
25 There should have been a lot of things done.

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2 But, in any case, I understand what
3 the people are saying. I understand the petition
4 said excess speed and talked about traffic.

5 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Miss Brill, can
6 I ask you a question?

7 You said you called your political
8 representatives. Who would that be?

9 MS. BRILL: I spoke to your office.

10 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: And my office
11 didn't know anything about it?

12 MS. BRILL: Oh, yes. I spoke to
13 Susan.

14 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: She didn't know
15 anything about it?

16 MS. BRILL: She told me she thought
17 there was a petition, and I was supposed to talk to
18 Ed Kirlin. I spoke to Ed Kirlin, Ed Mulvahill. And
19 I said, "Do you have the petition?"

20 They said, "The Streets Department
21 has it." The Streets Department read me the
22 petition.

23 And when I spoke to Christine
24 Solomon, who is the ward leader, she didn't know
25 about it. Al Buckowitz didn't know about it. And

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2 Tina Tarlag didn't know about it.

3 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: My office knew
4 about it?

5 MS. BRILL: Yes, they knew about it.
6 But we weren't included in.

7 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Obviously from the
8 Councilman's question, it is obvious that there was
9 a petition signed by the residents.

10 MS. BRILL: I understand that.
11 I am not saying that they don't have
12 a problem. I am just saying, this is not the
13 appropriate solution.

14 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Let me ask you --
15 and I don't mean this in any way to be sarcastic.
16 Because when we have people like you in the city, it
17 is important we have people that are involved. And
18 you are definitely involved.

19 But had this situation been existing
20 on your street, do you think it would be fair for
21 someone who lives ten blocks away to take the
22 position that you are taking today?

23 MS. BRILL: I live on a one-way
24 street. We have one lane of traffic. And we have
25 many streets -- yes, it is. If it would affect

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2 my -- the other neighborhoods.

3 This happens to be off of Castor
4 Avenue, which is a main, busy, north-south street,
5 with the trackless trolley route. It is one block
6 south of Cottman Avenue.

7 If you live on that street, you are
8 inevitably going to get more traffic. I mean, it is
9 just a given. And if you buy a house on that
10 street, you have to be aware that that's the
11 situation.

12 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

13 Anyone else here to wishes to
14 testify? Please state your name for the record.

15 BRADLEY K. MOSS, ESQ.: My name is
16 Bradley K. Moss. I am an attorney at Mesirov,
17 Gelman, Jaffe, Cramer & Jamieson. And I represent
18 one of the neighbors, Champion Toyota.

19 I have with me Mike Taylor, who is
20 the General Manager of Champion Toyota.

21 We have a map which shows Champion
22 Toyota's position on the street that's going to be
23 affected.

24 Champion Toyota employs approximately
25 50 people in the community. Many of them live in

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2 this community.

3 I have copies here, if I may.

4 Champion Toyota employs approximately
5 50 people, many of whom come from the community.

6 Surprisingly -- picking up on what
7 you were asking, Chairman DiCicco and Councilman
8 Mariano -- my client, although it is a neighbor, was
9 never approached with the petition to ask to sign or
10 not sign it.

11 And, in fact, did not learn of this
12 until Tuesday. Although we now know that this was
13 in the making much longer than that.

14 I don't want to belabor this point,
15 but I would like to ask Mr. Taylor to make a few
16 comments about how he believes this will affect his
17 business, as well as affecting the community.

18 Mr. Taylor.

19 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you,
20 Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: State your name,
22 for the record.

23 MR. TOM TAYLOR: My name is Tom
24 Taylor. I am the General Manager of Champion
25 Toyota.

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2 We have been in business on Castor
3 and St. Vincent for approximately a little over four
4 years now.

5 And I believe that this bill creates
6 a problem for Champion Toyota, in that one of the
7 things that I am always trying to do is make it
8 easier for our customers to do business with us.

9 And what this, I believe, would do
10 was to have a negative affect on that and make it
11 difficult for our customers to get into our service
12 entrance.

13 And right now most of our customers,
14 I believe, come in off of Castor Avenue, which is
15 probably 50 feet from the corner.

16 What this would do would cause them
17 to go around Castor Avenue, up Friendship Street on
18 your map there, around Loretto, and back down the
19 full block of St. Vincent. This would also cause
20 all of our test drives to do the same thing.

21 So it is going to trouble the amount
22 of traffic going down the major part of the block,
23 where right now most of it is coming on and off of
24 Castor Avenue. That in itself is a problem.

25 It would be pretty tough for us to

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2 change our structure internally to effect this
3 change. Thank you.

4 MR. MOSS: One final thing Mr. Taylor
5 didn't mention that we had spoken about before. And
6 that is, that this is not a business that is simply
7 plopped in the neighborhood. I think it is
8 important.

9 Not only is this a business that
10 employs people in the neighborhood, but I also would
11 just like to ask Mr. Taylor to explain how this
12 business is involved in the neighborhood otherwise.

13 MR. TAYLOR: We support the
14 neighborhood in a number of different ways, with
15 advertising for community groups and so on.

16 We sponsored the St. Vincent block
17 party this year. We donated a ride to them for
18 that. So we are very involved with the community.

19 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Did you donate a
20 car?

21 MR. TAYLOR: That's next year.

22 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Write that
23 down.

24 Can I ask a question, Mr. Chairman?

25 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Questions for this

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2 witness from any members of the committee.

3 Councilman Mariano.

4 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Mr. Taylor, I
5 was up there last night again. On your map on
6 Friendship Street, there is a door on there that's
7 not on this map. Is that missing for a reason?

8 When I think I talked to you
9 upstairs -- on Friendship Street there is a door to
10 your place; right?

11 MR. TAYLOR: That's correct, yes.

12 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Now, could you
13 go in that door if you came up Friendship and drive
14 all the way through your business and come out the
15 service? I didn't go in your business, so I don't
16 know.

17 If you come in Friendship Street,
18 exit or entrance, can you enter in there, and then
19 come out and exit onto St. Vincent?

20 MR. TAYLOR: That could be done. We
21 would require tens of thousands of dollars of
22 changing our internal shop.

23 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: You have right
24 now stuff back there?

25 MR. TAYLOR: Out lifts are angled in

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2 a certain way. It would be a real problem for the
3 way the building is set up internally for that to be
4 done.

5 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: As I said, I
6 wasn't in there. But you didn't have that on the
7 map, so I was concerned.

