**Subject:** Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

Date: Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 6:37:54 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>
To: Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>

**CC:** \_Cedar Park Council < council@cedarparktexas.gov>, Matthew < Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>,

Sheila <Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>, Chitra <Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov>, Charles <Lee.Charles@epa.gov>, Lance Kinney <Lance.Kinney@pels.texas.gov>

Attachments: Noise Complaints from Anderson Mill Rd..eml.eml, Notice of withdrawal of permission to

touch fence or change anything.eml.eml

#### Dear Gloria (EPA Govt):

Please find attached 2 of the many complaint emails and responses that I have exchanged with the city of cedar park. There is a very high level of noise and pollution level inside my property line. The city has not addressed them and I have been asking them for the last 3 years before ultimately coming to EPA help. They have not even sent anyone to conduct a study of noise and/or pollution on my property. They removed 3 huge trees and extended the road to merely 10 feet away from my property. All this was done because the city could not claim land on another side that belongs to BCCP (a federal body) that takes care of wildlife. I wrote to the city my concerns loud and clear before they started the project. Then raised it to HOA to voice it. Spoke of it in city meetings, engineering meetings and also shown through numerous emails how trucks, heavy vehicles, fuel and gas vehicles, etc violate the traffic every day.

Even a request for a speedometer to show speeding is not even installed. The idea is to not measure it so that it can never be claimed as wrongdoing. A contractor who once measured the noise level for other neighbors (Brian Hall) was warned by city engineers of contracts he may miss so he bailed out.

The engineers did "not" do any safety calculations, and even TBPE (CC Mr. Lance, TBPE) is unable to fix them as they cannot rule over city decisions.

City engineers have done ZERO (Maths: 0) <u>Safety Calculations</u> for the <u>last 25+yrs</u>. I do not think they know how to do it at all. They outsource this and then just submit "Accounting calculations" in the column of calculations. <u>Imagine all the lives lost due to this in the last 25 years</u>. I fail to understand how this white-collar killing of American lives is okay for anyone. I will definitely write to the president's office to not offer any Texas state engineer any job when the infrastructure bill is rolled out for planning and implementation. These engineers will just kill people and probably walk away with pointing fingers at speeding trucks, traffic, and bad sight, etc.

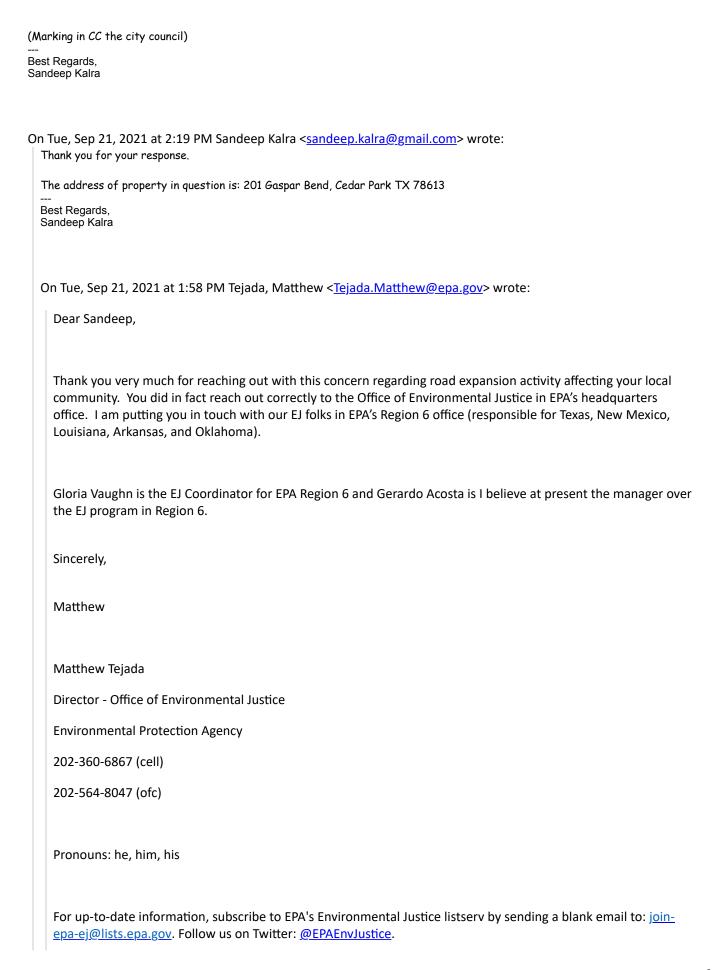
There is a road - "Lakeline Blvd" in Cedar Park. The neighbors from the road have been asking for protection for years. I have seen their hue and cry too. What is the fix that engineers had? Every time an accident happens (and who knows some life also lost in past 25 yrs) they fix road by putting red-light and signboards.

The city engineers have always pushed me to interact with the police in order to deal with noise and pollution. In my country (India) police do not do pollution control or noise control. It seems weird asking them for sending equipment and doing the readings first.

I will like pollution checks and noise level meters checks. The noise level meters must be with directional microphones as they are generated by transportation vehicles' tires and body parts (not engine).

The 10 households were impacted by this road expansion. 3 Indian minority groups, 1 black minority, 1 LGBT minority, and 1 low-income retired family out of 10. 9 of the families have roads farther away than mine, and also have a tiny 4 ft wall to protect to some extend (though it is not enough I believe).

Any vegetation I have planted on the roadside is dead in days, the noise inside the property line is beyond 100 DB at night and more in the day, rarely seen any 18 wheeler following traffic rules, and the city is now gearing to sell properties around the area to Amazon and HEB and their trucking will be making it more unsafe than ever.



From: Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>> Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:25 PM

To: Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov >; Lewis, Sheila < Lewis. Sheila@epa.gov >; Kumar, Chitra

< <u>Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov</u>>; Lee, Charles < <u>Lee.Charles@epa.gov</u>> **Subject:** Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

sorry I sent an email too soon. I wanted to add this

There were some end-results from the communication with some teams (though not very fruitful)

- [1] BCCP recently wrote to me that the city has worked in their capacity to expand and have not done any wrongdoing when expanding the road. Nothing about permits was communicated.
- [2] TBPE reported that they cannot act on city P.E engineers as they are outside their investigation purview.
- [3] In response to an email to City compliance, the city pushed me to the police dept for noise and pollution complaints.
- [4] Engineers have verbally confessed that the safety on the property is less than other 9 properties. and without commitment said If they have resources then they may try to fix things.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:12 PM Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > wrote:

To: Office of Environmental Justice:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.

# Background:

This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.

## Impact:

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just 10 to 11 ft away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

## Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

## Communication:

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

## You all:

\*Ref1:<u>http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20Assessment%20Tech%20Report.pdf</u>

Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

PS:

- [1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.
- [2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.

Subject: Re: Addressing Environmental Justice Concerns - Sandeep Kalra - 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX

Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 12:27:29 AM Central Standard Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

**To:** Larsen, Chad <Larsen.Chad@epa.gov>

**CC:** Acosta, Gerardo < Acosta. Gerardo @epa.gov>

Thanks. You may close the case.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 2:17 PM Larsen, Chad <<u>Larsen.Chad@epa.gov</u>> wrote:

Sandeep Kalra,

Thank you for your patience.

The Environmental Justice Screening Tool (EJSCREEN) is based on nationally consistent data and an approach that combines environmental and demographic indicators in maps and reports. EPA uses EJSCREEN as a preliminary step when considering environmental justice in certain situations. The agency uses it to screen for areas that may be candidates for additional consideration, analysis or outreach as EPA develops programs, policies and activities that may affect communities.

I understand you have a safety concern regarding barriers not being placed outside your property adjacent to the roadway. You may reach out to the Texas Department of Transportation (<a href="https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/contact-us/complaints.html">https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/contact-us/complaints.html</a>) and inquiry if they can address this safety concern.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to my supervisor Gerardo Acosta at <a href="mailto:acosta.gerardo@epa.gov">acosta.gerardo@epa.gov</a>.

Regards,

Chad Larsen, Physical Scientist
Office of Communities, Tribes, and Environmental Assessment
US EPA Region VI (ORAC)
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500

Dallas, TX 75270

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021 8:43 PM
To: Larsen, Chad < Larsen.Chad@epa.gov >

Cc: Acosta, Gerardo < Acosta. Gerardo@epa.gov >; Vaughn, Gloria < Vaughn. Gloria@epa.gov >

Subject: Re: Addressing Environmental Justice Concerns - Sandeep Kalra - 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX

Mr. Chad:

what is the definition of "affected area"? Section 2.2.4 Environmental Justice is only effective for the minority population of the affected area that exceeds 50%.

The road "affected" directly to the population of 10 properties in the way it is informed to you. Out of them, 6 belong to minorities (and still are). The city themselves sent out a letter of permission seeking replacement of the picket fence to just 10 properties. Did they do it out of a noble cause or to please these 10 families? Had they seen that it affects 5 miles radius they must have done it for more than 10. Isn't it.

I do not understand how a 5-mile radius or even a 1-mile radius is considered acceptable. I do not want to end up in Kafkaesque but by the way things are defined, i can assure you that you may not have found a single violation in the last 20 years other than by someone super-rich or political powers.

9 of them were issued safety barriers that in some cases also helped reduce noise. 1 was left.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Thu, Nov 18, 2021 at 9:54 AM Larsen, Chad < Larsen. Chad@epa.gov > wrote:

Sandeep Kalra,

I do appreciate your patience while I investigated 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX property; in conjunction, with Environmental Justice concerns regarding the expansion of Anderson Mill Rd, Cedar Park, TX. After reviewing the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) Community Impact Assessment Report (2015) and concerns within your email, it was determined the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not have jurisdiction at this time.

Centered on Environmental Justice regarding concerns brought forth, research into the TXDOT Community Impact Assessment Report was partitioned to focus on the City of Cedar Park, TX, then subdivided into 3 sections from the report:

- I. Section 2.2.4 Environmental Justice
- II. Section 3.2 Potential Displacements
- III. Section 3.3 Community Cohesion

Section 2.2.4 Environmental Justice. The federal Council on Environmental Quality's guidance document (see link below) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) states that "minority populations should be identified where either: (a) the minority population of the affected area exceeds 50% or (b) the minority population percentage of the affected area is meaningfully than the minority population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis." Using current census data centered at 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX with a 1-mile radius, demographics indicate a 25% minority presence. Increasing the radius to 5-miles, using current census data, increases the minority demographic to 35% within the same area. The neighborhood surrounding 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX, does not meet the 50% minority criteria to be classified as minority neighborhood.

https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-02/documents/ej guidance nepa ceq1297.pdf

Section 3.2 Potential Displacements. The EPA determined displacement did not occurred due to the expansion of Anderson Mill Rd., at 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX.

Section 3.3 Community Cohesion. The EPA, using satellite imagery determined: the expansion of Anderson Mill Road did not bisect or isolate the neighborhood encompassing 201 Gaspar Bend, TX and/or surrounding homes. You may find home values for your property and others in your neighborhood by accessing property tax records via the Williamson Central Appraisal District website at <a href="https://search.wcad.org">https://search.wcad.org</a>.

Per concerns within your email, I understand you have spoken with the City of Cedar Park, TX several times and are concerned with issues that may exist. I have put together a list of agencies that you may contact to have those concerns addressed at the state level. Please see the following:

For pollution and air quality – Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/compliance/complaints

 For noise, concerns with TXDOT engineering studies, and the lack of safety barriers – TXDOT Compliance Division

https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/compliance.html

- For vegetation dying:
  - If pesticides were used not following label directions Texas Department of Agriculture

https://www.texasagriculture.gov/RegulatoryPrograms/RegulatoryProgramContacts.aspx File a Complaint - TDA's Customer Service Hotline (within Texas) (800) TELL-TDA

(800) 835-5832 e-mail TellTDA@TexasAgriculture.gov

Leachates from construction / materials used – TCEQ

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/compliance/complaints

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Chad Larsen, Physical Scientist
Office of Communities, Tribes, and Environmental Assessment
US EPA Region VI (ORAC)
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500

Dallas, TX 75270

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

Subject: Re: Addressing Environmental Justice Concerns - Sandeep Kalra - 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX

**Date:** Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 12:27:29 AM Central Standard Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

**To:** Larsen, Chad <Larsen.Chad@epa.gov>

**CC:** Acosta, Gerardo < Acosta. Gerardo @epa.gov>

Thanks. You may close the case.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 2:17 PM Larsen, Chad < Larsen.Chad@epa.gov > wrote:

Sandeep Kalra,

Thank you for your patience.

The Environmental Justice Screening Tool (EJSCREEN) is based on nationally consistent data and an approach that combines environmental and demographic indicators in maps and reports. EPA uses EJSCREEN as a preliminary step when considering environmental justice in certain situations. The agency uses it to screen for areas that may be candidates for additional consideration, analysis or outreach as EPA develops programs, policies and activities that may affect communities.

