

March 12, 2002

To the Honorable Common Council
Public Improvements Committee
City of Milwaukee

Dear Committee Members:

Attached is File No. 010618, being a substitute resolution to vacate a portion of the Southerly East-West alley in the block bounded by South Howell Avenue, South Kinnickinnic Avenue, East Lincoln Avenue and East Smith Street, in the 14th Aldermanic District. This vacation was requested by the abutting owner, Kelly McCormack to consolidate her land.

The Department of Public Works Coordinated Report contains no stated objections to the proposed vacation. The Commissioner of Public Works determined that no fees will be incurred from the proposed alley vacation.

On February 18, 2002, a public hearing was scheduled at City Plan Commission. At that time, several neighbors and businesses located on South Kinnickinnic Avenue and South Howell Avenue registered against the alley vacation claiming that the alley is frequently used by neighbors, delivery trucks and sanitation vehicles and that it is difficult to turn at the apex where the 2 north-south alleys meet. At that time, the City Plan Commission recommended that the public hearing be rescheduled and the Department of Public Works do additional research regarding the turning movement at the juncture of the two, north-south alleys and traffic congestion at the alley entrance to South Kinnickinnic Avenue.

On March 11, 2002, the public hearing was reconvened. The Department of Public Works indicated that sanitation vehicles back in and out of this alley as they do without problems in many areas of the city. The department also recommended that a portion of the petitioner's land at the apex of the triangle be dedicated and improved for alley purposes to provide an improved turning radius. This improvement would allow vehicles to exist the alley without backing up. They also determined that the WEPCO pole will need to be relocated. At this time, Public Works is still determining the costs of paving and relocating the pole. The petitioner has agreed to dedicating land depending on the final costs. Several neighbors still objected to the vacation regardless that the dedication would provide easier movement.

Since several neighbors objected to the proposed alley vacation, the City Plan Commission at its regular meeting on March 11, 2002 had equal votes for and against so this resolution and therefore recommended the resolution proceed to committee without a recommendation.

Sincerely,

Julie A. Penman
Executive Secretary
City Plan Commission of Milwaukee

Attachment
cc: Ald. Brier
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