8 MS. BRILL: I would like to --

9 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Let him respond.

10 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: So that door,
11 you can't go through that door?

12 MR. TAYLOR: No, we couldn't use that
13 door.

14 Reverse the flow, you mean? That
15 would be a big problem.

16 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: When you look at
17 it from outside, it looks like you could drive up
18 St. Vincent, come out, and then drive up Friendship,
19 go in, and then come out St. Vincent.

20 MS. BRILL: Let me tell you --

21 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Are there walls or
22 something in there?

23 MR. TAYLOR: There are walls.

24 The way it is set up, it is kind
25 of -- the internal structure is not shown here.

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2 But it would be difficult to come in
3 from Friendship Street and come into the service
4 reception for customers, and then come out. We
5 would have to revamp the whole --

6 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: When you come in
7 the service entrance, though, you have bays back
8 there --

9 MR. TAYLOR: Yes.

10 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: -- where you
11 work, and there are lifts and everything?

12 MR. TAYLOR: Correct.

13 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Again, because I
14 am not familiar with the property, I assume that's
15 an overhead door on Friendship Street?

16 MR. TAYLOR: That's right.

17 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: What is the
18 purpose for that overhead door? Where does that
19 lead to?

20 MR. TAYLOR: That's an exit from our
21 service area.

22 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: So you can come
23 in on St. Vincent and go out on Friendship, but you
24 can't reverse it?

25 MR. TAYLOR: You could do that. But

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2 it would be much more difficult for our customers to
3 do that.

4 And our lifts are angled the other
5 way, from St. Vincent. We would have to change the
6 whole flow of the shop, reverse all the lifts the
7 opposite way.

8 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: So it is not
9 because there is a wall; it is because of the
10 position of the lifts. Is that correct?

11 MR. TAYLOR: Correct.

12 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: We are not
13 trying to trick you here. We are trying to get a
14 mental picture in both our minds because we haven't
15 been there.

16 MR. TAYLOR: There is a wall that
17 separates.

18 The shop is in two portions here. I
19 didn't draw this map; somebody else made the map.
20 Generally in the building, towards the back, towards
21 Friendship, there is a wall with an opening that you
22 have to kind of negotiate.

23 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: My point to you is
24 this: Let's just assume that there were no lifts
25 anywhere on that side of the property.

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2 If I were to drive a car, could I
3 drive my car from St. Vincent Street to Friendship
4 Street?

5 MR. TAYLOR: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: What would prevent
7 me from driving from Friendship Avenue back to St.
8 Vincent, if there was no lifts there?

9 MR. TAYLOR: You could do it.

10 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: You could.

11 So there is no construction,
12 obstruction, to prevent that from happening?

13 MR. TAYLOR: To prevent that from
14 happening, no.

15 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: What we are
16 talking about -- correct me if I am wrong -- is the
17 position of the lifts?

18 MR. TAYLOR: Position of the lifts
19 and the way you drive through the back section into
20 the larger section. It would be a major overhaul to
21 change everything.

22 MS. BRILL: Councilman DiCicco, there
23 is a problem with Friendship Street, and you should
24 know.

25 It is a very narrow street. It has

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2 one lane of traffic. It currently, on the 1400
3 block and 1300 block, there is currently -- there
4 has two-way traffic on that particular street.

5 You have to -- cars going in and out
6 that have to wait for somebody else to go through
7 the street. There is parking on both sides.

8 That is a street that --

9 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: That's a small
10 street.

11 MS. BRILL: That's a small street.

12 And if people want that changed to
13 one-way, nobody would have any problems with that.

14 That is a street that should be
15 changed to one-way. And the neighbors have been
16 told, if they want it, to get a petition.

17 But it is not a good street to use to
18 access going in.

19 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: That isn't
20 really what we were quizzing him about. We are
21 thinking about coming off Castor Avenue, zipping in
22 that door on Friendship Street.

23 We are not going to go up Friendship
24 Street that far, except for that entrance or exit
25 there. In our mind, we are trying to get --

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2 MS. BRILL: But there is a problem
3 with traffic there.

4 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Cars are exiting
5 on Friendship Avenue now.

6 MS. BRILL: Yes. But that's right
7 near Castor Avenue and then --

8 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I think I would
9 like Mr. Taylor to address that, if you don't mind.

10 MS. BRILL: All right.

11 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

12 Cars are exiting on to Friendship
13 Avenue today. I mean, that's what happens now;
14 right?

15 MR. TAYLOR: Correct.

16 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: And those are cars
17 that had already been serviced?

18 MR. TAYLOR: That's right.

19 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Now, how do they
20 get from that service entrance on St. Vincent to
21 that area that allows them now to exit onto
22 Friendship Avenue?

23 MR. TAYLOR: What happens is, they
24 drive in the service entrance you see here. And
25 there is an exit omitted on this picture here.

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2 And the customers drive in to our
3 drive through. And our service reception is in the
4 middle of this building you are looking at.

5 They then get out and leave their
6 cars. And we then take them and park them either on
7 the lift to be worked on, or to the parking lot
8 where it is gotten later to be repaired.

9 So it does come in through that one
10 entrance and go out through the back of the door.
11 And we usually made a left onto Friendship Street to
12 go out onto Castor Avenue.

13 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: All right. I must
14 be missing something. Maybe if I saw it, I could
15 understand it a little bit better. I am still a
16 little confused.

17 If you go in off of St. Vincent and
18 you can exit onto Friendship, you are saying that
19 you can't reverse that because of the position of
20 the lifts.

21 But do cars come in off of Friendship
22 now? And how far in --

23 MR. TAYLOR: No. We have one-way
24 going from St. Vincent to Friendship.

25 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: So no one is

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2 coming in off of Friendship Avenue?

3 MR. TAYLOR: No. Very rare
4 occasions.

5 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: On that rare
6 occasion, how do they get back out?

7 MR. TAYLOR: They will turn around
8 inside and go back out. Or they may come out at
9 times, if somebody pulls in at this end of St.
10 Vincent, they may come out there, but is very rare.
11 The traffic flow goes from one end to another.

12 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: So it is possible,
13 I assume, from what you are saying, that you can go
14 in and exit from Friendship?

15 MR. TAYLOR: Well, the way the shop
16 is set up, the lifts are positioned in such a
17 fashion that makes it easy to pull right in. They
18 are angled towards St. Vincent's.

19 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: It just makes it
20 easier the way it is designed today?