I understand you have a safety concern regarding barriers not being placed outside your property adjacent to the roadway. You may reach out to the Texas Department of Transportation (<a href="https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/contact-us/complaints.html">https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/contact-us/complaints.html</a>) and inquiry if they can address this safety concern.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to my supervisor Gerardo Acosta at <a href="mailto:acosta.gerardo@epa.gov">acosta.gerardo@epa.gov</a>.

Regards,

Chad Larsen, Physical Scientist
Office of Communities, Tribes, and Environmental Assessment
US EPA Region VI (ORAC)
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500

Dallas, TX 75270

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>>
Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021 8:43 PM
To: Larsen, Chad <<u>Larsen.Chad@epa.gov</u>>

Cc: Acosta, Gerardo < Acosta. Gerardo@epa.gov >; Vaughn, Gloria < Vaughn. Gloria@epa.gov >

Subject: Re: Addressing Environmental Justice Concerns - Sandeep Kalra - 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX

Mr. Chad:

what is the definition of "affected area"? Section 2.2.4 Environmental Justice is only effective for the minority population of the affected area that exceeds 50%.

The road "affected" directly to the population of 10 properties in the way it is informed to you. Out of them, 6 belong to minorities (and still are). The city themselves sent out a letter of permission seeking replacement of the picket fence to just 10 properties. Did they do it out of a noble cause or to please these 10 families? Had they seen that it affects 5 miles radius they must have done it for more than 10. Isn't it.

I do not understand how a 5-mile radius or even a 1-mile radius is considered acceptable. I do not want to end up in Kafkaesque but by the way things are defined, i can assure you that you may not have found a single violation in the last 20 years other than by someone super-rich or political powers.

9 of them were issued safety barriers that in some cases also helped reduce noise. 1 was left.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Thu, Nov 18, 2021 at 9:54 AM Larsen, Chad < Larsen. Chad@epa.gov > wrote:

Sandeep Kalra,

I do appreciate your patience while I investigated 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX property; in conjunction, with Environmental Justice concerns regarding the expansion of Anderson Mill Rd, Cedar Park, TX. After reviewing the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) Community Impact Assessment Report (2015) and concerns within your email, it was determined the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not have jurisdiction at this time.

Centered on Environmental Justice regarding concerns brought forth, research into the TXDOT Community Impact Assessment Report was partitioned to focus on the City of Cedar Park, TX, then subdivided into 3 sections from the report:

- I. Section 2.2.4 Environmental Justice
- II. Section 3.2 Potential Displacements
- III. Section 3.3 Community Cohesion

Section 2.2.4 Environmental Justice. The federal Council on Environmental Quality's guidance document (see link below) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) states that "minority populations should be identified where either: (a) the minority population of the affected area exceeds 50% or (b) the minority population percentage of the affected area is meaningfully than the minority population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis." Using current census data centered at 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX with a 1-mile radius, demographics indicate a 25% minority presence. Increasing the radius to 5-miles, using current census data, increases the minority demographic to 35% within the same area. The neighborhood surrounding 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX, does not meet the 50% minority criteria to be classified as minority neighborhood.

https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-02/documents/ej guidance nepa ceq1297.pdf

Section 3.2 Potential Displacements. The EPA determined displacement did not occurred due to the expansion of Anderson Mill Rd., at 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX.

Section 3.3 Community Cohesion. The EPA, using satellite imagery determined: the expansion of Anderson Mill Road did not bisect or isolate the neighborhood encompassing 201 Gaspar Bend, TX and/or surrounding homes. You may find home values for your property and others in your neighborhood by accessing property tax records via the Williamson Central Appraisal District website at <a href="https://search.wcad.org">https://search.wcad.org</a>.

Per concerns within your email, I understand you have spoken with the City of Cedar Park, TX several times and are concerned with issues that may exist. I have put together a list of agencies that you may contact to have those concerns addressed at the state level. Please see the following:

• For pollution and air quality – Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/compliance/complaints

 For noise, concerns with TXDOT engineering studies, and the lack of safety barriers – TXDOT Compliance Division

https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/compliance.html

- For vegetation dying:
  - If pesticides were used not following label directions Texas Department of Agriculture

https://www.texasagriculture.gov/RegulatoryPrograms/RegulatoryProgramContacts.aspx File a Complaint - TDA's Customer Service Hotline (within Texas) (800) TELL-TDA

(800) 835-5832 e-mail <u>TellTDA@TexasAgriculture.gov</u>

• Leachates from construction / materials used – TCEQ

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/compliance/complaints

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Chad Larsen, Physical Scientist
Office of Communities, Tribes, and Environmental Assessment
US EPA Region VI (ORAC)
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500

Dallas, TX 75270

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

Subject: Re: Addressing Environmental Justice Concerns - Sandeep Kalra - 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX

Date: Monday, November 22, 2021 at 8:42:48 PM Central Standard Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

**To:** Larsen, Chad <Larsen.Chad@epa.gov>

CC: Acosta, Gerardo <Acosta.Gerardo@epa.gov>, Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>

#### Mr. Chad:

what is the definition of "affected area"? Section 2.2.4 Environmental Justice is only effective for the minority population

of the affected area that exceeds 50%.

The road "affected" directly to the population of 10 properties in the way it is informed to you. Out of them, 6 belong to minorities (and still are). The city themselves sent out a letter of permission seeking replacement of the picket fence to just 10 properties. Did they do it out of a noble cause or to please these 10 families? Had they seen that it affects 5 miles radius they must have done it for more than 10. Isn't it.

I do not understand how a 5-mile radius or even a 1-mile radius is considered acceptable. I do not want to end up in Kafkaesque but by the way things are defined, i can assure you that you may not have found a single violation in the last 20 years other than by someone super-rich or political powers.

9 of them were issued safety barriers that in some cases also helped reduce noise. 1 was left.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Thu, Nov 18, 2021 at 9:54 AM Larsen, Chad < Larsen.Chad@epa.gov > wrote:

Sandeep Kalra,

I do appreciate your patience while I investigated 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX property; in conjunction, with Environmental Justice concerns regarding the expansion of Anderson Mill Rd, Cedar Park, TX. After reviewing the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) Community Impact Assessment Report (2015) and concerns within your email, it was determined the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not have jurisdiction at this time.

Centered on Environmental Justice regarding concerns brought forth, research into the TXDOT Community Impact Assessment Report was partitioned to focus on the City of Cedar Park, TX, then subdivided into 3 sections from the report:

- I. Section 2.2.4 Environmental Justice
- II. Section 3.2 Potential Displacements
- III. Section 3.3 Community Cohesion

Section 2.2.4 Environmental Justice. The federal Council on Environmental Quality's guidance document (see link below) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) states that "minority populations should be identified where either: (a) the minority population of the affected area exceeds 50% or (b) the minority population

percentage of the affected area is meaningfully than the minority population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis." Using current census data centered at 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX with a 1-mile radius, demographics indicate a 25% minority presence. Increasing the radius to 5-miles, using current census data, increases the minority demographic to 35% within the same area. The neighborhood surrounding 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX, does not meet the 50% minority criteria to be classified as minority neighborhood.

https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-02/documents/ej\_guidance\_nepa\_ceq1297.pdf

Section 3.2 Potential Displacements. The EPA determined displacement did not occurred due to the expansion of Anderson Mill Rd., at 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX.

Section 3.3 Community Cohesion. The EPA, using satellite imagery determined: the expansion of Anderson Mill Road did not bisect or isolate the neighborhood encompassing 201 Gaspar Bend, TX and/or surrounding homes. You may find home values for your property and others in your neighborhood by accessing property tax records via the Williamson Central Appraisal District website at <a href="https://search.wcad.org">https://search.wcad.org</a>.

Per concerns within your email, I understand you have spoken with the City of Cedar Park, TX several times and are concerned with issues that may exist. I have put together a list of agencies that you may contact to have those concerns addressed at the state level. Please see the following:

For pollution and air quality – Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/compliance/complaints

 For noise, concerns with TXDOT engineering studies, and the lack of safety barriers – TXDOT Compliance Division

https://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/compliance.html

- For vegetation dying:
  - If pesticides were used not following label directions Texas Department of Agriculture

https://www.texasagriculture.gov/RegulatoryPrograms/RegulatoryProgramContacts.aspx

File a Complaint - TDA's Customer Service Hotline (within Texas)

(800) TELL-TDA

(800) 835-5832 e-mail TellTDA@TexasAgriculture.gov

Leachates from construction / materials used – TCEQ

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/compliance/complaints

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Chad Larsen, Physical Scientist
Office of Communities, Tribes, and Environmental Assessment
US EPA Region VI (ORAC)
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500

Dallas, TX 75270

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

Subject: Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

Date: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 11:41:01 PM Central Daylight Time

**From:** Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com> **To:** Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>

CC: Tellez, Debra <Tellez.Debra@epa.gov>, Lee, Charles <Lee.Charles@epa.gov>, Kumar, Chitra

<Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov>, Lance Kinney <Lance.Kinney@pels.texas.gov>, Tejada, Matthew <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>, Lewis, Sheila <Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>, \_Cedar Park Council

<council@cedarparktexas.gov>

Thanks a lot. I will wait for your response.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Oct 19, 2021 at 5:12 PM Vaughn, Gloria < <a href="mailto:Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov">Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov</a>> wrote:

Yes. You have reached out to the appropriate department. We are looking into your request and will respond as soon as possible.

#### Gloria

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com >

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2021 1:36 PM

To: Vaughn, Gloria < Vaughn. Gloria@epa.gov >; Tellez, Debra < Tellez. Debra@epa.gov >

**Cc:** Lee, Charles < Lee. Charles @epa.gov >; Kumar, Chitra < Kumar. Chitra @epa.gov >; Lance Kinney < Lance. Kinney @pels.texas.gov >; Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew @epa.gov >; Lewis, Sheila

<Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>; Cedar Park Council <council@cedarparktexas.gov>

**Subject:** Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

reminder - 2.

Pls let me know if I am reaching out to the wrong department for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Sat, Oct 9, 2021 at 4:08 AM Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > wrote:

Dear Ms. Gloria,

It will be kind of you if you can help me by arranging possible testing for environmental studies on my property to find out levels of pollutants and noise etc. as i have not been able to convince any other party(city, engineers, or compliance) to even answer the request.

Thanks and Regards,

On Thu, Sep 23, 2021 at 6:37 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

Dear Gloria (EPA Govt):

Please find attached 2 of the many complaint emails and responses that I have exchanged with the city of cedar park. There is a very high level of noise and pollution level inside my property line. The city has not addressed them and I have been asking them for the last 3 years before ultimately coming to EPA help. They have not even sent anyone to conduct a study of noise and/or pollution on my property. They removed 3 huge trees and extended the road to merely 10 feet away from my property. All this was done because the city could not claim land on another side that belongs to BCCP (a federal body) that takes care of wildlife. I wrote to the city my concerns loud and clear before they started the project. Then raised it to HOA to voice it. Spoke of it in city meetings, engineering meetings and also shown through numerous emails how trucks, heavy vehicles, fuel and gas vehicles, etc violate the traffic every day.

Even a request for a speedometer to show speeding is not even installed. The idea is to not measure it so that it can never be claimed as wrongdoing. A contractor who once measured the noise level for other neighbors (Brian Hall) was warned by city engineers of contracts he may miss so he bailed out.

The engineers did "not" do any safety calculations, and even TBPE (CC Mr. Lance, TBPE) is unable to fix them as they cannot rule over city decisions.

City engineers have done ZERO (Maths: 0) <u>Safety Calculations</u> for the <u>last</u> 25+yrs. I do not think they know how to do it at all. They outsource this and then just

submit "Accounting calculations" in the column of calculations. <u>Imagine all the lives lost due to this in the last 25 years.</u> I fail to understand how this white-collar killing of American lives is okay for anyone. I will definitely write to the president's office to not offer any Texas state engineer any job when the infrastructure bill is rolled out for planning and implementation. These engineers will just kill people and probably walk away with pointing fingers at speeding trucks, traffic, and bad sight, etc.

There is a road - "Lakeline Blvd" in Cedar Park. The neighbors from the road have been asking for protection for years. I have seen their hue and cry too. What is the fix that engineers had? Every time an accident happens (and who knows some life also lost in past 25 yrs) they fix road by putting red-light and signboards.

The city engineers have always pushed me to interact with the police in order to deal with noise and pollution. In my country (India) police do not do pollution control or noise control. It seems weird asking them for sending equipment and doing the readings first.

I will like pollution checks and noise level meters checks. The noise level meters must be with directional microphones as they are generated by transportation vehicles' tires and body parts (not engine).

