



Fall 2001

Mr. Philip C. Evenson, Executive Director
Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
916 N. East Avenue
P.O. Box 1607
Waukesha, WI 53187-1607

Dear Mr. Evenson:

It has come to the attention of the Story Hill Neighborhood Association that the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) is once again floating the idea of expanding the I-94 East/West freeway corridor through Milwaukee and Waukesha counties. When this proposal was being debated in the mid-1990s, the Story Hill Board strongly opposed such a plan, and we wish to go on record as opposing any new expansion plans now.

We are very concerned about the potential negative impact on our neighborhood should a wider freeway or double-deck option be implemented. Each of Story Hill's local and state elected officials has come out in opposition to any new expansion plans, and we wish to share our concerns as well, including:

- The removal of homes and businesses from our thriving neighborhood, forcing families and entrepreneurs to move and take property off the tax roles;
- An increase in air, noise and light pollution – all threats to our environment;
- The disruption and removal of graves from nearby cemeteries, such as Wood National, Anshai Lebowitz, Spring Hill and Calvary cemeteries; and
- A “quick fix” that may or may not address the increase in vehicular traffic now, but most certainly will only add to the problem in the long run.

We hope that this new expansion idea was a “trial balloon” that has since gone flat. However, in the event that SEWRPC will move forward with expansion designs, we respectfully request that any plans or detailed information for the freeway be provided to our association for review and comment. Further, we ask SEWRPC to study at the outset any and all alternatives to freeway expansion, in an honest effort to identify a transportation plan that takes into account the Story Hill neighborhood's concerns as part of a regional, long-term solution to our traffic challenges.

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Thank you for this opportunity to inform you of our position. Should you have any questions or concerns, or wish to arrange a meeting to discuss plans, please feel free to contact me at 414.302.9591 (h) or 414.297.1331 (w). We look forward to working with and hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,



Sandra Rusch Walton, President
Story Hill Neighborhood Board of Directors
317 N. 50th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53208

Cc: Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Ald. Michael Murphy
County Supervisor Lynne DeBruin
State Rep. Peter Bock
State Sen. Brian Burke
Mayor John O. Norquist
County Executive F. Thomas Ament
Gov. Scott McCallum