

April 24, 1999

City of Wichita
Public Works Dept - Engineering Div
455 N. Main
Wichita, KS 67203

RECEIVED

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CITY - ENGINEERING

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to express our concerns about potential future flooding of our home at 930 S. Greenwich Road due to City of Wichita approved development in the region. Recent pre-development work engineered by Mid-Kansas Engineering Consultants, Inc. in preparation for school and housing development near the intersection of Lincoln Street and Greenwich Rd does not appear to be adequate to handle future surface water runoff surges during heavy rains. In fact, it appears to have already worsened the situation for our residential property.

We have first-hand knowledge of storm related surface water levels at this residence (930 S. Greenwich Rd) since 1990, and second-hand knowledge of conditions for several years prior to that time. During this time the water has encircled the home at this location several times but has never gotten close to the house until the past few months. During, and following storms with heavy rainfall some water flowed into the basement sump via the sub-floor tiles but the sump pump has always prevented any water flow into the basement. Water levels had gotten high enough on a few occasions that water entered a back yard storage shed, 2 to 4 inches over the concrete floor (during these events water was also flowing across Greenwich Road). But, until this past year, there has never been concerns that the water would reach the home foundation, and directly flow into our home.


Storm surface water runoff levels have gradually increased over the years with increased commercial development in the vicinity of Kellogg and Greenwich Road. In the mid 1990's, an incremental increase in water level was observed when Raytheon Aircraft expanded its facilities and parking lots adjacent to Greenwich Road between Kellogg and Central, and built a new North-South runway. We have again noticed increased water levels since the paving of Lincoln Street east of Greenwich road, and the

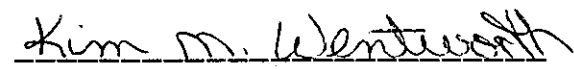
re-orientation of drainage water from the street and the (yet) unimproved land between Lincoln Street and the Turnpike in this region.

Greg Allison and Kenneth H. Bengtson, Mid-Kansas Engineering Consultants, Inc. representatives assured us that their engineering design for the development northeast of the Lincoln Street/Greenwich Road would prevent any worsening of drainage problems at our home. However, our experience at this point does not support their contention; surface water problems are worse, and we still have the benefit of tillable soil throughout the proposed development area that affects our drainage basin. During the "Flood of 1998" surface water was within ten feet of our home foundation, with a local rainfall of approximately 8.5 inches. During the storm on the morning of April 5, 1999, water was within fifteen feet of our foundation (rainfall did not exceed 2.25 inches). Never before has it been closer than 30 feet from our foundation. Our next door neighbor to the north has observed the same trend. It will get worse in the future if steps are not taken to prevent it!

During past attempts to verbally discuss our flood water concerns it has been difficult to determine the responsible governmental agency for this issue. We have been referred to the Mineha township, to Sedgwick county, to the city of Wichita, and back around to the township by officials we have contacted. At this point, since our home area has been annexed into the city, all recent impact development has been approved by the city, and nearly all of the rest of the drainage area is within the city limits, the city should have full responsibility for the protection of the citizens in this area. We believe the city is responsible, and request an appointment to discuss this situation with someone in your office at the earliest opportunity.

Concerned Citizens,


Curtis A. Wentworth
930 S. Greenwich Road
Wichita, Kansas
316-952-6823


Kim M. Wentworth

FAX TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

CITY OF WICHITA



DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

City Engineer's Office

455 North Main, 7th Floor
Wichita, Kansas 67202

TO: Name: KEN BENGSTON
Company: MK E.C.
Phone: _____
Fax Number: 684 5100

FROM: Name: Mike L. / Sandy Date: 4/29/99
Phone: 268 4266
Fax Number: (316) 268-4114

Number of pages including cover sheet: 3

COMMENTS: Ken,
please call me when you
get this.
Sandy