The 10 households were impacted by this road expansion. 3 Indian minority groups, 1 black minority, 1 LGBT minority, and 1 low-income retired family out of 10. 9 of the families have roads farther away than mine, and also have a tiny 4 ft wall to protect to some extend (though it is not enough I believe).

Any vegetation I have planted on the roadside is dead in days, the noise inside the property line is beyond 100 DB at night and more in the day, rarely seen any 18 wheeler following traffic rules, and the city is now gearing to sell properties around the area to Amazon and HEB and their trucking will be making it more unsafe than ever.

(Marking in CC the city council)

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra
On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 2:19 PM Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > wrote:
Thank you for your response.
The address of property in question is: 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX 78613
Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra
On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:58 PM Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov > wrote:
Dear Sandeep,
Thank you very much for reaching out with this concern regarding road expansion activity affecting you local community. You did in fact reach out correctly to the Office of Environmental Justice in EPA's headquarters office. I am putting you in touch with our EJ folks in EPA's Region 6 office (responsible for Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma).
Gloria Vaughn is the EJ Coordinator for EPA Region 6 and Gerardo Acosta is I believe at present the manager over the EJ program in Region 6.
Sincerely,
Matthew
Matthew Tejada
Director - Office of Environmental Justice

**Environmental Protection Agency** 

202-360-6867 (cell)

202-564-8047 (ofc)

Pronouns: he, him, his

For up-to-date information, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: <u>join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov</u>. Follow us on Twitter: <u>@EPAEnvJustice</u>.

**From:** Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>>

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:25 PM

To: Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov >; Lewis, Sheila < Lewis. Sheila@epa.gov >; Kumar, Chitra

<<u>Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov</u>>; Lee, Charles <<u>Lee.Charles@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

sorry I sent an email too soon. I wanted to add this

There were some end-results from the communication with some teams (though not very fruitful)

- [1] BCCP recently wrote to me that the city has worked in their capacity to expand and have not done any wrongdoing when expanding the road. Nothing about permits was communicated.
- [2] TBPE reported that they cannot act on city P.E engineers as they are outside their investigation purview.
- [3] In response to an email to City compliance, the city pushed me to the police dept for noise and pollution complaints.
- [4] Engineers have verbally confessed that the safety on the property is less than other 9 properties. and without commitment said If they have resources then they may try to fix things.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:12 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

To: Office of Environmental Justice:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.

# Background:

This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.

## Impact:

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just

10 to 11 ft away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

## Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

### Communication:

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

You all:

\*Ref1:http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20A ssessment%20Tech%20Report.pdf

Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

PS:

[1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.

[2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>>
To: Sam Roberts <<u>Sam.Roberts@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>

Cc: Christopher Copple < <a href="mailto:Christopher.Copple@cedarparktexas.gov">Christopher.Copple@cedarparktexas.gov</a>>, Jill Hoffman

<Jill.Hoffman@cedarparktexas.gov>, Darlene Lewis <darlene.lewis@cedarparktexas.gov>

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 27 Jan 2020 22:55:43 -0600

Subject: Re: Noise Complaints from Anderson Mill Rd.

Mr. Sam:

Thanks for the clarification about ownership of noise compliance. I was not aware of it.

I have raised my concern(mailed them twice) for high-speed traffic and safety concerns along with noise compliance requests to law enforcement too. I have also asked them to install a battery and solar operated speedometer to show to the travelers the speed. I do not anticipate them to stand there all the time. Till now I have not heard back anything from them.

Is this response of yours an official response of the City?

Article 8.008.005 (3) Sound produced by a motor vehicle motor in good working order while the motor vehicle is moving on a public right-of-way, public waterway, airport runway, or railroad. This does not include sound produced by sound-producing equipment within the motor vehicle or attached to the motor vehicle.

 And while we acknowledge your complaint that the noise from the tires on cars and trucks travelling on Anderson Mill Rd is exceeding the maximum decibel levels in the noise regulations, this noise is considered to be part of the noise generated by the motor vehicle and is therefore exempt.

I am not a legal expert and I will try getting legal help to cross-examine the claims if this is an official response.

I am available mostly on Fridays after 2:00 PM. I will only come if the session is fully recorded (Audio and Video) that I will also get access to it, and will like to know the participant's name 2 days before hand.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Wed, Jan 22, 2020 at 3:05 PM Sam Roberts <<u>Sam.Roberts@cedarparktexas.gov</u>> wrote:

Dear Mr. Kalra. The purpose of this communication to you is to try to answer some of the questions and concerns in your last 2 emails (below) and to provide some information that you may or may not be aware of. Below is a bullet summary of this information I wish to convey to you:

- First of all I need to inform you that Chris Copple, Robert, Kevin and Amber do not enforce the city's Noise Regulations, Article 8.08. The Noise Regulations are enforced by the Cedar Park Police Department.
  - If you wish to report a noise complaint (excluding noise from vehicles in the public right-of-way, see below) call 911 or call the Police Department's main number 512-260-4600.
- · Secondly, I need to tell you that the City's Noise Regulations, specifically, Article 8.008.005 (3) grant an exemption to sounds produced by motor vehicles in the public right-of-way (e.g. Anderson Mill Rd). See verbiage from the city's ordinance below:

<u>Article 8.008.005 (3)</u> Sound produced by a motor vehicle motor in good working order while the motor vehicle is moving on a public right-of-way, public waterway, airport runway, or railroad. This does not include sound produced by sound producing equipment within the motor vehicle or attached to the motor vehicle.

- And while we acknowledge your complaint that the noise from the tires on cars and trucks travelling on Anderson Mill Rd is exceeding the maximum decibel levels in the noise regulations, this noise is considered to be part of the noise generated by the motor vehicle and is therefore exempt.
- · And Lastly, regarding your complaint about the air contaminants coming from Anderson Mill Rd onto your property exceeding the City's Environmental Standards Ordinance Article 8.12, I need to inform you that these regulations apply to air contaminants generated by uses within properties or "zoning districts" around the City and the thresholds are measured at the property boundary. These regulations do not apply to public roadways, except during the construction of such public roadways.

In closing, I would like to offer to meet with you to try to answer any questions you may have. I will need to include some of the subject matter experts such as the engineers who worked on the roadway in such a meeting. If you would like to meet, please let me know of some dates and times you are available. And please also feel free to call me at the number below.

Sincerely,
Sam P. Roberts, P.E.

**Assistant City Manager** 

City of Cedar Park

512-401-5368 DL

From: Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>>

Date: January 18, 2020 at 11:23:36 AM CST

To: Kevin Elliott < Kevin. Elliott@cedarparktexas.gov >, Amber Smith

<a href="mailto:</a><a href="mailto:Amber.Lund@cedarparktexas.gov"><a href="mailto:Robert Henning Jr">Robert Henning Jr</a></a>

<<u>Robert.Henning@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>

Cc: Alan Green < Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov >, Christopher Copple

< <u>Christopher.Copple@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, LeAnn Quinn

<<u>LeAnn.Quinn@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Darwin Marchell

<darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov>, JP LeCompte <JP.LeCompte@cedarparktexas.gov>,

Jody Barr < Jody.Barr@kxan.com >, "anderson.mill.road@gmail.com"

<anderson.mill.road@gmail.com>, "asvillarreal@keyetv.com" <asvillarreal@keyetv.com>,

"bperdue@communityimpact.com" <br/>bperdue@communityimpact.com>, dkalra111

<<u>dkalra111@gmail.com</u>>, "<u>kgonzales@kvue.com</u>" <<u>kgonzales@kvue.com</u>>, Mayor Van

Arsdale < Mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov >, "ourtexasnewspaper@gmail.com"

<ourtexasnewspaper@gmail.com>, "sag225@txstate.edu" <sag225@txstate.edu>,

"Lauren.Gammon@wilco.org" <Lauren.Gammon@wilco.org>,

"TNRWeb@traviscountytx.gov" <TNRWeb@traviscountytx.gov>

Subject: Re: Request for Information on grave concerns from resident of the city.

Mr. Robert, Mr. Kevin, Ms. Amber:

This is my 2nd reminder email to take action on my complaint of non-compliance by the city by building structure next to my property. The city is not compliant to:

§ 8.08 noise regulation not met on my property.

§ 8.12 pollution and smoke due to structure on my property.

Please give me a complaint-ID or tracking number or simple email reply in writing to confirm that you are or will be investigating this issue.

If there is 'No action' on your part, and not even registering the case, then I will go to TCOLE for help.

Ref: <a href="https://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/non-compliance-faq">https://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/non-compliance-faq</a>

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Sun, Jan 5, 2020 at 1:26 AM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

Dear Robert, Kevin and Amber.

You are mentioned as "Compliance Officers" on Cedar Park TX page. I am making a request for compliance with this email (with some journalist, Engineers and City Mayor in CC).

The city of cedar park has expanded "Anderson Mill road". By doing so, they have violated my rights. The city under their own compliance rules of section 8.08 Noise regulations makes it mandatory for any party to make noise beyond these limits:

(1) <u>Daytime</u>: 70 dB(A) or 80 dB(C); or

(2) <u>Nighttime</u>: 50 dB(A) or 60 dB(C

The construction from Anderson Mill road has now impacted me as now the noise level on my property is way above 100+db at night and 150+db at daytime. This is coming from the tires of the passing traffic. The compliance rule under exemption of 8.08.005 does allow noise from only the motor of the motor-vehicle to be unaccounted (which I did when I measured using my equipments). I want the city to comply to the nuisance of road and vehicles by either disallowing the vehicles making noise to be stopped or make adjustments of the road and its boundaries to not produce this noise inside my property line.

I have request city many times via email to come and test using beam forming microphones to do a compliance reading but I guess I wasn't taking to right people.

Official procedure will require "Acoustic Beam forming" to measure noises other than of tires . I think there are plenty of contractors out there who have this equipment ready and if not I am happy to refer to you few contractors who can do the compliance reading.

A detail of procedure can be found in this book recommended by the US body of National Cooperative Highway Research Program(NCHRP):

Acoustic Beamforming: Mapping Sources of Truck Noise , link: <a href="https://books.google.com/books?">https://books.google.com/books?</a>

id=rDyhc7WhqqIC&pg=PA7&dq=argument+motor+vehicle+ motor+sound+is+not+motor+vehicle+tyre+sound&hl=en&ne wbks=1&newbks\_redir=0&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj2uMbW9evm AhUZCs0KHZ9cCjQQ6AEwAXoECAUQAg#v=onepage&q=argum ent%20motor%20vehicle%20motor%20sound%20is%20not %20motor%20vehicle%20tyre%20sound&f=false

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>>

To: Celeste Starr Schulz < celeste.schulz@goodwintx.com >

Cc: dkalra111 < <u>dkalra111@gmail.com</u>>, Kristi Estes < <u>kristi.estes@goodwintx.com</u>>, Alan Green < <u>Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Darwin Marchell < <u>darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Erica Gonzales

<<u>erica.gonzales@goodwintx.com</u>>, Jody Barr <<u>Jody.Barr@kxan.com</u>>, "<u>anderson.mill.road@gmail.com</u>"

"mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov" <mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov>

Bcc:

Date: Thu, 31 Oct 2019 13:41:07 -0500

Subject: Re: Notice of withdrawal of permission to touch fence or change anything

Following up with you Celeste... do you get to know who in HOA is the person to handle and respond to my email? Please add him/her by introducing it to all in the email chain. I cannot run 1:1 email for this topic. Also, Probably you were in-charge when this property was ruined by CITY, and as rep of HOA you cared nothing, How about if you would have sent strong concern letter to CITY about the life of grass, trees , shrubs, or people living on property that the road may harm.. (I have gotten notice just for not cutting grass).

And to others too, If you still work for CITY, CITY/ENGG DEPT and received this email, then you were in-charge to some part ... now if you are not representing the department, then find the person who is, introduce in here ..., and enjoy the show.

You all may feel my email shitty, but my perception about you all isn't great either. Let me SHOW my side BACKED BY EVIDENCE (proofs attached - just to show pollution)

I bought these 2 shrubs (**Same brand** - pics attached, **same day** i.e. 07/01/19 JUST 4 MONTHS BACK, **same store** - Home Depot, receipt attached, **planted same day**, and **nurtured equally** in all ways). I planted one on side facing Anderson Mill road, and other facing Gaspar Bend road. This is what the two looks like today morning.

Claim your halloween candy at my place when you successfully figure out which photo is for plant that faces Anderson mill road? And claim bigger packet of candies if you reply all here and tell to others "what it means living at this place 7x24x365".

Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Oct 30, 2019 at 7:25 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a> wrote:

Please send to whom so ever manages it.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Oct 30, 2019 at 7:02 PM Celeste Starr Schulz < celeste.schulz@goodwintx.com > wrote:

I don't manage this property anymore

Sent from my iPhone

Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Oct 30, 2019 at 6:54 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

To whom so ever it is concern -

Let me know if you have any objections to this request and / or need more information from me. In case you are not the right person, please redirect this to him/her for the immediate action.

