

October 1, 2001

Dear Neighbor,

I would like to respond to the letter issued by Drew Hartzell on September 16, 2001. I take issue with his invitation to open the alley to the neighborhood. It is my understanding that this is a private alley and I would appreciate that this be recognized and respected and its use be limited to those who homes about this drive.

One should only count the number of homes on the three streets affected and multiply by two, the average number of cars per American household, to begin to get a sense of the kind of traffic that is possible on this alley. The Hartzells, and most of those living on the perpendicular alley, have very little idea of the volume of traffic that we were receiving on this cut through prior to our posting of the private road signs. However, the newfound quiet and safety that our family has enjoyed since the signs were installed is a pleasure I do not want to relinquish.

Those of us living on Western Ave. form the fortress that protects the quiet that most of the rest of neighborhood enjoys. While we can't do much about the traffic on our southern border we can do something about it on the north. These new signs are our first attempt to insure a quiet and safety in our backyards. It is a pleasure to be able to back out of my driveway without having to wait for traffic on the alley. It is a pleasure to sit in my backyard and not have a stream of traffic racing a few feet behind me. It gives me a measure of comfort to know that those using the alley are immediate neighbors and they are more likely to be aware of the children in the area.

I think it is a very unfortunate that the alley was built in the first place and if I could go back in time I would certainly develop this area without it. But, it was never the

thoroughfare that is today until the light at Parkwood was installed. If the residents of our neighborhood have issues concerning Western Ave. then they need to take them up with the proper authorities. If a light is needed at our corner, talk to those in charge. However, my driveway, and that is how I see the alley, is not their answer.

In closing, the alley is a private roadway for the use of those with homes that border it. I think that if we are to protect the neighborhood and keep it as residential as possible, it would be wise for all concerned to resist making those of us who live on Western Ave. an island surrounded by traffic both front and back. If that entails a little extra effort from those who are peripheral neighbors I am sorry, but so be it.

Sincerely,

Martha and Steve Harausz