



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

March 5, 2014

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager *GT*

SUBJECT: Discuss/consider petition from residents of Hickory Road regarding the paving of their road

RECOMMENDATION

Receive comments from the residents and continue the matter to the April Council meeting to be considered as part of the overall Pavement Management Plan for the Town.

DISCUSSION

The residents of Hickory Road have submitted a petition requesting the Council to make their road the top priority for road improvements planned by the Town. Staff is recommending that the Council defer making a decision until it has an opportunity to consider the pavement management plan (Plan) for the entire Town.

As the Plan provides a "condition" rating for every street in Town, the Council will be able to consider the condition of Hickory Road in comparison to all the other roads. The Plan will be brought to the Council for consideration at its April meeting. At that meeting, staff will also present the Council with a set of policies governing road improvements and amount available every year for road improvements.

ATTACHMENTS

Petition from Hickory Road residents

**FAIRFAX TOWN COUNCIL
JANUARY 2014**

PETITION FROM RESIDENTS OF HICKORY ROAD

The following residents of Hickory Road hereby petition the Town Council to place the paving of Hickory Road in number one priority position of the paving projects planned by the Town of Fairfax.

Factors supporting this prioritization include the following:

1. From all records it appears that Hickory Road was last paved when President Eisenhower was still in his first term according to long time resident Elvira Schriebman.
2. The road is in deplorable condition, which creates a public safety problem and also creates an eyesore for the entire Hickory Road community. This condition lowers property values for all homeowners on the Road. Paving, surveying and engineering of the road bed is necessary.
3. According to Greg Shaw, a licensed contractor, who lives at 69 Hickory, the road has been silting out for years. Photographic evidence shows that the old creek bed is still active under the road. The PG & E gas line runs under the road where the creek breaks through the surface and gushes water and silt with every rain. **[ATTACHMENT 1]** This seriously damages the road bed. Hickory Road is essentially a creek with all runoff coming down onto the road. **[ATTACHMENT 2]**
4. Within the past three years two large trees, which were encircled by road pavement, fell endangering life and causing substantial property damage. In June 2012 a large laurel fell across the road at 71 Hickory. The Town assumed no liability. **[ATTACHMENT 3]** The valley oak in front of 59 Hickory which fell across the road destroying property at 58 & 56 Hickory Road. The destruction was pictured in the New York Times in December 2012. **[ATTACHMENT 4]** The Town assumed no liability. **[ATTACHMENT 5]** The valley oak was surrounded by pavement. **[ATTACHMENT 6]** There has been no Town action to cover up the major depressions left by the tree stumps. The one hole in front of 58 Hickory is currently a prominent safety hazard for traffic. **[ATTACHMENT 7]**

5. Drainage at the lower, flat area of Hickory Road is poor and this has caused damage to the road surface over the years. Patching has come loose and created an uneven surface. Silt and gravel runoff accumulate in this area causing flooding. [ATTACHMENT 8] Hickory Road is essentially an asphalt creek. Historically, Hickory was built over creek drainage. [ATTACHMENT 9]

6. Poor maintenance of the road surface is a public safety problem because of inadequate access for fire fighters. Valley Road, which backs up behind 58 Hickory Road, is very narrow and difficult to maneuver for fire trucks. This was the case in 2009 and 2010 when three homes burned on Valley Road. If climate conditions would have been different, the entire area would have gone up in flames, leaving Hickory Road as the primary access for fire suppression. [ATTACHMENTS 10 & 11]

7. Hickory Road is in close proximity to downtown Fairfax and runs along Doc Edgar Park. During festivals Hickory Road is a favorite venue for parking and then a walk to downtown. This increases road traffic. The Park is also used as a staging area for Town construction projects, which increases parking and congestion on Hickory. Usage of Hickory Road is inordinately heavy for the number of residents.

8. There are 26 homes on Hickory Road with approximately 50 vehicles entering and departing on a daily basis creating a substantial amount of traffic.

9. Hickory Road has curbs up to 58 Hickory with a well defined road bed and is listed as Zone One on assessor maps. The upper reaches are listed as Zone 3 and Zone 4.

Point of contact for this Petition is Gerry Pelletier, 45 Hickory Road. Phone 456-0974.
pelletgerry@yahoo.com.

SIGNATURES ARE ENCLOSED

MEMO TO: Fairfax Town Council
RE: Hickory Road Paving Petition
FROM: Michael Bauernfeind
DATE: 25 February 2014

At the direction of the Town Clerk, Ms. Michelle Gardner, I am listing the owners on Hickory Road who have signed the Hickory Road Paving Petition. There are a total of 26 homes. In most cases wife and husband have signed. Only one owner is listed below, however for convenience:

114 Brian Carr
105 John Fitzpatrick
102 Patty Branton
100 Victor Pizzaro
86 Stewart Cubley
80 Carlos Morales
71 Harvey Grasso
69 Greg Shaw
63 Cliff Koch
61 Susan Ecke, Trustee
60 John Barrett
58 Laura Bauernfeind
57 Patrick Ryan
56 Victor Herrmann
55 Joella James
52 Elvira Schriebman
48 Genevieve Sollecito
45 Gerry Pelletier
42 George Oliver
33 Sandy Campodonica
24 Charles Lamont
1 Michelle Stewart

Three owners have not signed. These include Larry Bragman, Anne LaMott and Julia Morrison. These owners were either not available during the petition drive or could not politically support the petition.