The noise due to the traffic on road is unimaginably high inside my house and around my property, and Safety and pollution has always been a concern from me. The inept city engineers (some decorated one too) just did not do things right. The Mayor and City reps were all muted and let this happen, and HOA played helpless in situation and failed in protecting the rights of the residents.

So, Starting Nov mid, I will be replacing and extending the existing fence wall on 2 sides (One facing the Anderson road, and other that is behind us) to make living better than hell as it is now. My plan is to hire a mason and build a 8 to 10 ft concrete fence wall and/or a masonry cider block wall ... I am funding from my own money(single earner here).. so you are more then welcome to send cheque/check if you want.

Looks and Beautification is not on my agenda, and if it is on yours, please reach me and tell me what I can do within my budget to do that...

No affirmative action on this email from HOA, CITY or ENGINEERS by Nov-15th-2019 will mean that they do not have any objection to the construction here. Some agencies (City, HOA etc) may want to squeeze \$50 to \$100 on this occassion in the name of forms and formal proceedings and show that they have the upper hand ... let me know if that is the case here. Reply shamelessly to this email asking for that form please.

Sandeep Kalra

On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 7:45 PM Celeste Starr Schulz <<u>celeste.schulz@goodwintx.com</u>> wrote: I only manage the HOA. This sounds like a city issue. Sent from my iPhone On Sep 24, 2018, at 7:43 PM, Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote: The HOA is "Westside Preserve @ buttercup creek, Cedar Park, TX" Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 7:31 PM Deepshikha Kalra < dkalra111@gmail.com > wrote: Celeste, are you the person responsible for Westside @ buttercup creek? If yes, then please take it back to mgmt On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 6:00 PM Kristi Estes < <a href="mailto:kristi.estes@goodwintx.com">kristi.estes@goodwintx.com</a>> wrote: I am not associated with this community. I have added the HOA property manager, Celeste Schulz, to my response to be sure she is in the loop. Thank you, Kristi Estes **HOA Property Manager** Goodwin Management 512-922-3748 From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:14 PM To: Alan Green < Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov >

Cc: anderson.mill.road@gmail.com; dkalra111 < dkalra111@gmail.com >; Darwin

Marchell <<u>darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov</u>; <u>leann.quinn@cedarparktexas.gov</u>; <u>mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov</u>; Jody Barr <<u>Jody.Barr@kxan.com</u>>; Erica Gonzales <<u>erica.gonzales@goodwintx.com</u>>; Kristi Estes <kristi.estes@goodwintx.com>

Subject: Re: Notice of withdrawal of permission to touch fence or change anything

We will appreciate if an email acknowledgment is made by the recipient.

-- Decision --

We reject the current fence offer made by the city of cedar park, thus the restrictions to enter our property still exists.

I and my wife(called "we") has collectively decided that the Anderson mill road expansion project is not safe for us and our family, friends and for any resident around our property. Our decision is based on the rationale that is posted towards the end of this email. As with the situation at hand, we see absolutely no benefits in accepting the deal of just a higher (additional 2 ft) wood fence to what we have now.

We see this moment as an opportunity to either get a writing a worked out plan for our safety from HOA(The HOA of buttercup creek, Cedar Park, TX) and/or City (The city of cedar park) or else to tell them (to HOA and/or City) what our next action will be in case they fail to provide us with the basic safety, security, and peace of mind.

We also see this moment to tell what we see wrong in this project and our frustration, sadness, and loss of trust for the engineers, City, and/or HOA involved directly or indirectly with the execution of this project.

-- What we will accept --

we will accept one of the 4 options/plans given below.

[ Plan 1 ] We will accept the 8 ft wooden fence if the City does the complete calculation for the worst case for the whole project and guarantee us in writing that the risks are less than 1% for anyone standing on my property line or the sidewalk next to it (at any place).

[ Plan 2] We will accept the 8 ft wooden fence if the City and/or the HOA undertakes in writing a non-revokable, and with no statuary-limits undertaking that any accidents will be compensated with more than \$50m / per person involved.

[ Plan 3] We will accept the 8 ft wooden fence if the City makes for us a barrier of 3 ft at the roadside.

[ Plan 4] This is the open-ended plan. If HOA and/or City have anything better to offer and also guaranteed to be safe and secure (must be backed by calculations and previous data of similar deployments) then we are also open to considering them. All the documents must be developed by licensed engineers and must be backed by 2 additional PE engineers appointed by City. In this case, we will accept the 8 ft wooden fence only after making sure that the plan is safe.

Note: The **deadline** for the agreement is either "End of the current project" or "The day when the lane next to our property is ready for the public to use". Whichever comes first.

-- otherwise, what we plan on doing next --

We will build our own wall. The size(15ft) and material(concrete or stone) were already published by us in our recommendations when we met the city for the first time in May 2017. The concerns (in form of PDF, called concerns.pdf) were given to them as a resident who has been facing the challenges out from this development since Jan 2017. A copy of it is attached. The readings will be from the outside of the property (i.e. at walkway level). We will not provide access to anyone from HOA or city to enter our property for any inspection.

We may possibly go to the law of the state and TBPE and ask for our safety and to showcase the wrongdoings of state and the licensed engineers.

-- Rationale --

Property sits at a point where a potential 40000 lbs to 80,000 lbs 18

wheelers are allowed northbound @ 40 mph. Part of the project is developed on simple speculations such as all drivers are slow, no one will overtake, no one will be drunk at all time etc). There are no checks and balances if they turn right or just park right next to the property. No street lights next to the walkway. No red-lights to make the traffic stop or slow down. No Barrier to protect our safety from 18 wheelers. No Calculations based on models developed using mathematics, science and past experiences from similar situations. No Noise control. No trees. No pollution checks. No risk analysis. The city is not even able to find 20 other properties in the similar situation in whole Cedar Park. This walkway is the most unsafe journey that my family will be taking from my own house to the backyard land that I left as an easement for utility lines. 100% risk, and for rewards it is just an additional 2 ft high wood fence?. The unprotected walkway will be used by kids going to school, bicycles, joggers and others pedestrians. Walkway to deer creek elementary was merely 5-6 ft wide in few places while I took the journey to elementary school.

My front yard is now almost unusable with just 6 to 8 ft away from the road with no protection. 400+ vehicles per day make it equivalent of highway (Ref: Greenbook, AASHTO, 2001). With the distance of road as close as 6 ft. to our property line, **we do not feel safe.** See addendum on Measurements for the readings.

## Add-ons Rationales: [The ironic ones]

- By the engineer's argument: The drivers on this road **are blind enough** to not see the 3-4 ft barrier and need a line of sight else they will crash in, but **the drivers surprisingly have 20/20 vision** when a 3 to 4 ft high kid is on the same walkway.
- Texas ranks 11th (out of 50 states) in drunk driving accidents (2017 data). Yet the engineers never envision a single drunk driver of the car, or the truck hitting the curb or side of the road.
- The engineers can promise (we have 10+ residents as the witness and possibly a recording audio of meeting with details) that they will give at least 3 ft barrier and retention wall to all properties, and they can simply walk back their own words because they think no one will question them.
- The city and HOA would not accept different looking boundary walls/fences until they have to offer it and someone can say no and end up with different wall/fence than others. Looks like the rules are just for the residents and not for city and HOA.
- Licensed PE Engineers are asked for engineering documents with

reference to exact sections per TBPE documents, and they get back with Business documents and cost calculations.

- The city will ask for concerns from those who will face the music  $7 \times 24 \times 365$  (i.e. the residents), but mute itself into accepting whatever the engineers suggest who are running this project as their backyard project.
- The city failed to persuade Austin-City to give part of the land that Austin uses for birds, so Cedar Park picked up the fight with local residents because they can do so.
- -- The mindset of the City and HOA is worrisome here:

They have just one line of thought: If one property owner gets a wall or different barrier because of the valid safety concerns then others may ask for it and the job of denying them will be hard, so let us not give it to the resident with reasons.

-- Addendum: Measurements (+- 0.2 ft margin )--

Readings are taken on my property (from front to back). All readings were taken from the edge of curb to property line.

**Front Yard:** Min distance to the road from my property line is 6 ft. Max distance is 9 ft from the property line.

From fence start to the point the right lane meeting point: Min is 9 ft, and the Max distance is at 10 ft from the property line.

Back Yard: Min is 11 ft. Farthest is 20+ ft.

Thanks,

Sandeep Kalra & Deepshikha Kalra

201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX 78613

Dated: 09/24/2018

On Thu, Sep 20, 2018 at 10:49 AM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a> wrote:

I am coming this weekend there in cedar Park house to personally evaluate the situation and then I will let you know.

BTW, initial email from you saying if one property owner do not agree then it will be a 'no' to all. How is it that possible that you now want to give others a fence but okay if I walk out?

On Tue, Sep 18, 2018, 11:44 AM Alan Green < <u>Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov</u>> wrote:

#### Sandeep:

I am following up on the email below. Since the fence construction is about to start sometime next week, I just wanted to check and see if the right-of-entry withdrawal is still in effect. The fence contractor will only be out there for about a week and if you want your fence reconstructed, he needs to complete this work while he is out there. We won't be paying an additional mobilization fee for the contractor to come back out there after he finished the other sections of fence.

Thanks,

Alan

**From:** Sandeep Kalra [mailto:<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 11:48 PM

To: Darwin Marchell < darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov >

Cc: Alan Green < Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov >

Subject: Notice of withdrawal of permission to touch fence or change anything

As a property owner of '201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX, USA 78613' I am sending this email as an official notice of withdrawal of all permissions given by orally or in writing to the city of Cedar Park to Enter my property line and/or to modify the current fence or anything else till I feel that the city has ensured the safety and security of the resident and neighborhood while developing and expanding Anderson mill road project.

This is effective right now i.e. Aug-01-2018 time 11:45 PM.

	Note: The property is under video surveillance and if there is any act of entrance
	recorded by anyone from City, I will take it as a known act of violation.
	Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra
	t Regards, pshikha
	рынкна
Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra	

Subject: Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

**Date:** Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 1:35:39 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

To: Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>, tellez.debra@epa.gov <tellez.debra@epa.gov>

**CC:** Charles < Lee. Charles @epa.gov>, Chitra < Kumar. Chitra @epa.gov>, Lance Kinney

<Lance.Kinney@pels.texas.gov>, Matthew <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>, Sheila
<Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>, \_Cedar Park Council <council@cedarparktexas.gov>

reminder - 2

Pls let me know if I am reaching out to the wrong department for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Sat, Oct 9, 2021 at 4:08 AM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

Dear Ms. Gloria,

It will be kind of you if you can help me by arranging possible testing for environmental studies on my property to find out levels of pollutants and noise etc. as i have not been able to convince any other party(city, engineers, or compliance) to even answer the request.

Thanks and Regards,

On Thu, Sep 23, 2021 at 6:37 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a> wrote:

Dear Gloria (EPA Govt):

Please find attached 2 of the many complaint emails and responses that I have exchanged with the city of cedar park. There is a very high level of noise and pollution level inside my property line. The city has not addressed them and I have been asking them for the last 3 years before ultimately coming to EPA help. They have not even sent anyone to conduct a study of noise and/or pollution on my property. They removed 3 huge trees and extended the road to merely 10 feet away from my property. All this was done because the city could not claim land on another side that belongs to BCCP (a federal body) that takes care of wildlife. I wrote to the city my concerns loud and clear before they started the project. Then raised it to HOA to voice it. Spoke of it in city meetings, engineering meetings and also shown through numerous emails how trucks, heavy vehicles, fuel and gas vehicles, etc violate the traffic every day.

Even a request for a speedometer to show speeding is not even installed. The idea is to not measure it so that it can never be claimed as wrongdoing. A contractor who once measured the noise level for other neighbors (Brian Hall) was warned by city engineers of contracts he may miss so he bailed out.

The engineers did "not" do any safety calculations, and even TBPE (CC Mr. Lance, TBPE) is unable to fix them as they cannot rule over city decisions.

City engineers have done ZERO (Maths: 0) <u>Safety Calculations</u> for the **last 25+yrs**. I do not think they know how to do it at all. They outsource this and then just submit "Accounting calculations" in the column of calculations. <u>Imagine all the lives lost due to this in the last 25 years</u>. I fail to understand how this white-collar killing of American lives is okay for anyone. I will definitely

write to the president's office to not offer any Texas state engineer any job when the infrastructure bill is rolled out for planning and implementation. These engineers will just kill people and probably walk away with pointing fingers at speeding trucks, traffic, and bad sight, etc

There is a road - "Lakeline Blvd" in Cedar Park. The neighbors from the road have been asking for protection for years. I have seen their hue and cry too. What is the fix that engineers had? Every time an accident happens (and who knows some life also lost in past 25 yrs) they fix road by putting red-light and signboards.

