Bayview Says, "No Fir Avenue Thoroughfare!"

editorial by Mike Lee

Lakes Highway District Position:

"Lakes Highway District sees this as an improvement for the benefit of the public and for access by emergency services. While existing residents to the south of the proposed subdivision expressed views that the extension of N. Fir Avenue will be an intrusion and an increase in traffic for their neighborhood, it is far more likely to be an improvement for all and the impact from 24 new homesites negligible per the traffic analysis prepared by the Applicant's consultant."

Our Position:

We believe Lakes Highway District (LHD) has the best interests of our community at heart and we appreciate their care for our streets.

In fact, it would be convenient to have a Fir Avenue thoroughfare. So convenient that we fear the negative impacts on our neighborhoods have not been addressed by the developer's traffic estimates.

Fir Avenue and 5th Street, that will also be impacted, both include: bottlenecks, blind spots, uncontrolled intersections, no sidewalks or even shoulders, are extremely narrow and have numerous traffic safety issues such as pedestrian safety, children playing in the street, animals and parked cars to name a few.

Any additional traffic will result in an increasingly hazardous situation that may not have been apparent to those reviewing the developer's traffic study. Ultimately this could lead to conflicts and injury accidents. Responsibility will rest upon the Lakes Highway District and require extensive and expensive upgrades.

Looking to the future, it is easy to imagine Fir Avenue becoming the "go to" route to avoid congestion during our increasingly busy summer season. **We do not want increased traffic through our neighborhoods!**

During the summer many of our streets become one lane due to parking issues. Any increase in traffic represents a hazardous liability to us all.

Even if Lakes Highway District (LHD) did upgrade our streets to residential standards, "We don't want a thoroughfare through our neighborhoods!" We like our narrow streets that work to keep traffic slow.

The only thing we need are some 15 MPH and DEAD END signs. All "fixing" our streets would do is allow people to drive faster and force taxpayers to subsidize the impacts of this development.



Single Width Driveway

As you can see, Fir Avenue compared to a single width driveway is barely wide enough for two cars to pass one another. This is a good thing, it slows down traffic. The addition of a pedestrian only shoulder would be nice but LHD needs to engage our community in any planning process that impacts our neighborhood streets.

Institute of Transportation Engineers Guidelines for Subdivision Streets:

- Streets should minimize traffic through neighborhoods.
- Safety for vehicles and pedestrian traffic is the priority.
- Don't rely on traffic regulations for safely.
- The local street should be designed for a low volume of traffic.
- Local streets should be designed to discourage excessive speeds.
- Pedestrian-vehicular conflict points should be minimized.
- There should be a minimum number of intersections.

Lakestone Traffic Study is Flawed and Incomplete

The study estimates **236 Daily Trips** leaving the Development! They claim 85% of the weekday traffic will use Perimeter Rd and the remaining 15% will use Fir Avenue.

- We believe the opposite to be true unless the proposed Fir Avenue thoroughfare is gated.
- No serious study was done addressing the cross town traffic of the existing 100 homes.
- We request a full Traffic Impact Study that our community deserves.

The Fir Avenue route is not required by law. So the solution is easy, connect Fir Avenue to the development but install a breakaway emergency gate at Schaeffer Street. This will allow access for pedestrians and bicycle traffic and a route in case of emergency while not endangering and disrupting our neighborhoods.

It is up to us to persuade the County Commissioners to reconsider. If you have **not** signed the petition, please do so: Click for petition Anyone can sign.

Make your voices heard. Please support your community by attending the meeting in person or logging on to Zoom. Your presence matters! Mark your calendar for March 30, Thursday, 6 p.m. The zoom link will be made public at a later date.

Side By Side Sisters

by Sheryl Puckett

Jazzy Janitorial is a local cleaning business owned by Jasmine and Kandace Roberson. This pair of sisters moved to Bayview area five and half years ago. They've been in the Idaho Panhandle since 2009 and fell in-love with the area during a trip to Farragut State Park. And that's when they discovered Bayview.

