

Willoughby • Ward 2 Newsletter



Volume 2, September 2019

Councilman: Ken Kary

Ward 2 News

Ward 2 News & Citywide News



WHAT HAVE I DONE OVER THE PAST 18 MONTHS, AS YOUR COUNCILMAN

Below is a small sampling of the hundreds of letters that I have received since being sworn in as the Councilman for Ward 2. I hope that they show you a sampling of the items that I deal with on a daily basis. ENJOY.

Names were omitted from the sender

“For your next issue, I would love to ask a question about city regulations regarding neighbors' dogs off-leash coming onto your property, and also habitual barking (especially at early morning hours). It would be great if you could outline the rules in Willoughby, and also the best way to handle it when you think your neighbor is breaking them and asking them nicely to be more considerate hasn't helped.”

C.O. 505 Animals and Fowl. See 505.01(b) Dangerous, Nuisance and Vicious Dogs; Dogs and Other Animals Running at Large, 505.08 Nuisance Conditions Prohibited and 505.09 Barking or Howling Dogs. The Police Department enforces these ordinances.

ACCOMPLISHED



“Councilman Kary:

Here is the quick and dirty fix for Laketran service on Lost Nation road. A change in route for Fixed Route 3 as follows. (please open the attachment) A detour along Reynolds road that would go down Hodgson road to Lost Nation road and continue back to Reynolds road at Adkins road. In my opinion this slight but bold modification in the Fixed Route 3 is probably the most realistic without any major revamping of multiple existing commuting routes.

The existing route has just enough time buffer but may need a little more which can be achieved with the elimination of one of the two eastern terminus stop locations either Great Lakes Mall or Lakeland College There are currently 3 routes that overlap and duplicate service between the college and the mall. This change in route would not eliminate service to either location for route 3 but would require a transfer to one of the other two routes providing service to these stops. The other possible problem is the lack of infrastructure on Lost Nation road. A traffic light may be needed at Hodgson and Lost Nation as a way to allow riders to safely cross Lost Nation and safer for busses turning left onto Lost Nation from Hodgson. I believe we have an immediate great opportunity to expand service in Ward 2 of Willoughby. This is much more than being about saving money for Laketran. It is about the spirit of cooperation and walking the talk for both Laketran and Willoughby.

I experience something at the Council meeting last evening that was very refreshing and new. As you continued to speak to council about this topic I could hear the proverbial click of the “idea light bulb” chain in the minds of most of the people in the room. This was not only a great idea but it was council's ideas. The legislator now has ownership of a positive and much needed project. No longer a rubber stamp for the administration. I personally have never seen that much collective enthusiasm in the room prior to last evening.

Another Job well done. Thank you Councilman.”

ACCOMPLISHED, GOING INTO EFFECT JANUARY 2020

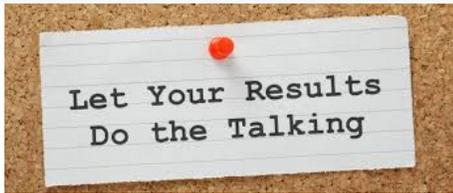
We had a problem with the mailboxes in the Fairway Glenn Development.

“Hi Councilman Kary. I just called the post office to get in touch with the Postmaster, but she is out until Monday. When speaking with the representative, she knew of the situation and shared that they are not delivering our mail per the Postmaster's instructions. She went on to say that residents can pick up their mail at the post office as you mentioned. We will reach out to the Postmaster again on Monday to understand why the mail isn't being delivered and how to rectify the situation. I will update you after the call.”

MAILBOXES MOVED, no need to go to the Post Office, ACCOMPLISHED



Ward 2 News



City Ordinance Violations:

To date, I have received a little over 100 letters that were sent out to residents to ask for their cooperation in addressing issues with violations of City Ordinances. Most of these were initiated by residents living in the same neighborhood that want to help keep the properties looking "good." This is all about keeping property values up. Several also went to property owners who are renting, and need to take care of those properties.

ACCOMPLISHED

"When you start your term, please provide us more frequent and productive Ward 2 meetings."

A typical response to the meetings I have held to date.

"My compliments to you and the other city officials who presented at Monday's meeting. My wife and I found the meeting to be informative and "open" to input. Thank you for your efforts, and I welcome you as our new Council Representative."

ACCOMPLISHED

"A question I posted for answer Monday (which may have been confusing) dealt with the new Ryan Homes development on Lost Nation; Fairway Glenn. The southwest corner of that improved area has a street, which abruptly ends, at what appears to be the border between the development and Lost Nation Golf Course. Question: Are we going to lose golf course land to the Ryan development as it expands? I heard reference at the meeting to a possible 4 phases in that development. I would like to know the plans in that regard."

Development Plans were "physically shared" with the residents to dispel this early rumor!

ACCOMPLISHED

Ward 2 News & Citywide News

"Since then I attended your first Ward 2 meeting. I bought up the speeding on Hodgson at that meeting and said I would go back to Willoughby Crossing HOA and ask for money for one Solar Power LED Speed Sign if the city would pay for the second (one east and one west bound). There was encouragement from both sides. Then I attended a second Ward 2 meeting. I again offered to go back to Willoughby Crossing HOA and ask for money for one Solar Power LED Speed Sign if the city would pay for the second (one east and one west bound) with very little encouragement. I want the help and go after the \$ with only your 100% support if I do."