The city engineers have always pushed me to interact with the police in order to deal with noise and pollution. In my country (India) police do not do pollution control or noise control. It seems weird asking them for sending equipment and doing the readings first.

I will like pollution checks and noise level meters checks. The noise level meters must be with directional microphones as they are generated by transportation vehicles' tires and body parts (not engine).

The 10 households were impacted by this road expansion. 3 Indian minority groups, 1 black minority, 1 LGBT minority, and 1 low-income retired family out of 10. 9 of the families have roads farther away than mine, and also have a tiny 4 ft wall to protect to some extend (though it is not enough I believe).

Any vegetation I have planted on the roadside is dead in days, the noise inside the property line is beyond 100 DB at night and more in the day, rarely seen any 18 wheeler following traffic rules, and the city is now gearing to sell properties around the area to Amazon and HEB and their trucking will be making it more unsafe than ever.

(Marking in CC the city council)

--

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 2:19 PM Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you for your response.

The address of property in question is: 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX 78613

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:58 PM Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov> wrote:

Dear Sandeep,

Thank you very much for reaching out with this concern regarding road expansion activity affecting your local community. You did in fact reach out correctly to the Office of Environmental Justice in EPA's headquarters office. I am putting you in touch with our EJ folks in EPA's Region 6 office (responsible for Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma).

Gloria Vaughn is the EJ Coordinator for EPA Region 6 and Gerardo Acosta is I believe at present the manager over the EJ program in Region 6.

Sincerely,

Matthew

Matthew Tejada

Director - Office of Environmental Justice

**Environmental Protection Agency** 

202-360-6867 (cell)

202-564-8047 (ofc)

Pronouns: he, him, his

For up-to-date information, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: <u>join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov</u>. Follow us on Twitter: <u>@EPAEnvJustice</u>.

From: Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>>

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:25 PM

To: Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov >; Lewis, Sheila < Lewis. Sheila@epa.gov >; Kumar, Chitra

<<u>Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov</u>>; Lee, Charles <<u>Lee.Charles@epa.gov</u>>

**Subject:** Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

sorry I sent an email too soon. I wanted to add this

There were some end-results from the communication with some teams (though not very fruitful)

- [1] BCCP recently wrote to me that the city has worked in their capacity to expand and have not done any wrongdoing when expanding the road. Nothing about permits was communicated.
- [2] TBPE reported that they cannot act on city P.E engineers as they are outside their investigation purview.
- [3] In response to an email to City compliance, the city pushed me to the police dept for noise and pollution complaints.

[4] Engineers have verbally confessed that the safety on the property is less than other 9 properties. and without commitment said If they have resources then they may try to fix things.		
	est Regards, andeep Kalra	
0	n Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:12 PM Sandeep Kalra < <u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u> > wrote:	
	To: Office of Environmental Justice:	
	Dear Sir/Madam:	
	I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.	
	Background:	
	This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.	

# Impact:

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just 10 to 11 ft away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

## Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

#### Communication:

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and

cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

You all:

\*Ref1:<u>http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20Assessment%20Tech%20Report.pdf</u>

Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

PS:

[1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.

[2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>>
To: Sam Roberts < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>>

Cc: Christopher Copple < <a href="mailto:Christopher.Copple@cedarparktexas.gov">Christopher.Copple@cedarparktexas.gov</a> >, Jill Hoffman

<<u>Jill.Hoffman@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Darlene Lewis <<u>darlene.lewis@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 27 Jan 2020 22:55:43 -0600

Subject: Re: Noise Complaints from Anderson Mill Rd.

Mr. Sam:

Thanks for the clarification about ownership of noise compliance. I was not aware of it.

I have raised my concern(mailed them twice) for high-speed traffic and safety concerns along with noise compliance requests to law enforcement too. I have also asked them to install a battery and solar operated speedometer to show to the travelers the speed. I do not anticipate them to stand there all the time. Till now I have not heard back anything from them.

Is this response of yours an official response of the City?

<u>Article 8.008.005 (3)</u> Sound produced by a <u>motor vehicle motor</u> in good working order while the motor vehicle is moving on a public right-of-way, public waterway, airport runway, or railroad. This <u>does</u> <u>not include sound</u> produced by sound-producing equipment within the motor vehicle or attached to the motor vehicle.

 And while we acknowledge your complaint that the noise from the tires on cars and trucks travelling on Anderson Mill Rd is exceeding the maximum decibel levels in the noise regulations, this noise is considered to be part of the noise generated by the motor vehicle and is therefore exempt.

I am not a legal expert and I will try getting legal help to cross-examine the claims if this is an official response.

I am available mostly on Fridays after 2:00 PM. I will only come if the session is fully recorded (Audio and Video) that I will also get access to it, and will like to know the participant's name 2 days before hand.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Jan 22, 2020 at 3:05 PM Sam Roberts <Sam.Roberts@cedarparktexas.gov> wrote:

Dear Mr. Kalra. The purpose of this communication to you is to try to answer some of the questions and concerns in your last 2 emails (below) and to provide some information that you may or may not be aware of. Below is a bullet summary of this information I wish to convey to you:

- First of all I need to inform you that Chris Copple, Robert, Kevin and Amber do not enforce the city's Noise Regulations, Article 8.08. The Noise Regulations are enforced by the Cedar Park Police Department.
  - If you wish to report a noise complaint (excluding noise from vehicles in the public right-of-way, see below) call 911 or call the Police Department's main number 512-260-4600.
- Secondly, I need to tell you that the City's Noise Regulations, specifically, Article 8.008.005 (3) grant an exemption to sounds produced by motor vehicles in the public right-of-way (e.g. Anderson Mill Rd). See verbiage from the city's ordinance below:

<u>Article 8.008.005 (3)</u> Sound produced by a motor vehicle motor in good working order while the motor vehicle is moving on a public right-of-way, public waterway, airport runway, or

railroad. This does not include sound produced by sound producing equipment within the motor vehicle or attached to the motor vehicle.

- And while we acknowledge your complaint that the noise from the tires on cars and trucks travelling on Anderson Mill Rd is exceeding the maximum decibel levels in the noise regulations, this noise is considered to be part of the noise generated by the motor vehicle and is therefore exempt.
- · And Lastly, regarding your complaint about the air contaminants coming from Anderson Mill Rd onto your property exceeding the City's Environmental Standards Ordinance Article 8.12, I need to inform you that these regulations apply to air contaminants generated by uses within properties or "zoning districts" around the City and the thresholds are measured at the property boundary. These regulations do not apply to public roadways, except during the construction of such public roadways.

In closing, I would like to offer to meet with you to try to answer any questions you may have. I will need to include some of the subject matter experts such as the engineers who worked on the roadway in such a meeting. If you would like to meet, please let me know of some dates and times you are available. And please also feel free to call me at the number below.

Sincerely,

Sam P. Roberts, P.E.

**Assistant City Manager** 

City of Cedar Park

512-401-5368 DL

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com >

Date: January 18, 2020 at 11:23:36 AM CST

**To:** Kevin Elliott < <a href="mailto:Kevin.Elliott@cedarparktexas.gov">Kevin.Elliott@cedarparktexas.gov</a>>, Amber Smith

<a href="mailto:</a><a href="mailto:Amber.Lund@cedarparktexas.gov">>, Robert Henning Jr <a href="mailto:Robert.Henning@cedarparktexas.gov">Robert Henning Jr <a href="mailto:Robert.Henning@cedarparktexas.gov">Robert.Henning@cedarparktexas.gov</a>>

**Cc:** Alan Green <<u>Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Christopher Copple

<Christopher.Copple@cedarparktexas.gov>, LeAnn Quinn <LeAnn.Quinn@cedarparktexas.gov>,

Darwin Marchell < <a href="mailto:darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov">darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov</a>>, JP LeCompte

<<u>JP.LeCompte@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Jody Barr <<u>Jody.Barr@kxan.com</u>>,

"anderson.mill.road@gmail.com" <anderson.mill.road@gmail.com>, "asvillarreal@keyetv.com"

<asvillarreal@keyetv.com>, "bperdue@communityimpact.com"

<bperdue@communityimpact.com>, dkalra111 < dkalra111@gmail.com>,

"kgonzales@kvue.com" <kgonzales@kvue.com>, Mayor Van Arsdale

< <u>Mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, "<u>ourtexasnewspaper@gmail.com</u>"

<ourtexasnewspaper@gmail.com>, "sag225@txstate.edu" <sag225@txstate.edu>,

"<u>Lauren.Gammon@wilco.org</u>" <<u>Lauren.Gammon@wilco.org</u>>, "<u>TNRWeb@traviscountytx.gov</u>"

<<u>TNRWeb@traviscountytx.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: Request for Information on grave concerns from resident of the city.

Mr. Robert, Mr. Kevin, Ms. Amber:

This is my 2nd reminder email to take action on my complaint of non-compliance by the city by building structure next to my property. The city is not compliant to :

§ 8.08 noise regulation not met on my property.

§ 8.12 pollution and smoke due to structure on my property.

Please give me a complaint-ID or tracking number or simple email reply in writing to confirm that you are or will be investigating this issue.

If there is 'No action' on your part, and not even registering the case, then I will go to TCOLE for help.

Ref: https://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/non-compliance-fag

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Sun, Jan 5, 2020 at 1:26 AM Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > wrote:

Dear Robert, Kevin and Amber.

You are mentioned as "Compliance Officers" on Cedar Park TX page. I am making a request for compliance with this email (with some journalist, Engineers and City Mayor in CC).

The city of cedar park has expanded "Anderson Mill road". By doing so, they have violated my rights. The city under their own compliance rules of section 8.08 Noise regulations makes it mandatory for any party to make noise beyond these limits:

(1) <u>Daytime</u>: 70 dB(A) or 80 dB(C); or

(2) <u>Nighttime</u>: 50 dB(A) or 60 dB(C

The construction from Anderson Mill road has now impacted me as now the noise level on my property is way above 100+db at night and 150+db at daytime. This is coming from the tires of the passing traffic. The compliance rule under exemption of 8.08.005 does allow noise from only the motor of the motor-vehicle to be unaccounted (which I did when I measured using my equipments). I want the city to comply to the nuisance of road and vehicles by either disallowing the vehicles making noise to be stopped or make adjustments of the road and its boundaries to not produce this noise inside my property line.

I have request city many times via email to come and test using beam forming microphones to do a compliance reading but I guess I wasn't taking to right people.

Official procedure will require "Acoustic Beam forming" to measure noises other than of tires . I think there are plenty of contractors out there who have this equipment ready and if not I am happy to refer to you few contractors who can do the compliance reading.

A detail of procedure can be found in this book recommended by the US body of National Cooperative Highway Research Program(NCHRP):

Acoustic Beamforming: Mapping Sources of Truck Noise, link:

https://books.google.com/books?

id=rDyhc7WhqqIC&pg=PA7&dq=argument+motor+vehicle+mot or+sound+is+not+motor+vehicle+tyre+sound&hl=en&newbks= 1&newbks\_redir=0&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj2uMbW9evmAhUZCs0 KHZ9cCjQQ6AEwAXoECAUQAg#v=onepage&q=argument%20mo tor%20vehicle%20motor%20sound%20is%20not%20motor% 20vehicle%20tyre%20sound&f=false

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com >

To: Celeste Starr Schulz <celeste.schulz@goodwintx.com>

Cc: dkalra111 < dkalra111@gmail.com >, Kristi Estes < kristi.estes@goodwintx.com >, Alan Green

<a href="mailto:square;"><Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov</a>, Darwin Marchell <a href="mailto:darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov">darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov</a>, Erica Gonzales

<erica.gonzales@goodwintx.com>, Jody Barr <Jody.Barr@kxan.com>, "anderson.mill.road@gmail.com"

<anderson.mill.road@gmail.com>, "leann.quinn@cedarparktexas.gov" <leann.quinn@cedarparktexas.gov>,

"mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov" < mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov >

Bcc:

Date: Thu, 31 Oct 2019 13:41:07 -0500

Subject: Re: Notice of withdrawal of permission to touch fence or change anything

Following up with you Celeste... do you get to know who in HOA is the person to handle and respond to my email? Please add him/her by introducing it to all in the email chain. I cannot run 1:1 email for this topic. Also, Probably you were in-charge when this property was ruined by CITY, and as rep of HOA you cared nothing, How about if you would have sent strong concern letter to CITY about the life of grass, trees , shrubs, or people living on property that the road may harm.. (I have gotten notice just for not cutting grass).