21 MR. TAYLOR: Well, we would have to
22 almost change it. I mean, it would be very
23 inefficient to be backing up, turning around five
24 times to try and fit the car on the lift.

25 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Any other

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2 questions for this witness?

3 Thank you for your testimony.

4 Is there anyone else here who wishes
5 to testify for or against?

6 Mike Longshore, Streets Department.

7 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Name hasn't
8 changed, just the title.

9 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: I am
10 testifying as a constituent now of Councilman
11 Mariano's.

12 In reference to this traffic flow
13 bill here, I don't live eight blocks away from here,
14 I live four blocks. However, my son does attend St.
15 Luke's pre-school.

16 And to change this direction flow, I
17 feel, to a one-way would cause a very dangerous and
18 unsafe condition for pre-schoolers.

19 Most of the people -- there is very
20 limited parking there now on both sides of the
21 street. Most people double park to drop their kids
22 off.

23 If you are going to limit it to
24 one-way, you are going to have a major safety
25 problem here.

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2 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Are you familiar
3 with the Champion Toyota?

4 MR. LONGSHORE: Yes, I am.

5 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Are you familiar
6 with the interior?

7 MR. LONGSHORE: Not the interior,
8 Councilman.

9 But a lot of people do leave their
10 vehicles out on St. Vincent Street for the car
11 dealer, also, for service. And then they are driven
12 in.

13 At the same time you have
14 pre-schoolers' parents dropping their kids off and
15 double parking, also.

16 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: The reason I ask,
17 Mike, I was just trying to draw from your
18 experience, whether or not some of the questions we
19 were posing would make sense, and could this
20 change -- could we change the direction of the
21 activity inside the building?

22 MR. LONGSHORE: I have never been
23 inside it, Councilman.

24 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

25 Councilman Mariano.

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2 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Just for the
3 record, where do you live?

4 MR. LONGSHORE: Montore Street, just
5 north of Cottman Avenue.

6 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: What is your job
7 with the Streets Department?

8 Are you an expert like Mr. Trainor,
9 Dr. Know, on this thing here?

10 MR. LONGSHORE: I worked in the
11 construction field for 14 years.

12 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: So you
13 understand the flow of traffic?

14 MR. LONGSHORE: Yes, absolutely.

15 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Now, these two
16 streets here, St. Vincent and Friendship, the
17 school, I am picturing this church as a school. It
18 is where the voting place is; right?

19 So that is on St. Vincent or
20 Friendship, for the record?

21 MR. LONGSHORE: St. Lutheran?

22 That's correct, on the northwest
23 corner.

24 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Anyone else here

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2 who wishes to testify?

3 If so, please pull the microphone as
4 close as possible to you and speak directly into
5 it. And also please state your name for the
6 record.

7 MR. MIKE LEE: Good afternoon,
8 Council. My name is Mike Lee. I reside on the 1400
9 block of St. Vincent Street.

10 What we are requesting is actually,
11 correction one, our traffic flow to go, let's see,
12 request that the existing two-way east-west traffic
13 pattern be restricted to one-way flow from eastbound
14 from Loretto to Castor. That's what we are
15 requesting.

16 And we are concerned with our
17 children's safety. We are concerned with the noise
18 and the speed at which the traffic flows on our
19 street.

20 We are concerned about our neighbors,
21 and including Champion Toyota. We do not want to
22 disrupt their business.

23 But, at the same time, we do not
24 understand how our street being one-way will
25 actually impact their business. And with St.

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2 Luke's, also, the pre-school.

3 Because if we go from one-way from
4 Loretto to Castor, Champion Toyota does have
5 two-door garages that we did go through already.

6 And with St. Luke's, if we do make it
7 from one-way from Loretto to Castor, with the door
8 of St. Luke's being on St. Vincent Street, there are
9 several cars that must double park because of the
10 restricted area. That will prevent the amount of
11 cars sneaking up, as if it was one-way the other
12 way. Again, safety with the children.

13 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Next witness,
14 please.

15 MS. CORIN LEARY: My name is Corin
16 Leare. I live at 1405 St. Vincent. I live at St.
17 Vincent towards Loretto.

18 I am also concerned with the speed of
19 the traffic. And I am concerned about the Streets
20 Department who said there were only three accidents
21 within a seven-year period. We have had seven
22 accidents since August.

23 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I think what the
24 testimony was was reported accidents, if I am not
25 mistaken.

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2 MS. LEARY: There were police at all
3 these accidents. So I don't know why it wouldn't
4 have been reported.

5 We had a girl across the street, her
6 car was totaled. She has a 15-month-old. And her
7 car was parked and it was totaled.

8 I have an eight-month-old. When I
9 take her to my mother, who watches her, I have to
10 put her in the street and avoid the speeding cars
11 coming up and down the block from Champion and from
12 the daycare.

13 St. Luke's also has an entrance to
14 daycare on Castor Avenue, the building next to the
15 church. They park on the street. They park all the
16 way up towards Loretto.

17 The double parking -- I was home all
18 day today. They parked all the way up the street.
19 So they don't double park that much to take their
20 children in and out of the car, where I have to
21 watch getting my eight-month-old in and out of the
22 car when I go to work every morning.

23 We also have 23 kids on the block
24 under the age of 15. 11 of those are under the age
25 of 6.

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2 And I think the concern with the
3 two-way traffic is that people speed, they zoom,
4 they do not stop at the Stop sign. And Loretto. It
5 is a four-way stop, but they all glide through it.

6 And kids are playing. They can't be
7 near the street, can't be near the curb. We
8 don't -- a lot of homes don't have patios, and the
9 kids have nowhere to play, and someone is going to
10 get hurt.

11 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you. Anyone
12 else?

13 MS. JOANNE WARE: My name is Joanne
14 Ware, and I also live in the 1400 block of Saint
15 Vincent.

16 First of all, we didn't go -- I
17 apologize to Toyota. We didn't go down to them
18 because I think we all assumed that their address is
19 on Castor Avenue.

20 I, for one, purchased a car from
21 Toyota, from Champion. I have been in their service
22 garage.

23 There is an entrance on St. Vincent.
24 There is an exit on Friendship. I know that
25 firsthand because I have taken my car in there.

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2 Addressing St. Luke's, the daycare.
3 The inconvenience that it will cause people to drop
4 their children off for five minutes is nothing
5 compared to the inconvenience that we deal with
6 every minute of every day.

