

# PRELIMINARY REPORT

## G: White Oak Drive

**APPLICANT:** Lisa Cochran

**JURISDICTION:** COH

**PRECINCT:** Harris County Pct. 1

**COUNCIL DISTRICT:** H

### **PROPOSAL:**

Lisa Cochran is requesting the reclassification of Major Collector White Oak Drive, from Studewood Street to Usener Road in the Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP).

### **APPLICANT'S JUSTIFICATION and HISTORY:**

The applicant is requesting to reclassify White Oak Drive from a Major Collector to a Minor Collector. The request is solely for a residential segment of White Oak Drive. The applicant is proposing this amendment to provide safer solutions to the speeding and reckless driving in the area. The applicant states that between 2014 and 2015, sections of Pecore and Watson Streets were reclassified from Major Collectors to Minor Collectors for the same reason. Accordingly, the applicant is seeking to do the same for White Oak Drive in this year's MTFP amendment process. Should the reclassification request be approved, the applicant will request to add speed bumps along the corridor to provide a safer roadway for all residents, pedestrians, and cyclists utilizing the 3-block section of White Oak Drive.

The applicant states that the 0.33-mile, "walking cane-shaped section, stems from the intersection at White Oak Drive and Usener Street and extends to the intersection of White Oak Drive and Studewood Street. The applicant states further that the 3-block stretch is densely populated and consists of residential homes and garage apartments. Moreover, the applicant states that the residential homes have single-wide driveways, so cars are constantly parked along both sides of the street. The applicant maintains that having the cars along the street reduces the amount of space needed to maneuver safely.

The applicant contends that she has witnessed consistent violations of the posted stop signs and posted speed limit at the White Oak Drive and Usener Street intersections (repeatedly at White Oak Drive). The applicant states further that recently, she has witnessed two significant incidents, one of which included a head-on collision where a driver was traveling too fast and veered, causing four airbags to deploy between two cars. The applicant states that the other incident involved the next-door neighbor's home. The curb, fence, front yard, and home were damaged when a car careened off the road due to excessive speeding around the curve. The applicant contends that fortunately, no one was seriously injured in the afore-mentioned incidents. However, the applicant maintains that there have been countless near misses both witnessed and encountered.

The applicant states that the incidents that were narrowly avoided were mostly caused by speeding vehicles and drivers swerving to miss other vehicles going into, coming out of a driveway, or trying to avoid a parked car on the street.

Additionally, the applicant states that many of the streets surrounding this section of White Oak Drive have speed bumps already installed:

- Usener Street from White Oak Drive to Studewood Street

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- Michaux Street from White Oak Drive to Pecore Street
- Pecore Street from Michaux Street to North Main Street
- Watson Street from Usener Street to Pecore Street

Finally, the applicant states that the reclassification of the corridor would have little to no impact on the overall transportation network.

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