And to others too, If you still work for CITY, CITY/ENGG DEPT and received this email, then you were in-charge to some part ... now if you are not representing the department, then find the person who is, introduce in here ..., and enjoy the show.

You all may feel my email shitty, but my perception about you all isn't great either. Let me SHOW my side BACKED BY EVIDENCE (proofs attached - just to show pollution)

I bought these 2 shrubs (**Same brand** - pics attached, **same day** i.e. 07/01/19 JUST 4 MONTHS BACK, **same store** - Home Depot, receipt attached, **planted same day**, and **nurtured equally** in all ways). I planted one on side facing Anderson Mill road, and other facing Gaspar Bend road. This is what the two looks like today morning. Claim your halloween candy at my place when you successfully figure out which photo is for plant that faces Anderson mill road?

And claim bigger packet of candies if you reply all here and tell to others "what it means living at this place 7x24x365".

Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Oct 30, 2019 at 7:25 PM Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>> wrote: Please send to whom so ever manages it.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Oct 30, 2019 at 7:02 PM Celeste Starr Schulz <  $\frac{\text{celeste.schulz@goodwintx.com}}{\text{I don't manage this property anymore}}$  wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Oct 30, 2019 at 6:54 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a> wrote:

To whom so ever it is concern -

Let me know if you have any objections to this request and / or need more information from me. In case you are not the right person, please redirect this to him/her for the immediate action.

The noise due to the traffic on road is unimaginably high inside my house and around my property, and Safety and pollution has always been a concern from me. The inept city engineers (some decorated one too) just did not do things right. The Mayor and City reps were all muted and let this happen, and HOA played helpless in situation and failed in protecting the rights of the residents.

So, Starting Nov mid, I will be replacing and extending the existing fence wall on 2 sides (One facing the Anderson road, and other that is behind us) to make living better than hell as it is now. My plan is to hire a mason and build a 8 to 10 ft concrete fence wall and/or a masonry cider block wall ... I am funding from my own money(single earner here).. so you are more then welcome to send cheque/check if you want.

Looks and Beautification is not on my agenda, and if it is on yours, please reach me and tell me what I can do within my budget to do that...

No affirmative action on this email from HOA, CITY or ENGINEERS by Nov-15th-2019 will mean that they do not have any objection to the construction here. Some agencies (City, HOA etc) may want to squeeze \$50 to \$100 on this occassion in the name of forms and formal proceedings and show that they have the upper hand ... let me know if that is the case here. Reply shamelessly to this email asking for that form please.

Sandeep Kalra

On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 7:45 PM Celeste Starr Schulz < celeste.schulz@goodwintx.com > wrote: I only manage the HOA. This sounds like a city issue.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 24, 2018, at 7:43 PM, Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a> wrote:

The HOA is "Westside Preserve @ buttercup creek, Cedar Park, TX"

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 7:31 PM Deepshikha Kalra < <a href="mailto:dkalra111@gmail.com">dkalra111@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

Celeste, are you the person responsible for Westside @ buttercup creek? If yes, then please take it back to mgmt

On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 6:00 PM Kristi Estes < <a href="mailto:kristi.estes@goodwintx.com">kristi.estes@goodwintx.com</a>> wrote:

I am not associated with this community. I have added the HOA property manager, Celeste Schulz, to my response to be sure she is in the loop.

Thank you,

Kristi Estes

**HOA Property Manager** 

Goodwin Management

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:14 PM
To: Alan Green < Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov >

Cc: anderson.mill.road@gmail.com; dkalra111 < dkalra111@gmail.com >; Darwin Marchell

<a href="mailto:darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov">darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov</a>; <a href="mailto:leann.quinn@cedarparktexas.gov">leann.quinn@cedarparktexas.gov</a>;

<u>mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov</u>; Jody Barr <<u>Jody.Barr@kxan.com</u>>; Erica Gonzales

<erica.gonzales@goodwintx.com>; Kristi Estes <kristi.estes@goodwintx.com>
Subject: Re: Notice of withdrawal of permission to touch fence or change anything

We will appreciate if an email acknowledgment is made by the recipient.

-- Decision --

We reject the current fence offer made by the city of cedar park, thus the restrictions to enter our property still exists.

I and my wife(called "we") has collectively decided that the Anderson mill road expansion project is not safe for us and our family, friends and for any resident around our property. Our decision is based on the rationale that is posted towards the end of this email. As with the situation at hand, we see absolutely no benefits in accepting the deal of just a higher (additional 2 ft) wood fence to what we have now.

We see this moment as an opportunity to either get a writing a worked out plan for our safety from HOA(The HOA of buttercup creek, Cedar Park, TX) and/or City (The city of cedar park) or else to tell them (to HOA and/or City) what our next action will be in case they fail to provide us with the basic safety, security, and peace of mind.

We also see this moment to tell what we see wrong in this project and our frustration, sadness, and loss of trust for the engineers, City, and/or HOA involved directly or indirectly with the execution of this project.

-- What we will accept --

we will accept one of the 4 options/plans given below.

[ Plan 1 ] We will accept the 8 ft wooden fence if the City does the complete calculation for the worst case for the whole project and guarantee us in writing that the risks are less than 1% for anyone standing on my property line or the sidewalk next to it (at any place).

[ Plan 2] We will accept the 8 ft wooden fence if the City and/or the HOA undertakes in writing a non-revokable, and with no statuary-limits undertaking that any accidents will be compensated with more than \$50m / per person involved.

[ Plan 3] We will accept the 8 ft wooden fence if the City makes for us a barrier of 3 ft at the roadside.

[ Plan 4] This is the open-ended plan. If HOA and/or City have anything better to offer and also guaranteed to be safe and secure (must be backed by calculations and previous data of similar deployments) then we are also open to considering them. All the documents must be developed by licensed engineers and must be backed by 2 additional PE engineers appointed by City. In this case, we will accept the 8 ft wooden fence only after making sure that the plan is safe.

Note: The **deadline** for the agreement is either "End of the current project" or "The day when the lane next to our property is ready for the public to use". Whichever comes first.

-- otherwise, what we plan on doing next --

We will build our own wall. The size(15ft) and material(concrete or stone) were already published by us in our recommendations when we met the city for the first time in May 2017. The concerns (in form of PDF, called concerns.pdf) were given to them as a resident who has been facing the challenges out from this development since Jan 2017. A copy of it is attached. The readings will be from the outside of the property (i.e. at walkway level). We will not provide access to anyone from HOA or city to enter our property for any inspection.

We may possibly go to the law of the state and TBPE and ask for our safety and to showcase the wrongdoings of state and the licensed engineers.

#### -- Rationale --

Property sits at a point where a potential 40000 lbs to 80,000 lbs 18 wheelers are allowed northbound @ 40 mph. Part of the project is developed on simple speculations such as all drivers are slow, no one will overtake, no one will be drunk at all time etc). There are no checks and balances if they turn right or just park right next to the property. No street lights next to the walkway. No red-lights to make the traffic stop or slow down. No Barrier to protect our safety from 18 wheelers. No Calculations based on models developed using mathematics, science and past experiences from similar situations. No Noise control. No trees. No pollution checks. No risk analysis. The city is **not even** able to find 20 other properties in the similar situation in whole Cedar Park. This walkway is the **most unsafe journey** that my family will be taking from my own house to the backyard land that I left as an easement for utility lines. 100% risk, and for rewards it is just an additional 2 ft high wood fence?. The unprotected walkway will be used by kids going to school, bicycles, joggers and others pedestrians. Walkway to deer creek elementary was merely 5-6 ft wide in few places while I took the journey to elementary school.

My front yard is now almost unusable with just 6 to 8 ft away from the road with no protection. 400+ vehicles per day make it equivalent of highway (Ref: Greenbook, AASHTO, 2001). With the distance of road as close as 6 ft. to our property line, **we do not feel safe.** See addendum on Measurements for the readings.

## Add-ons Rationales: [The ironic ones]

- By the engineer's argument: The drivers on this road **are blind enough** to not see the 3-4 ft barrier and need a line of sight else they will crash in, but **the drivers surprisingly have 20/20 vision** when a 3 to 4 ft high kid is on the same walkway.
- Texas ranks 11th (out of 50 states) in drunk driving accidents (2017 data). Yet the engineers never envision a single drunk driver of the car, or the truck hitting the curb or side of the road.
- The engineers can promise (we have 10+ residents as the witness and possibly a recording audio of meeting with details) that they will give at least 3 ft barrier and retention wall to all properties, and they can simply walk back their own words because they think no one will question them.
- The city and HOA would not accept different looking boundary walls/fences until they have to offer it and someone can say no and end up with different wall/fence than others. Looks like the rules are just for the residents and not

for city and HOA.

- Licensed PE Engineers are asked for engineering documents with reference to exact sections per TBPE documents, and they get back with Business documents and cost calculations.
- The city will ask for concerns from those who will face the music  $7 \times 24 \times 365$  (i.e. the residents), but mute itself into accepting whatever the engineers suggest who are running this project as their backyard project.
- The city failed to persuade Austin-City to give part of the land that Austin uses for birds, so Cedar Park picked up the fight with local residents because they can do so.
- -- The mindset of the City and HOA is worrisome here:

They have just one line of thought: If one property owner gets a wall or different barrier because of the valid safety concerns then others may ask for it and the job of denying them will be hard, so let us not give it to the resident with reasons.

-- Addendum: Measurements (+- 0.2 ft margin )--

Readings are taken on my property (from front to back). All readings were taken from the edge of curb to property line.

**Front Yard:** Min distance to the road from my property line is 6 ft. Max distance is 9 ft from the property line.

From fence start to the point the right lane meeting point: Min is 9 ft, and the Max distance is at 10 ft from the property line.

Back Yard: Min is 11 ft. Farthest is 20+ ft.

Thanks,

Sandeep Kalra & Deepshikha Kalra

201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX 78613

Dated: 09/24/2018

On Thu, Sep 20, 2018 at 10:49 AM Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com> wrote:

I am coming this weekend there in cedar Park house to personally evaluate the situation and then I will let you know.

BTW, initial email from you saying if one property owner do not agree then it will be a 'no' to all. How is it that possible that you now want to give others a fence but okay if I walk out?

On Tue, Sep 18, 2018, 11:44 AM Alan Green <a href="mailto:Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov">Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov</a> wrote:

#### Sandeep:

I am following up on the email below. Since the fence construction is about to start sometime next week, I just wanted to check and see if the right-of-entry withdrawal is still in effect. The fence contractor will only be out there for about a week and if you want your fence reconstructed, he needs to complete this work while he is out there. We won't be paying an additional mobilization fee for the contractor to come back out there after he finished the other sections of fence.

Thanks,

Alan

From: Sandeep Kalra [mailto:<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 11:48 PM

To: Darwin Marchell < darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov >

Cc: Alan Green < Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov >

Subject: Notice of withdrawal of permission to touch fence or change anything

As a property owner of '201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX, USA 78613' I am sending this email as an official notice of withdrawal of all permissions given by orally or in writing to the city of Cedar Park to Enter my property line and/or to modify the current fence or anything else till I feel that the city has ensured the safety and security of the resident and neighborhood while developing and expanding Anderson mill road project.

This is effective right now i.e. Aug-01-2018 time 11:45 PM.

	Note: The property is under video surveillance and if there is any act of entrance
	recorded by anyone from City, I will take it as a known act of violation.
	Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra
Best Regards,	
Best Regards,	
Sandeen Kalra	

Subject: Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

**Date:** Saturday, October 9, 2021 at 4:08:01 AM Central Daylight Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>
To: Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>

**CC:** Charles < Lee. Charles @epa.gov>, Chitra < Kumar. Chitra @epa.gov>, Lance Kinney

<Lance.Kinney@pels.texas.gov>, Matthew <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>, Sheila
<Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>, \_Cedar Park Council <council@cedarparktexas.gov>

Dear Ms. Gloria,

It will be kind of you if you can help me by arranging possible testing for environmental studies on my property to find out levels of pollutants and noise etc. as i have not been able to convince any other party(city, engineers, or compliance) to even answer the request.

Thanks and Regards,

On Thu, Sep 23, 2021 at 6:37 PM Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>> wrote: Dear Gloria (EPA Govt):

Please find attached 2 of the many complaint emails and responses that I have exchanged with the city of cedar park. There is a very high level of noise and pollution level inside my property line. The city has not addressed them and I have been asking them for the last 3 years before ultimately coming to EPA help. They have not even sent anyone to conduct a study of noise and/or pollution on my property. They removed 3 huge trees and extended the road to merely 10 feet away from my property. All this was done because the city could not claim land on another side that belongs to BCCP (a federal body) that takes care of wildlife. I wrote to the city my concerns loud and clear before they started the project. Then raised it to HOA to voice it. Spoke of it in city meetings, engineering meetings and also shown through numerous emails how trucks, heavy vehicles, fuel and gas vehicles, etc violate the traffic every day.