7 I also understand that the traffic
8 flows will increase on Cottman Avenue, as well as
9 Tyson. But we are a residential street. We were
10 not -- this street was not designed to have people
11 going from Castor Avenue to St. Vincent, and going
12 50 and 60 miles an hour in the process. It is far
13 from a quiet street. It is not.

14 We have had numerous accidents. You
15 can't park your car on a Friday night at 6 o'clock
16 because you have the moron in back of you riding up
17 your bumper, beeping his horn, and getting out and
18 hitting your windshield.

19 And then you have the people coming
20 down the other way who stop, they can't move because
21 now the person behind you is trying to pass you, and
22 now we have a big traffic jam.

23 So I understand that the people in
24 our surrounding area will be inconvenienced by this,
25 but we are inconvenienced on a daily basis.

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2 And that's all.

3 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

4 Anyone else? Any questions for this
5 witness?

6 Councilman Mariano.

7 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: I really don't
8 have a question. I just have a statement. These
9 neighbors have been very patient.

10 There was a little confusion at the
11 beginning as to whose Council District it was.
12 Because on the other side of Castor Avenue is the
13 54th Ward, which is Councilwoman Krajewski.

14 But they started this in December of
15 '96. And by the time it got where we were going to
16 do something, it was time to end for Council, and we
17 were gone for the summer session.

18 So they have been very diligent. And
19 they never changed their story on this.

20 I can take the blame for the
21 neighbors not notifying. I didn't think at all
22 about Champion Toyota, because I figured you guys
23 came in and out the front.

24 It is obvious when I went back up
25 there again last night and really looked at it, that

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2 there would be a problem.

3 All I can say is, every time we do
4 something up here, it is going to affect not just
5 this street. Any time we change streets,
6 directions, one-ways, it is a giant puzzle effect,
7 and it is going to affect everybody.

8 These people are here. They spent
9 time with petitions. They did everything we asked.

10 So I would like to thank you
11 personally for coming out and doing all that, and
12 taking the time to come down here.

13 And we are going to try to work
14 something out here so everybody can be happy.

15 I am going to try to talk to you on
16 the side.

17 MR. JEREMIAH LEARY: Council, my name
18 is Jeremiah Leary. I wanted to address one thing.

19 Our street is actually the first
20 residential street that cars approach coming from
21 the Boulevard.

22 So coming from the Boulevard to
23 Castor Avenue, that is within a 20-block radius, it
24 is all commercial traffic.

25 And at the same time our street, 1400

1 BILL 970594

2 block of St. Vincent, once you cross Castor Avenue,
3 is the first residential street where houses are
4 actually on both sides of the street.

5 At the same time, when we purchased
6 our house, as someone else addressed beforehand,
7 that we should have been expecting it. From the
8 time we purchased our house, in the meantime you
9 have built the new J.C. Penney, the new Toys R Us,
10 the Super Fresh, which has all produced traffic on
11 our street, which should not be advised and should
12 not be accepted.

13 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: It wasn't existing
14 when you bought your homes?

15 MR. LEARY: It was not existing. The
16 Super Fresh is exactly the most recent store that's
17 been built. Well, Sears has been around since
18 Gimbel's.

19 And that's it. Thank you very much.

20 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

21 Just as a point of information, had
22 there been a temporary period where this street
23 direction had been changed, and had the findings
24 come back from the Philadelphia Streets Department
25 that it really, or from your own observation, that

1 BILL 970594

2 it really did not correct the situation, I would
3 assume that that would have been acceptable?

4 I mean, the fact is that you don't
5 know because there was never any temporary --

6 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: You understand
7 the difference in the temporary, nobody knows the
8 difference when they are driving. The only people
9 that would know would be the Streets Department and
10 myself and you.

11 It is just like it is permanent; it
12 is just not a law. It is my pleasure for a while, a
13 District Councilman's pleasure for two months, three
14 months, or a month. And I think that would have
15 took care of that.

16 This may happen. And you may come
17 back to me in a month and say, "Councilman, do you
18 know what? They are right. It is a headache
19 because everybody is going around Champion Toyota,
20 those guys are flying around."

21 That's why I wanted to do that. I
22 apologize that didn't happen.

23 MS. LEARY: Just to address that
24 Champion Toyota. They do drive around the block
25 awfully fast. But you can see the tag numbers from

1 BILL 970594

2 the cars when the people drop off the keys, the
3 numbers they put on the rearview mirror.

4 And, also, they use our block to park
5 their cars. So when I come home from school at 9
6 o'clock at night, I have to park on Loretto Street
7 because cars are already parked lining up for the
8 Toyota there in the morning. And that forces
9 everyone to park on the block, so I am left around
10 the corner.

11 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: And now you see
12 Mr. Taylor. Now you know what he looks like. You
13 can stop and call him. He will listen to your
14 complaints, no matter what, night or time of day.
15 He will probably give you his home phone number.
16 And you call him and tell him, "My parking spot is
17 not there."

18 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: This may already
19 have been testified to, so I will just ask the
20 neighbors.

21 On St. Vincent Street, there is
22 parking on both sides of St. Vincent?

23 MS. WARE: Yes, there is.

24 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: There are two
25 lanes of travel?

1 BILL 970594

2 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: It is a
3 four-lane highway, actually.

4 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: One lane, two
5 lanes of parking?

6 MS. WARE: But there are no lines
7 that designate two lanes.

8 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

9 Mr. Trainor, Councilman Cohen has a
10 question.

11 COUNCILMAN COHEN: I don't know
12 whether it is a question or a comment that I would
13 like a response to.

14 If you sat down with the
15 representatives of the community organizations that
16 spoke before in opposition to the bill, do you think
17 there is any possibility of achieving an agreement?

18 Or do you feel that your position is
19 one that could never change, under any
20 circumstances?

21 What we are trying to do, this is the
22 most difficult problem we ever have, when two sets
23 of folks in the community, both full of integrity,
24 both wanting the best thing for themselves and their
25 family, reach opposite results.

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2 And then we have got to act like
3 Solomon did, only none of us have the wisdom of
4 Solomon. I may have the age, but not the wisdom.
5 And none of us have. So that's why it is so tough.

6 You make a very compelling case, and
7 the people before you made a compelling case.

8 Would there be anything you think
9 that could be achieved if you all sat down
10 together?

11 Or is this one of those neighborhood
12 problems that we have to make a decision on, and
13 just hope and maybe do a little praying that we have
14 reached the right decision?