As you might know that the speed limit signs were installed on Hodgson last Thursday. I want to thank you for helping me to make my point after 3 years of me talking about it. With me asking for help of Willoughby Crossing HOA and the City of Willoughby sharing the cost to slow the traffic speeders down was in great cooperation with homeowners and city and made it happen. I don't think without your help and the HOA cooperation that it would have ever happen. "

"Within 8 hours the first day I could see a dramatic change as drivers seeing the signs and slowing down right away and not to mention the traffic noise from the street has greatly been reduced. THEY'RE WORKING!!"

TRAFFIC CALMING SIGNALS INSTALLED, ACCOMPLISHED

"Ken, copied are all the residents of North Bay and Kyle Cove who live along the Ward creek area that will be impacted by the Ward Creek project."

Meetings have taken place with the residents to get "their" input and city plans on how to solve flooding in this area.

MEETINGS STARTED WITH PLANS SHARED, ACCOMPLISHED

"I have forwarded you an email that I sent Mayor Fiala to also make you aware of a problem we have been having ever since Ryan Homes began the housing development on the corner of Hodgson and Lost Nation. As the project has progressed with homes farther east, a large amount of construction debris has been blown onto Lost Nation Golf Course, but especially into the retention basin that is in Willoughby Crossing and on the 9th hole of the golf course. Since there is nothing but parking lot between the site and the retention basin, garbage from the site is getting blown and caught in the retention basin. I complained a month or so ago and after three weeks someone from Ryan Homes, made an attempt to clean up the debris. They picked up the larger pieces but by they time they finally got there some of the debris (boxes) blew into the basin in water and they were not able to get it or didn't try. Since then additional debris has blown over from the site and is caught up in the retention basin. The retention basin sits right behind 4-5 houses on Congressional Lane and those of us who live there have to see this debris every time we look out our back windows. We have lived here 10 years and this was not a problem until the Ryan development came along. After the first time they cleaned up they put a flimsy plastic orange fence up along the boundary of the development and the golf course to keep the debris in. Unfortunately, it is not working very well. I spoke to one of the employees at the golf course and he has seen the same thing and debris has ended up on the golf course as well."

PROBLEM SOLVED, ACCOMPLISHED



Ward 2 News

"Do the plans of the new "Fairway Glen" development include sidewalks on Hodgson Road from the drive of Lost Nation Golf Course to Lost Nation? That section is dangerous to walk (which we do frequently) due to the water and litter filled ditches (you should take a walk by there...it's pretty nasty) and the poor condition of Hodgson Road."

The final plat for Phase 3 of Fairway Glenn will be coming to Planning Commission soon. During that time, I will be pushing for the installation of sidewalks on Hodgson Road. To date the developer has expressed compliance on this request.

TO BE ACCOMPLISHED

"Ken, so that you're aware, they removed the tree from the creek this morning, Thanks for your help."

This was in reference to a large tree that fell into Ward Creek which would have caused serious flooding to the neighboring properties."

ACCOMPLISHED

"Here are my issues:

I have a heavy plastic bag of concrete I cleaned up. Will, the city, pick it up? I do not think WM will take it. I have another full bag of leaves from the gutter and drain and some smaller concrete pieces. I will put this out once leaf pick up begins. I am thinking WM will not be too happy about having concrete mixed in but heck, it was 35 degrees out and I wasn't separating concrete from wet leaves."

CITY PICKED UP • ACCOMPLISHED

"When will the city get serious about the pot holes on Tamarac and Hodgson? By serious I mean either completely repave or patch (all not just some) with something that lasts longer than a few weeks."
HODGSON PAVED TAMARAC PATCHED
ACCOMPLISHED

"I was wondering if you had learned anything about getting the empty lots in our subdivision mowed. Spring has finally gotten here and the weeds in those lots are getting taller!"

Empty lots mowed

ACCOMPLISHED

Ward 2 News & Citywide News

"Across the street from our former councilman sits a house that is in a sad state. I called the realtor, and he indicated that the issue is with the home owner. When I told him I thought about posting some pics online, he hung up on me - (I called him back and told him he missed the end of the sentence...that I was going to do so, but I don't want to cause him trouble). I am not sure who is responsible for caring for the yard, but it is an eyesore that will become a health hazard."

GRASS CUT, ACCOMPLISHED

"Can we get those missing streetlights replaced on Lost Nation Road near Fairway Glenn and the Airport"

TO DATE THREE ARE DEFINITELY BEING REPLACED, WITH A FOURTH BEING PURSUED

Just for the record this is only a "small portion" of the items addressed in just Ward 2 over the past 18 months. I have also been addressing the sale and potential development of properties in Ward 2, specifically those on the west side of Lost Nation Road near the Airport. To date I have been approached by developers who want or wanted to create:

- Apartments
- Senior Living Apartments
- Assisted Living, Memory Care
- Homes
- Retail
 - Coffee Shops
 - Service Stations
 - Drug Stores
 - Grocery Stores

All of this is still taking place, and all I can share with you, at this time, is the overwhelming number of Ward 2 residents that I have spoken to are "against" Apartments, and want that "elusive" Grocery Store. I promise to do my best to get the best use of those properties for Ward 2. Please understand, when those properties are purchased, as some have already have, the developer can build as long as they comply with the Zoning for those properties.

In closing, I need to share that along with these items, and many others for Ward 2, I have served on City Council "Passing" or "Defeating" legislation that affects the entire City of Willoughby. I believe, on that front, I have represented Ward 2 and the City as a whole logically and reasonably. Thank you again for enabling me to serve as your Councilman for Ward 2, and the City of Willoughby.

MORE TO COME

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