Even a request for a speedometer to show speeding is not even installed. The idea is to not measure it so that it can never be claimed as wrongdoing. A contractor who once measured the noise level for other neighbors (Brian Hall) was warned by city engineers of contracts he may miss so he bailed out.

The engineers did "not" do any safety calculations, and even TBPE (CC Mr. Lance, TBPE) is unable to fix them as they cannot rule over city decisions.

City engineers have done ZERO (Maths: 0) <u>Safety Calculations</u> for the <u>last 25+yrs</u>. I do not think they know how to do it at all. They outsource this and then just submit "Accounting calculations" in the column of calculations. <u>Imagine all the lives lost due to this in the last 25 years.</u> I fail to understand how this white-collar killing of American lives is okay for anyone. I will definitely write to the president's office to not offer any Texas state engineer any job when the infrastructure bill is rolled out for planning and implementation. These engineers will just kill people and probably walk away with pointing fingers at speeding trucks, traffic, and bad sight, etc.

There is a road - "Lakeline Blvd" in Cedar Park. The neighbors from the road have been asking for protection for years. I have seen their hue and cry too. What is the fix that engineers had? Every time an accident happens (and who knows some life also lost in past 25 yrs) they fix road by putting red-light and signboards.

The city engineers have always pushed me to interact with the police in order to deal with noise and pollution. In my country (India) police do not do pollution control or noise control. It seems weird asking them for sending equipment and doing the readings first.

I will like pollution checks and noise level meters checks. The noise level meters must be with directional microphones as they

are generated by transportation vehicles' tires and body parts (not engine). The 10 households were impacted by this road expansion. 3 Indian minority groups, 1 black minority, 1 LGBT minority, and 1 low-income retired family out of 10. 9 of the families have roads farther away than mine, and also have a tiny 4 ft wall to

protect to some extend (though it is not enough I believe).

**Environmental Protection Agency** 

202-360-6867 (cell)

Any vegetation I have planted on the roadside is dead in days, the noise inside the property line is beyond 100 DB at night and more in the day, rarely seen any 18 wheeler following traffic rules, and the city is now gearing to sell properties around the

area to Amazon and HEB and their trucking will be making it more unsafe than ever. (Marking in CC the city council) Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 2:19 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a> wrote: Thank you for your response. The address of property in question is: 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX 78613 Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:58 PM Tejada, Matthew < Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov > wrote: Dear Sandeep, Thank you very much for reaching out with this concern regarding road expansion activity affecting your local community. You did in fact reach out correctly to the Office of Environmental Justice in EPA's headquarters office. I am putting you in touch with our EJ folks in EPA's Region 6 office (responsible for Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma). Gloria Vaughn is the EJ Coordinator for EPA Region 6 and Gerardo Acosta is I believe at present the manager over the EJ program in Region 6. Sincerely, Matthew Matthew Tejada Director - Office of Environmental Justice

202-564-8047 (ofc)

Pronouns: he, him, his

For up-to-date information, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: <u>join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov</u>. Follow us on Twitter: <u>@EPAEnvJustice</u>.

From: Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>> Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:25 PM

To: Tejada, Matthew <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>; Lewis, Sheila <Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>; Kumar, Chitra

<<u>Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov</u>>; Lee, Charles <<u>Lee.Charles@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

sorry I sent an email too soon. I wanted to add this

There were some end-results from the communication with some teams (though not very fruitful)

- [1] BCCP recently wrote to me that the city has worked in their capacity to expand and have not done any wrongdoing when expanding the road. Nothing about permits was communicated.
- [2] TBPE reported that they cannot act on city P.E engineers as they are outside their investigation purview.
- [3] In response to an email to City compliance, the city pushed me to the police dept for noise and pollution complaints.
- [4] Engineers have verbally confessed that the safety on the property is less than other 9 properties. and without commitment said If they have resources then they may try to fix things.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:12 PM Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>> wrote:

To: Office of Environmental Justice:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.

## Background:

This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.

## Impact:

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just 10 to 11 ft away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

### Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

## Communication:

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

### You all:

\*Ref1:http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20Assess ment%20Tech%20Report.pdf Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

PS:

[1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.

[2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>>
To: Sam Roberts <<u>Sam.Roberts@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>

Cc: Christopher Copple < <a href="mailto:Christopher.Copple@cedarparktexas.gov">Christopher.Copple@cedarparktexas.gov</a>, Jill Hoffman

<Jill.Hoffman@cedarparktexas.gov>, Darlene Lewis <darlene.lewis@cedarparktexas.gov>

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 27 Jan 2020 22:55:43 -0600

Subject: Re: Noise Complaints from Anderson Mill Rd.

Mr. Sam:

Thanks for the clarification about ownership of noise compliance. I was not aware of it.

I have raised my concern(mailed them twice) for high-speed traffic and safety concerns along with noise compliance requests to law enforcement too. I have also asked them to install a battery and solar operated speedometer to show to the travelers the speed. I do not anticipate them to stand there all the time. Till now I have not heard back anything from them.

Is this response of yours an official response of the City?

<u>Article 8.008.005 (3)</u> Sound produced by a <u>motor vehicle motor</u> in good working order while the motor vehicle is moving on a public right-of-way, public waterway, airport runway, or railroad. This <u>does not</u>

<u>include sound</u> produced by sound-producing equipment within the motor vehicle or attached to the motor vehicle.

o And while we acknowledge your complaint that the noise from the tires on cars and trucks travelling on Anderson Mill Rd is exceeding the maximum decibel levels in the noise regulations, this noise is considered to be part of the noise generated by the motor vehicle and is therefore exempt.

I am not a legal expert and I will try getting legal help to cross-examine the claims if this is an official response.

I am available mostly on Fridays after 2:00 PM. I will only come if the session is fully recorded (Audio and Video) that I will also get access to it, and will like to know the participant's name 2 days before hand.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Jan 22, 2020 at 3:05 PM Sam Roberts < Sam.Roberts@cedarparktexas.gov > wrote:

Dear Mr. Kalra. The purpose of this communication to you is to try to answer some of the questions and concerns in your last 2 emails (below) and to provide some information that you may or may not be aware of. Below is a bullet summary of this information I wish to convey to you:

- · First of all I need to inform you that Chris Copple, Robert, Kevin and Amber do not enforce the city's Noise Regulations, Article 8.08. The Noise Regulations are enforced by the Cedar Park Police Department.
  - If you wish to report a noise complaint (excluding noise from vehicles in the public right-of-way, see below) call 911 or call the Police Department's main number 512-260-4600.
- Secondly, I need to tell you that the City's Noise Regulations, specifically, Article 8.008.005 (3) grant an exemption to sounds produced by motor vehicles in the public right-of-way (e.g. Anderson Mill Rd). See verbiage from the city's ordinance below:

<u>Article 8.008.005 (3)</u> Sound produced by a motor vehicle motor in good working order while the motor vehicle is moving on a public right-of-way, public waterway, airport runway, or railroad. This does not include sound produced by sound producing equipment within the motor vehicle or attached to the motor vehicle.

- And while we acknowledge your complaint that the noise from the tires on cars and trucks travelling on Anderson Mill Rd is exceeding the maximum decibel levels in the noise regulations, this noise is considered to be part of the noise generated by the motor vehicle and is therefore exempt.
- · And Lastly, regarding your complaint about the air contaminants coming from Anderson Mill Rd onto your property exceeding the City's Environmental Standards Ordinance Article 8.12, I need to inform you that these regulations apply to air contaminants generated by uses within properties or "zoning districts" around the City and the thresholds are measured at the property boundary. These regulations do not apply to public roadways, except during the construction of

such public roadways.

In closing, I would like to offer to meet with you to try to answer any questions you may have. I will need to include some of the subject matter experts such as the engineers who worked on the roadway in such a meeting. If you would like to meet, please let me know of some dates and times you are available. And please also feel free to call me at the number below.

Sincerely,

Sam P. Roberts, P.E.

**Assistant City Manager** 

City of Cedar Park

512-401-5368 DL

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

Date: January 18, 2020 at 11:23:36 AM CST

**To:** Kevin Elliott < <a href="mailto:Kevin.Elliott@cedarparktexas.gov">Kevin.Elliott@cedarparktexas.gov</a>>, Amber Smith

< Amber.Lund@cedarparktexas.gov >, Robert Henning Jr < Robert.Henning@cedarparktexas.gov >

**Cc:** Alan Green < Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov >, Christopher Copple

<<u>Christopher.Copple@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, LeAnn Quinn <<u>LeAnn.Quinn@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>,

Darwin Marchell < darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov >, JP LeCompte

<<u>JP.LeCompte@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Jody Barr <<u>Jody.Barr@kxan.com</u>>,

"anderson.mill.road@gmail.com" <anderson.mill.road@gmail.com>, "asvillarreal@keyetv.com"

<asvillarreal@keyetv.com>, "bperdue@communityimpact.com"

<bperdue@communityimpact.com>, dkalra111 < dkalra111@gmail.com>, "kgonzales@kvue.com"

<kgonzales@kvue.com>, Mayor Van Arsdale <Mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov>,

"ourtexasnewspaper@gmail.com" <ourtexasnewspaper@gmail.com>, "sag225@txstate.edu"

<sag225@txstate.edu>, "Lauren.Gammon@wilco.org" <Lauren.Gammon@wilco.org>,

"TNRWeb@traviscountytx.gov" <TNRWeb@traviscountytx.gov>

Subject: Re: Request for Information on grave concerns from resident of the city.

Mr. Robert, Mr. Kevin, Ms. Amber:

This is my 2nd reminder email to take action on my complaint of non-compliance by the city by building structure next to my property. The city is not compliant to :

§ 8.08 noise regulation not met on my property.

§ 8.12 pollution and smoke due to structure on my property.

Please give me a complaint-ID or tracking number or simple email reply in writing to confirm that you are or will be investigating this issue.

If there is 'No action' on your part, and not even registering the case, then I will go to TCOLE for help.

Ref: <a href="https://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/non-compliance-faq">https://www.tcole.texas.gov/content/non-compliance-faq</a>

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Sun, Jan 5, 2020 at 1:26 AM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

Dear Robert, Kevin and Amber.

You are mentioned as "Compliance Officers" on Cedar Park TX page. I am making a request for compliance with this email (with some journalist, Engineers and City Mayor in CC).

The city of cedar park has expanded "Anderson Mill road". By doing so, they have violated my rights. The city under their own compliance rules of section 8.08 Noise regulations makes it mandatory for any party to make noise beyond these limits:

(1) <u>Daytime</u>: 70 dB(A) or 80 dB(C); or

(2) <u>Nighttime</u>: 50 dB(A) or 60 dB(C

The construction from Anderson Mill road has now impacted me as now the noise level on my property is way above 100+db at night and 150+db at daytime. This is coming from the tires of the passing traffic. The compliance rule under exemption of 8.08.005 does allow noise from only the motor of the motor-vehicle to be unaccounted (which I did when I measured using my equipments). I want the city to comply to the nuisance of road and vehicles by either disallowing the vehicles making noise to be stopped or make adjustments of the road and its boundaries to not produce this noise inside my property line.

I have request city many times via email to come and test using beam forming

microphones to do a compliance reading but I guess I wasn't taking to right people.

Official procedure will require "Acoustic Beam forming" to measure noises other than of tires . I think there are plenty of contractors out there who have this equipment ready and if not I am happy to refer to you few contractors who can do the compliance reading.

A detail of procedure can be found in this book recommended by the US body of National Cooperative Highway Research Program(NCHRP):

Acoustic Beamforming: Mapping Sources of Truck Noise , link:

https://books.google.com/books?

id=rDyhc7WhqqIC&pg=PA7&dq=argument+motor+vehicle+motor +sound+is+not+motor+vehicle+tyre+sound&hl=en&newbks=1& newbks\_redir=0&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj2uMbW9evmAhUZCs0KHZ 9cCjQQ6AEwAXoECAUQAg#v=onepage&q=argument%20motor% 20vehicle%20motor%20sound%20is%20not%20motor%20vehic le%20tyre%20sound&f=false

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com >

To: Celeste Starr Schulz < celeste.schulz@goodwintx.com >

Cc: dkalra111 < dkalra111@gmail.com >, Kristi Estes < kristi.estes@goodwintx.com >, Alan Green

< <u>Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Darwin Marchell < <u>darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Erica Gonzales

<erica.gonzales@goodwintx.com>, Jody Barr <<u>Jody.Barr@kxan.com</u>>, "anderson.mill.road@gmail.com"

"mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov" < mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov>

Bcc:

Date: Thu, 31 Oct 2019 13:41:07 -0500

Subject: Re: Notice of withdrawal of permission to touch fence or change anything

Following up with you Celeste... do you get to know who in HOA is the person to handle and respond to my email? Please add him/her by introducing it to all in the email chain. I cannot run 1:1 email for this topic. Also, Probably you were in-charge when this

property was ruined by CITY, and as rep of HOA you cared nothing, How about if you would have sent strong concern letter to CITY about the life of grass, trees , shrubs, or people living on property that the road may harm.. (I have gotten notice just for not cutting grass).