15 We are looking for a way. Because we
16 know the community group that testified before, they
17 testified on a number of things, they always are
18 looking for something that helps the whole
19 community.

20 We know that you have strong
21 feelings. Your families live on this block, and you
22 have a right to be concerned, very deeply concerned,
23 about the safety of the family.

24 We would love to find, as Councilman
25 Mariano before said, we are working to try to find,

1 BILL 970594

2 something that can meet the needs of both.

3 MR. LEARY: Excuse me, Councilman. I
4 would say, I would strongly agree with Councilman
5 Mariano about going with the temporary.

6 Because temporary would be a test
7 run. It will give everyone the ability to see what
8 would actually happen and what would actually be
9 taking place.

10 So the actual agreement, I would say,
11 from the neighborhood side, would be to do the
12 temporary one-way, so this way everyone could see
13 exactly what's going to happen.

14 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Were the other
15 folks -- Miss Brill testified, too.

16 Is that all right, Mr. Chairman, to
17 have them come for a moment to the speaker?

18 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I yield to your
19 age.

20 COUNCILMAN COHEN: It works
21 sometimes. Sometimes it doesn't. Sometimes we have
22 to make believe we have the wisdom of Solomon.

23 MS. BRILL: We would not oppose a
24 temporary, although our concern would be that people
25 from the other streets and neighborhoods would sort

1 BILL 970594

2 of be taken aback if they see a Do Not Enter Sign.

3 And I am just concerned that there
4 might be some accidents that wouldn't happen if we
5 didn't have the temporary.

6 But if that's the answer -- as we
7 said before, the reason we think this is wrong is,
8 in addition to cutting, you know, blocking the
9 through street, is that we think they are going to
10 end up with more traffic, not less, on their
11 street.

12 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Well, if they wind
13 up with more traffic, I think they will be wanting
14 to move it back. Because I gather what they are
15 looking for is getting less traffic.

16 And an experiment may prove to them
17 that the direction they are going on only made it
18 worse, rather than better.

19 MS. BRILL: Some of the problems that
20 they are addressing, like in terms of double
21 parking, whatever, we could ask the police to
22 monitor the situation, to start ticketing.

23 If they do this, then some of that --
24 there are other ways to handle some of these
25 problems.

1 BILL 970594

2 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

3 My question is to Mr. Trainor. And
4 then I think, in all fairness, we need to get a
5 response to Councilman Cohen's question from
6 Champion Toyota. So let's do Champion Toyota
7 first.

8 MR. MOSS: Brad Moss, on behalf of
9 Champion Toyota.

10 I have spoken with my client. We
11 think it is an excellent suggestion.

12 The only thing that we would like to
13 suggest is that the period of time be one month. I
14 think we are going to be able to find out very
15 quickly whether this is a good idea or not.

16 And I would hate to, if it is not a
17 good idea, I would hate to see the experiment last
18 any longer than it has to. If it is a good idea,
19 well, then, we can quickly move forward with it.

20 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I have had some
21 experience in my district with direction changes of
22 streets.

23 And I have found, in some cases, the
24 difficult way, that after we made the change, people
25 realize that it was not in their best interest.

1 BILL 970594

2 Without asking for you, Mr. Trainor,
3 to make a direct decision, one month, is that too
4 short a period of time, generally? Generally
5 speaking.

6 MR. TRAINOR: Generally speaking, it
7 is probably too short a period of time to shake the
8 tree effectively.

9 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: And I assume it
10 has to do with lots of things, there are seasonal,
11 especially with the business there, there are
12 probably seasonal issues, where you might be more
13 busy in certain months, as opposed to other months
14 and certain technical reasons you have.

15 So what would be generally the period
16 of time that your department would keep a temporary
17 posting up?

18 MR. TRAINOR: The normal temporary
19 posting is kept, it is basically for an eight-month
20 trial period.

21 But any time during that trial
22 period, if the negative totally outweighs, then
23 there is a change.

24 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Which was the
25 case, I believe, on the 1400 block of South Juniper

1 BILL 970594

2 Street in my district. It didn't last for eight
3 months.

4 MR. TRAINOR: I will agree with you.

5 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I want that for
6 the record.

7 So the people who are here today
8 understand that if, if there is a consensus to do a
9 temporary directional regulation, and we find in one
10 month, two months, that the condition is worse than
11 it is today, we don't necessarily have to wait for
12 the eight-month period.

13 MR. MOSS: If I may, Mr. Chairman.
14 Although eight months -- I have been involved in
15 this myself. Eight months -- I don't have the
16 expertise of Mr. Trainor or Dr. Know, as he is
17 referred to --

18 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: He likes that.
19 He will have T-shirts.

20 MR. MOSS: But certainly I am aware
21 that shorter times have been suggested than eight
22 months. I don't think in this situation that eight
23 months is required.

24 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I have another
25 question for Mr. Trainor, which is why I asked him

1 BILL 970594

2 to come back to the witness table.

3 This is a perfect example of some of
4 the issues we were addressing about a week or so
5 ago, with the Public Transportation Committee
6 hearings.

7 Is there anything on the drawing
8 board as relates to St. Vincent Street, any calming
9 effects, striping, or anything that is being
10 discussed?

11 MR. TRAINOR: There has been nothing
12 discussed as far as St. Vincent Street is
13 concerned.

14 Some of the problems that they have
15 addressed here is the first time I am hearing the
16 problems.

17 In actuality, when we received the
18 request back in January, we did not read the
19 petition. We look at the request, which is
20 basically to make the street one-way.

21 The double parking, as was mentioned,
22 is illegal. The parking of vehicles for the use of
23 the auto dealership on St. Vincent can be addressed
24 with permit parking. I am just throwing that out as
25 an example.

1 BILL 970594

2 The marking of the street, either a
3 double yellow center line and a parking lane, is
4 possible. The marking of the intersections with
5 crosswalks are possible.

6 If we do not have speed limit signs
7 within the appropriate distances, that is possible.

8 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

9 Any other questions?

10 MS. LEARY: First of all I will
11 address the speed limit sign. There is a speed
12 limit sign for 25 miles per hour at the Stop sign at
13 Loretto, which is ignored. So there is a sign
14 there.

15 And to address the woman speaking
16 against us, she does not live in our neighborhood.
17 She lives on a quiet, one-way street. So why would
18 she have a say in where we should live and how we
19 should live?