Jasmine has worked in cleaning and janitorial services since starting out. Kandace has worked in many fields with



worked in many fields with cleaning being the prominent and most enjoyed. "We love helping others enjoy their homes without clients stressing to have to do the

cleaning themselves." With six children between them they understand time management, life's messiness and the challenges of the tedious task cleaning can be.

You might know Kandice from JD's Pub & Grill where she worked two years as a cook and bartender. Prior to this she cooked at the Captain's Wheel for three years.

The sisters started **Jazzy Janitorial** after years of side cleaning jobs helping others. Jasmine, from a young age has always had a desire to "tidy up". For Kandace, she just has a great feeling after performing a cleaning job. "I love to give and share that feeling with others," says Kandace.

"Some people we help struggle to complete cleaning tasks on their own and others just want to have some help without the detail work. We do it all. Construction jobs, vacation rentals, one time cleaning jobs, move in/move outs, real estate prep to sell, and regular cleans." They've cleaned banks, restaurants, grocery stores, etc.

The girls are licensed and insured and have great references. They proudly use non toxic, pet friendly cleaners. Minimal moisture on floors with a steam mop being their preferred trade tool that they use. "Being moms and pet moms ourselves makes us conscientious of harmful chemicals."

The girls strive to be very competitive when it comes to charging for a job. "We want to be available for everyone to afford our services. We're a team so you get both of us on a job. We try to be as flexible as possible too."

"Our goal is to help others, not monopolize the market. The personal interactions with our customers, along with the love of working for ourselves is invaluable for us."

Bayview customer, Micheal Hess, posted this on the girl's Facebook page: "These ladies go the extra mile for sure. Show up on time and work till the job is perfect. Professional services with professional billing!"

"We look forward to meeting and working with more amazing people, and the more local they are the better."

You can email Jazzy Janitorial <u>JazzyJanitorialLLC@gmail.com</u> or call 208-262-6506

Guardian Angels

You would think that Bestowing the Basics has their plate full with all that they have going on, but you would be wrong. Their new program called, Young Hearts Program, led by Meghan Simmons, fits in perfectly with their main objective of reinforcing and building a strong sense of community.



Meghan's passion for senior wellness began at a young age when she lived with her grandparents. She often found herself surrounded by her grandparent's senior friends and quickly learned the importance of community, especially in the golden years.

It was after Meghan's grandparents passed, she began volunteering at her local senior center in hopes of honoring their memory. That position gave her five years of senior wellness experience where she assisted with the popular Meals on Wheels program, serving over five hundred seniors a day.

Meghan's goal for the **Bestowing the Basics Young Hearts Program** is to share her grandparent's heart
with the community and continue to serve with
compassion, love and respect.

What is the **Young Hearts Program**? It includes the following:

At-Home Deliveries

On Mondays, we will make pre-scheduled deliveries to your front door. Including basic needs, food, hygiene, household and specialty items. Weather permitting.

At-Home Social Hours

On Mondays, we are available for pre-scheduled 30-minute increments to visit, socialize, play games, etc. We cannot provide caregiving services.

Birthday Recognition

For birthdays and major holidays, we want to celebrate our seniors by delivering a sweet treat and a card. Goodies will be delivered the Monday prior to the event.

Future Events and Services: Drive-Thru Meal Distribution and Local Field Trips

According to Meghan, "We are currently working on expanding and offering more events catered to celebrating the seniors in our community. As we are still new and constantly learning, this may take some time."

Bestowing the Basics founder, Corilynne Smith, believes this program fulfills the goals that she started out with which are: walking in love, serving in sincerity, exemplifying heart, humility, and humanity.

Meghan adds, "Thank you for your patience and understanding, and we look forward to all the exciting things to come."

To stay up to date with the latest news, you can follow Bestowing the Basics on Instagram or Facebook. Or check out their website www.bestowingthebasics.org.