20 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: I think I asked
21 that question earlier. Thank you. And I
22 understand.

23 Understand it is not the Streets
24 Department's fault. They are not at fault because
25 people are not obeying signs. They do their job,

1 BILL 970594

2 post the signs.

3 I live along a street, there is a
4 school on the block we live. And you think the sign
5 said it is a speed zone, meaning go faster. But
6 that's just a habit that some people have. They
7 don't respect the law.

8 But I think what we are getting
9 here -- and the sponsor of the bill, I am sure, if
10 he hasn't already talked to the community people,
11 will talk to them after this hearing -- that there
12 may be some temporary solution, maybe some
13 suggestions that we can get from the Streets
14 Department and Mr. Trainor just to recognize a few
15 of them, striping and things like that, that may
16 help the situation.

17 But that will be up to the sponsor of
18 the bill to talk to the community about.

19 I thank all of you for being here and
20 thank you for your testimony.

21 MR. LEARY: I have one more
22 question. Now, as in the posting speed limit signs
23 to slow down traffic and stuff, my suggestion would
24 be, how about a possibility of speed bumps? That
25 would slow down the speed of traffic.

1 BILL 970669

2 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: They are
3 illegal. We would love it. They don't do it.

4 Let's all talk about it.

5 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: We are going to
6 move down on the list, as an accommodation to
7 Councilwoman Miller.

8 The clerk will read the title of that
9 bill.

10 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970669, An
11 Ordinance authorizing Nicholas Pinardo, owner of the
12 property located at 6224 Wayne Avenue, Philadelphia,
13 Pennsylvania, 19144, to construct and maintain a
14 one-story masonry building and an illuminated awning
15 extending over the south footway of 6224 Wayne
16 Avenue, under certain terms and conditions.

17 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Mike
18 Longshore, Streets Department, Permit Officer.

19 In reference to Bill No. 970669, An
20 Ordinance authorizing Nicholas Pinardo, owner of the
21 property located at 6224 Wayne Avenue, Philadelphia,
22 PA, 19144, to construct and maintain a one-story
23 masonry building and an illuminated awning extending
24 over the south footway of 6224 Wayne Avenue, under
25 certain terms and conditions, we at the Streets

1 BILL 970669

2 Department have been working closely with the owner,
3 Mr. Pinardo, on this project and recommend passage
4 of this bill.

5 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: State your name
6 for the record.

7 MR. NICHOLAS PINARDO: Okay.
8 Councilman, my name is Nicholas Pinardo, owner of
9 the property at 6324 Wayne Avenue.

10 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Do you have
11 anything to add to the testimony you have heard?

12 MR. PINARDO: No.

13 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Obviously you are
14 in support of the bill.

15 MR. PINAROD: Obviously.

16 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Any questions or
17 comments of this witness from the Committee?

18 Councilwoman Miller.

19 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: It is my
20 understanding that this structure has been there
21 about 30 years anyway; right?

22 MR. PINARDO: Correct.

23 COUNCILWOMAN MILLER: So we are just
24 correcting something that needs to be corrected.

25 MR. LONGSHORE: That's right. We are

1 BILLS 970595, 970596

2 just legalizing the existing conditions.

3 Is there anybody else here who wishes
4 to testify before or against this bill?

5 Thank you. Thank you for your
6 testimony.

7 The clerk will read the title of the
8 next bill.

9 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970595, An
10 Ordinance authorizing the paving of Hoffnagle
11 Street, under certain terms and conditions.

12 Anyone here who wishes to testify?

13 Bill No. 970595 is being withdrawn at
14 the request of the sponsor, Councilman Mariano.

15 I also informed that the next bill,
16 Bill No. 970596, is also being withdrawn by its
17 sponsor, Councilman Mariano.

18 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970610, An
19 Ordinance authorizing and directing the placing on
20 City Plan No. 377 of a certain right-of-way for
21 drainage purposes and water main purposes extending
22 from Stokley Street northwardly, northeastwardly and
23 northwardly to a certain right-of-way of the
24 Chestnut Hill branch of the Connecting Railway
25 Company under certain terms and conditions,

1 BILL 970610

2 including the dedication to the city free and clear
3 of all encumbrances of the bed of such
4 right-of-way.

5 MR. PAUL LONIE: Good afternoon, Mr.
6 Chairman, members of the committee. My name is Paul
7 Lonie. I represent the Streets Department. I would
8 like to give the following testimony on Bill
9 970610.

10 This is an Ordinance authorizing and
11 directing the placing on City Plan No. 377 a certain
12 right-of-way for drainage purposes and water main
13 purposes extending from Stokley Street northwardly,
14 northeastwardly and northwardly to a certain
15 right-of-way of the Chestnut Hill branch of the
16 Connecting Railway Company under certain terms and
17 conditions, including the dedication to the city
18 free and clear of all encumbrances of the bed of
19 such right-of-way being placed on the City Plan by
20 this Ordinance.

21 This is an Administration ordinance
22 requested by the Water Department to update its
23 infrastructure.

24 The purpose of this Ordinance is to
25 grant the authority to place this right-of-way on

1 BILL 970611

2 the City Plan.

3 This Ordinance is supported by the
4 Department of Streets and is recommended to your
5 Committee for favorable action.

6 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Any questions for
7 this witness from the Committee?

8 Anyone else here to wishes to testify
9 for or against the bill?

10 Thank you. The clerk will read the
11 title of the next bill.

12 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970611, An
13 Ordinance authorizing the construction of a sewer
14 and appurtenant work, required to alleviate
15 unsanitary conditions in a portion of Crestview
16 Road.

17 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Please state your
18 name for the record.

19 MR. PAUL McCLOSKEY: Mr. Chairman, my
20 name is Paul McCloskey. I am representing the Water
21 Department.

22 Regarding Bill No. 970611, entitled,
23 An Ordinance authorizing the construction of a sewer
24 in a portion of Crestview Road, introduced on
25 October 9, 1997, by Councilman Nutter, the Water

1 BILL 970611

2 Department submits the following testimony:

3 This bill authorizes the Water
4 Department to construct a sanitary sewer at
5 Crestview Road, from Henry Avenue to Lawton Street.

6 Crestview Road is a block of
7 single-family dwellings in the Andorra section of
8 the city. The block is currently serviced by
9 individual cesspools for each property. These have
10 outlived their usefulness and require a total
11 replacement.

12 The malfunction of the septic systems
13 have created an unsanitary condition. In light of
14 the fact that the residents currently have public
15 water, they have requested public sewers.

16 An assessment will be levied against
17 the owners in order to absorb a portion of the costs
18 as the residents are required to connect to the new
19 sewer at their cost, in accordance with the
20 Philadelphia Code.

21 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you for your
22 testimony.

23 Any questions for this witness from
24 the Committee?

25 Anyone else here who wishes to

1 BILL 970611

2 testify for or against the bill?

3 Thank you.

4 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Mr. Chairman, no
5 questions.

6 Just for the record, Mr. Chairman,
7 this bill, and I think there is another bill --

8 THE CLERK: The next one.

9 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: The next one.

10 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: -- all come out
11 of a number of discussions between myself and the
12 Water Department and the constituents.

13 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Excuse me. Would
14 you hold the conversations down in the back, please.

15 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you,
16 Chairman.

17 These bills come as a result of a
18 number of conversations of what I would categorize
19 as fairly serious public policy matter.

20 In various parts of the city,
21 Mr. Chairman, we still do not have sanitary sewer
22 systems in place.

23 And I think the Water Department is
24 trying, within reason and within budget, to move
25 toward a day when just about everyone is connected

1 BILL 970612

2 to the city sewer system.

3 We still have these septic tanks in
4 various places of the city. Many of them are old,
5 many of them are failing, and they do present the
6 potential of a serious health hazard.

7 So I believe the testimony was just
8 on the Crestview bill. And coming up, I believe,
9 will be Manatawna Street. And my remarks would be
10 the same for that one.

11 And I ask that the Committee
12 expeditiously take action on both of those bills.
13 And I know I have a couple of others coming up.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

16 Any other questions?

17 Anyone else here who wishes to
18 testify for or against the bill.

19 The clerk will read the title of the
20 next bill.

21 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970612, An
22 Ordinance authorizing the construction of a sewer
23 and appurtenant work, required to alleviate
24 unsanitary conditions in a portion of Manatawna
25 Avenue.

1 BILL 970612

2 MR. PAUL McCLOSKEY: Yes, Mr.
3 Chairman.

4 Again, my name is Paul McCloskey. I
5 am here representing the Water Department.

6 As Councilman Nutter had pointed out,
7 this bill is the exact same conditions as the
8 previous bill. The only difference is location.

9 It is located in Manatawna Avenue,
10 from Likens to Wissahickon Road. The sewer systems
11 are failing, it has become a public health hazard,
12 and it would be required to replace the sewers.

13 Again, the residents will be assessed
14 to cover a portion of the cost. And, again, they
15 are required to connect to the sewers at their
16 cost.

17 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

18 Any questions of this witness from
19 the Committee?

20 Anyone else here that wishes to
21 testify for or against the bill?

22 Thank you.

23 The the clerk will please read the
24 title of the next bill.

25 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970671, An

1 BILL 970671

2 Ordinance authorizing Anthony Amen, owner of the
3 property located at 6701 Haverford Avenue, to
4 construct and maintain various encroachments on and
5 over the west footway of 67th Street adjacent to the
6 property 6701 Haverford Avenue, including a masonry
7 coping wall, a wooden vestibule, a wooden deck, and
8 a one-story brick addition, all under certain terms
9 and conditions.

10 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE: Chairman
11 DiCicco, Mike Longshore, Streets Department, Permit
12 Officer.

13 In reference to Bill No. 970671,
14 authorizing Anthony Amen, owner of the property
15 located at 6701 Haverford Avenue, to construct and
16 maintain various encroachments on and over the west
17 footway of 67th Street adjacent to the property at
18 6701 Haverford Avenue, which includes a masonry
19 coping wall, a wooden vestibule, a wooden deck, and
20 a one-story brick addition, the Streets Department
21 has been working closely which with Mr. Amen on this
22 project and recommends passage of this bill.

23 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

24 Any questions for this witness from
25 the Committee?

1 BILL 970672

2 Anyone else here who wishes to
3 testify for or against the bill?

4 Thank you.

5 Bill No. 970672, authorizing Julian
6 Nix, owner of the property located at 5735 Race
7 Street, to construct and maintain a two-story
8 masonry addition encroaching onto the north footway
9 of Race Street and a two-story masonry addition
10 encroaching a maximum of 5 feet onto the west
11 footway of Cecil Street, each adjacent to the
12 property 5735 Race Street, all under certain terms
13 and conditions.

14 MR. MICHAEL LONGSHORE:
15 Again, chairman DiCicco, Mike Longshore, Streets
16 Department, Permit Officer.

17 In reference to Bill No. 970672, an
18 Ordinance authorizing Julian Nix, owner of the
19 property located at 5735 Race Street, to construct
20 and maintain a two-story masonry addition
21 encroaching onto the north footway of Race Street,
22 also a two-story masonry addition encroaching a
23 maximum of 5 feet onto the west footway of Cecil
24 Street, each adjacent to the property known as 5735
25 Race, we at the Streets Department have been working

1 BILL 970672

2 closely with the owner of this property, Mr. Nix,
3 and recommend passage of this bill.

4 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you.

5 Sir, do you wish to testify?

6 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Mr. Chairman.

7 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Councilman
8 Nutter.

9 COUNCILMAN NUTTER: Thank you. Thank
10 you, Mr. Chairman.

11 Mr. Chairman, my constituent, Mr. Nix
12 is here. He came down and wanted to watch the
13 proceedings. And he just wanted to have the
14 opportunity to thank the committee for their review
15 of the bill.

16 I am supporting his need to do this,
17 across the street from the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
18 on Race Street, as well as Mr. Amen's bill. Good
19 constituents up in the 34th Ward.

20 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 MR. JULIAN NIX: I would like to
22 thank the committee, especially Michael Nutter, and
23 the Streets Department for working with me.

24 I thank everyone that's here, and I
25 really appreciate it.

1 BILL 970673

2 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Thank you for
3 coming down and seeing your government at work.

4 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, the
5 Mayor is waiting for us to go downstairs.

6 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: One more bill.

7 THE CLERK: Bill No. 970673, an
8 Ordinance establishing a parking regulation on Broad
9 Street, from Snyder Avenue to McKean Street, east
10 side.

11 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Anyone here who
12 wishes to testify for or against the bill?

13 Any questions for the sponsor of the
14 bill? Thank you.

15 This concludes the public hearing.

16 (Public Hearing adjourned.)

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2 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
3 PUBLIC MEETING
4 of the
5 COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES
6 - - -
7 Thursday, November 20, 1997
8 - - -
9 Public Meeting conducted by the Committee
10 on Streets and Services, held in Room 400, City
11 Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the above date,
12 to consider action on the following:
13 BILLS 970246, 970552, 970583, 970610,
14 970611, 970612, 970669, 970671, 970672, 970673
970594
15 - - -
16 PRESENT:
17 COUNCILMAN FRANK DiCICCO, Chair
COUNCILMAN DAVID COHEN, Vice Chair
18
COUNCILMAN RICHARD T. MARIANO
19 COUNCILWOMAN DONNA REED MILLER
COUNCILMAN ANGEL L. ORTIZ
20 COUNCILMAN MICHAEL A. NUTTER
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1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: We will now move
3 into the Public Meeting.

4 The Chair recognizes Councilman Ortiz
5 for amendments on Bill No. 970246.

6 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
7 move that the amendments of Bill No. 970246 be moved
8 and approved as stated.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Second by
11 Councilman Mariano.

12 All in favor of the motion to amend
13 signify by saying aye.

14 Opposed.

15 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
16 move that Bill 970246, as amended, be approved and
17 submitted to Council with a suspension of the
18 Rules.

19 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: A motion has been
20 made.

21 (Duly seconded.)

22 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Second by
23 Councilwoman Miller.

24 All those in favor signify by saying
25 aye.

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 Nay.

3 The bill is approved.

4 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Can I continue?

5 Mr. Chairman, I move that Bill No.

6 970552 be moved out of Committee with a favorable

7 recommendation and a request for a suspension of the

8 Rules so that it may be heard in the next session of

9 City Council.

10 (Duly seconded.)

11 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Second by

12 Councilman Mariano.

13 It has been properly moved and

14 seconded that Bill No. 970552 be reported out of

15 committee with a favorable recommendation.

16 All those in favor of the bill

17 signify by saying aye.

18 Nay.

19 The bill is approved.

20 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I

21 move that Bill 970583 be moved out of Committee with

22 a favorable recommendation and a request for a

23 suspension of the Rules, so as to be read in the

24 next session of City Council.

25 (Duly seconded.)

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: The bill has been
3 moved and properly seconded.

4 All those in favor signify by saying
5 aye.

6 Opposed.

7 Bill No. 970583 is approved.

8 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
9 move that Bill 970610 be moved out of committee with
10 a favorable recommendation and a request that the
11 Rules of Council be suspended as to be considered in
12 the next session of City Council.

13 (Duly seconded.)

14 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: It has been
15 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 970610 be
16 voted out of committee with a favorable
17 recommendation.

18 All those in favor signify by saying
19 aye.

20 Opposed.

21 The bill is approved.

22 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
23 move that Bill 970611 be moved out of committee with
24 a favorable recommendation and a request that the
25 Rules of Council be suspended as to be read in the

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 next session of City Council.

3 (Duly seconded.)

4 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Properly moved and
5 seconded that Bill No. 970611 be reported out of
6 committee with a favorable recommendation.

7 All those in favor let it be known by
8 saying aye.

9 Opposed.

10 The bill is approved.

11 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
12 moved that Bill 970612 be moved out of committee
13 with a favorable recommendation and a request that
14 the Rules of Council be suspended so as to permit
15 reading at the next session of City Council.

16 (Duly seconded.)

17 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: It has been
18 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 970612 be
19 reported out of committee with a favorable
20 recommendation.

21 All those in favor signify by saying
22 aye.

23 Nay.

24 The bill is approved.

25 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 move that Bill 970669 be moved out of committee with
3 a favorable recommendation and a request that the
4 Rules of Council be suspended so as to be considered
5 at the next session of City Council.

6 (Duly seconded.)

7 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: It has been
8 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 970669 be
9 reported out of committee with a favorable
10 recommendation.

11 All those in favor signify by saying
12 aye.

13 Nay.

14 The bill is approved.

15 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
16 move that Bill 970671 be moved out of the committee
17 with a favorable recommendation and a request that
18 the Rules of Council be suspended so as to be
19 considered at the next session of City Council.

20 (Duly seconded.)

21 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Properly moved and
22 seconded that Bill No. 970671 be reported out of
23 committee with a favorable recommendation.

24 All those in favor signify by saying
25 aye.

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 Nay.

3 The bill is approved.

4 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Mr. Chairman, I
5 move that Bill 970672 be moved out of committee with
6 a favorable recommendation and a request that the
7 Rules of Council be suspended so as to be considered
8 at the next session of City Council.

9 (Duly seconded.)

10 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: It has been
11 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 970672 be
12 reported out of committee with a favorable
13 recommendation.

14 All those in favor signify by saying
15 aye.

16 Nay.

17 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: I am coming into
18 the stretch.

19 Bill 970673 -- we will get to the
20 wire -- we move it out of committee with a favorable
21 recommendation and a request that the Rules of
22 Council be suspended so as to be considered at the
23 next session of City Council.

24 (Duly seconded.)

25 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: It has been

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 properly moved and seconded that Bill No. 970673 be
3 reported out of committee with a favorable
4 recommendation.

5 All those in favor signify by saying
6 aye.

7 Nay.

8 The bill is approved.

9 COUNCILMAN COHEN: Mr. Chairman,
10 there are people here with respect to 970594.

11 Can you state what the position of
12 the committee is on that?

13 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: Councilman
14 Mariano.

15 COUNCILMAN COHEN: There are folks
16 here who are interested in whatever action Council
17 may take. 970594.

18 COUNCILMAN MARIANO: Table it. We
19 need no action for today.

20 COUNCILMAN ORTIZ: Just tabled.

21 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: All right.

22 Bill No. 970594 is being tabled at
23 the request of the sponsor, Councilman Mariano.

24 CHAIRMAN DiCICCO: This concludes the
25 Public Meeting of the Committee on Streets and

1 PUBLIC MEETING

2 Services.

3 Thank you for attending and your

4 interest here.

5 (Public Meeting adjourned at 4:00

6 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing
proceedings of the Council of the City of
Philadelphia of Thursday, November 20, 1997, were
reported fully and accurately by me, and that this
is a correct transcript of same.

RE: COMMITTEE ON STREETS AND SERVICES

DEBRA A. WHITEHEAD, RPR