And to others too, If you still work for CITY, CITY/ENGG DEPT and received this email, then you were in-charge to some part ... now if you are not representing the department, then find the person who is, introduce in here ..., and enjoy the show.

You all may feel my email shitty, but my perception about you all isn't great either. Let me SHOW my side BACKED BY EVIDENCE (proofs attached - just to show pollution)

I bought these 2 shrubs (**Same brand** - pics attached, **same day** i.e. 07/01/19 JUST 4 MONTHS BACK, **same store** - Home Depot, receipt attached, **planted same day**, and **nurtured equally** in all ways). I planted one on side facing Anderson Mill road, and other facing Gaspar Bend road. This is what the two looks like today morning.

Claim your halloween candy at my place when you successfully figure out which photo is for plant that faces Anderson mill road? And claim bigger packet of candies if you reply all here and tell to others "what it means living at this place 7x24x365".

Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Oct 30, 2019 at 7:25 PM Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>> wrote: | Please send to whom so ever manages it.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Oct 30, 2019 at 7:02 PM Celeste Starr Schulz <  $\frac{\text{celeste.schulz@goodwintx.com}}{\text{I don't manage this property anymore}}$  wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Sandeep Kalra

On Wed, Oct 30, 2019 at 6:54 PM Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > wrote:

To whom so ever it is concern -

Let me know if you have any objections to this request and / or need more information from me. In case you are not the right person, please redirect this to him/her for the immediate action.

The noise due to the traffic on road is unimaginably high inside my house and around my property, and Safety and pollution has always been a concern from me. The inept city engineers (some decorated one too) just did not do things right. The Mayor and City reps were all muted and let this happen, and HOA played helpless in situation and failed in protecting the rights of the residents.

So, Starting Nov mid, I will be replacing and extending the existing fence wall on 2 sides (One facing the Anderson road, and other that is behind us) to make living better than hell as it is now. My plan is to hire a mason and build a 8 to 10 ft concrete fence wall and/or a masonry cider block wall ... I am funding from my own money(single earner here).. so you are more then welcome to send cheque/check if you want.

Looks and Beautification is not on my agenda, and if it is on yours, please reach me and tell me what I can do within my budget to do that...

No affirmative action on this email from HOA, CITY or ENGINEERS by Nov-15th-2019 will mean that they do not have any objection to the construction here. Some agencies (City, HOA etc) may want to squeeze \$50 to \$100 on this occassion in the name of forms and formal proceedings and

show that they have the upper hand ... let me know if that is the case here. Reply shamelessly to this email asking for that form please. Sandeep Kalra On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 7:45 PM Celeste Starr Schulz <celeste.schulz@goodwintx.com> wrote: I only manage the HOA. This sounds like a city issue. Sent from my iPhone On Sep 24, 2018, at 7:43 PM, Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote: The HOA is "Westside Preserve @ buttercup creek, Cedar Park, TX" Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 7:31 PM Deepshikha Kalra < dkalra111@gmail.com > wrote: Celeste, are you the person responsible for Westside @ buttercup creek? If yes, then please take it back to mgmt On Mon, Sep 24, 2018 at 6:00 PM Kristi Estes < kristi.estes@goodwintx.com > wrote: I am not associated with this community. I have added the HOA property manager, Celeste Schulz, to my response to be sure she is in the loop. Thank you, Kristi Estes **HOA Property Manager** Goodwin Management 512-922-3748 From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > Sent: Monday, September 24, 2018 5:14 PM To: Alan Green < Alan. Green@cedarparktexas.gov > Cc: anderson.mill.road@gmail.com; dkalra111 < dkalra111@gmail.com >; Darwin Marchell <<u>darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>; <u>leann.quinn@cedarparktexas.gov</u>; mayor.vanarsdale@cedarparktexas.gov; Jody Barr <Jody.Barr@kxan.com>; Erica Gonzales <erica.gonzales@goodwintx.com>; Kristi Estes <kristi.estes@goodwintx.com> Subject: Re: Notice of withdrawal of permission to touch fence or change anything

We will appreciate if an email acknowledgment is made by the recipient.

-- Decision --

We reject the current fence offer made by the city of cedar park, thus the restrictions to enter our property still exists.

I and my wife(called "we") has collectively decided that the Anderson mill road expansion project is not safe for us and our family, friends and for any resident around our property. Our decision is based on the rationale that is posted towards the end of this email. As with the situation at hand, we see absolutely no benefits in accepting the deal of just a higher (additional 2 ft) wood fence to what we have now.

We see this moment as an opportunity to either get a writing a worked out plan for our safety from HOA(The HOA of buttercup creek, Cedar Park, TX) and/or City (The city of cedar park) or else to tell them (to HOA and/or City) what our next action will be in case they fail to provide us with the basic safety, security, and peace of mind.

We also see this moment to tell what we see wrong in this project and our frustration, sadness, and loss of trust for the engineers, City, and/or HOA involved directly or indirectly with the execution of this project.

-- What we will accept --

we will accept one of the 4 options/plans given below.

[ Plan 1 ] We will accept the 8 ft wooden fence if the City does the complete calculation for the worst case for the whole project and guarantee us in writing that the risks are less than 1% for anyone standing on my property line or the sidewalk next to it (at any place).

[ Plan 2] We will accept the 8 ft wooden fence if the City and/or the HOA undertakes in writing a non-revokable, and with no statuary-limits undertaking that any accidents will be compensated with more than \$50m / per person involved.

[ Plan 3] We will accept the 8 ft wooden fence if the City makes for us a barrier of 3 ft at the roadside.

[ Plan 4] This is the open-ended plan. If HOA and/or City have anything better to offer and also guaranteed to be safe and secure (must be backed by calculations and previous data of similar deployments) then we are also open to considering them. All the documents must be developed by licensed engineers and must be backed by 2 additional PE engineers appointed by City. In this case, we will accept the 8 ft wooden fence only after making sure that the plan is safe.

Note: The **deadline** for the agreement is either "End of the current project" or "The day when the lane next to our property is ready for the public to use". Whichever comes first.

-- otherwise, what we plan on doing next --

We will build our own wall. The size(15ft) and material(concrete or stone) were already published by us in our recommendations when we met the city for the first time in May 2017. The concerns (in form of PDF, called concerns.pdf) were given to them as a resident who has been facing the challenges out from this development since Jan 2017. A copy of it is attached. The readings will be from the outside of the property (i.e. at walkway level). We will not provide access to anyone from HOA or city to enter our property for any inspection.

We may possibly go to the law of the state and TBPE and ask for our safety and to showcase the wrongdoings of state and the licensed engineers.

### -- Rationale --

Property sits at a point where a potential 40000 lbs to 80,000 lbs 18 wheelers are allowed northbound @ 40 mph. Part of the project is developed on simple speculations such as all drivers are slow, no one will overtake, no one will be drunk at all time etc). There are no checks and balances if they turn right or just park right next to the property. No street lights next to the walkway. No red-lights to make the traffic stop or slow down. No Barrier to protect our safety from 18 wheelers. No Calculations based on models developed using mathematics, science and past experiences from similar situations. No Noise control. No trees. No pollution checks. No risk analysis. The city is not even able to find 20 other properties in the similar situation in whole

Cedar Park. This walkway is the **most unsafe journey** that my family will be taking from my own house to the backyard land that I left as an easement for utility lines. **100% risk, and for rewards it is just an additional 2 ft high wood fence?.** The unprotected walkway will be used by kids going to school, bicycles, joggers and others pedestrians. **Walkway to deer creek elementary** was merely 5-6 ft wide in few places while I took the journey to elementary school.

My front yard is now almost unusable with just 6 to 8 ft away from the road with no protection. 400+ vehicles per day make it equivalent of highway (Ref: Greenbook, AASHTO, 2001). With the distance of road as close as 6 ft. to our property line, we do not feel safe. See addendum on Measurements for the readings.

## Add-ons Rationales: [The ironic ones]

- By the engineer's argument: The drivers on this road **are blind enough** to not see the 3-4 ft barrier and need a line of sight else they will crash in, but **the drivers surprisingly have 20/20 vision** when a 3 to 4 ft high kid is on the same walkway.
- Texas ranks 11th (out of 50 states) in drunk driving accidents (2017 data). Yet the engineers never envision a single drunk driver of the car, or the truck hitting the curb or side of the road.
- The engineers can promise (we have 10+ residents as the witness and possibly a recording audio of meeting with details) that they will give at least 3 ft barrier and retention wall to all properties, and they can simply walk back their own words because they think no one will question them.
- The city and HOA would not accept different looking boundary walls/fences until they have to offer it and someone can say no and end up with different wall/fence than others. Looks like the rules are just for the residents and not for city and HOA.
- Licensed PE Engineers are asked for engineering documents with reference to exact sections per TBPE documents, and they get back with Business documents and cost calculations.
- The city will ask for concerns from those who will face the music  $7 \times 24 \times 365$  (i.e. the residents), but mute itself into accepting whatever the engineers suggest who are running this project as their backyard project.
- The city failed to persuade Austin-City to give part of the land that Austin uses for birds, so Cedar Park picked up the fight with local residents because they can do so.
- -- The mindset of the City and HOA is worrisome here:

They have just one line of thought: If one property owner gets a wall or different barrier because of the valid safety concerns then others may ask for it and the job of denying them will be hard, so let us not give it to the resident with reasons.

-- Addendum: Measurements (+- 0.2 ft margin )--

Readings are taken on my property (from front to back). All readings were taken from the edge of curb to property line.

**Front Yard:** Min distance to the road from my property line is 6 ft. Max distance is 9 ft from the property line.

From fence start to the point the right lane meeting point: Min is 9 ft, and the Max distance is at 10 ft from the property line.

Back Yard: Min is 11 ft. Farthest is 20+ ft.

Thanks,

Sandeep Kalra & Deepshikha Kalra

201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park, TX 78613

Dated: 09/24/2018

On Thu, Sep 20, 2018 at 10:49 AM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

I am coming this weekend there in cedar Park house to personally evaluate the situation and then I will let you know.

BTW, initial email from you saying if one property owner do not agree then it will be a 'no' to all. How is it that possible that you now want to give others a fence but okay if I walk out?

On Tue, Sep 18, 2018, 11:44 AM Alan Green <<u>Alan.Green@cedarparktexas.gov</u>> wrote:

### Sandeep:

I am following up on the email below. Since the fence construction is about to start sometime next week, I just wanted to check and see if the right-of-entry withdrawal is still in effect. The fence contractor will only be out there for about a week and if you want your fence reconstructed, he needs to complete this work while he is out there. We won't be paying an additional mobilization fee for the contractor to come back out there after he finished the other sections of fence.

Thanks,

Alan

**From:** Sandeep Kalra [mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2018 11:48 PM

To: Darwin Marchell < darwin.marchell@cedarparktexas.gov >

Cc: Alan Green < Alan. Green@cedarparktexas.gov >

Subject: Notice of withdrawal of permission to touch fence or change anything

As a property owner of '201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX, USA 78613' I am sending this email as an official notice of withdrawal of all permissions given by orally or in writing to the city of Cedar Park to Enter my property line and/or to modify the current fence or anything else till I feel that the city has ensured the safety and security of the resident and neighborhood while developing and expanding Anderson mill road project.

This is effective right now i.e. Aug-01-2018 time 11:45 PM.

Note: The property is under video surveillance and if there is any act of entrance recorded by anyone from City, I will take it as a known act of violation.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

Best Regards, Deepshikha

--

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra Subject: Fwd: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

Date: Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 7:55:24 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

**To:** Cedar Park Council < council@cedarparktexas.gov>

email bounced. Retrying w/o attachment

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 23, 2021 at 6:37 PM

Subject: Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

To: Vaughn, Gloria < Vaughn. Gloria@epa.gov >

Cc: \_Cedar Park Council <<u>council@cedarparktexas.gov</u>>, Matthew <<u>Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov</u>>, Sheila <<u>Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov</u>>, Chitra <<u>Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov</u>>, Charles <<u>Lee.Charles@epa.gov</u>>, Lance Kinney

<<u>Lance.Kinney@pels.texas.gov</u>>

Dear Gloria (EPA Govt):

Please find attached 2 of the many complaint emails and responses that I have exchanged with the city of cedar park. There is a very high level of noise and pollution level inside my property line. The city has not addressed them and I have been asking them for the last 3 years before ultimately coming to EPA help. They have not even sent anyone to conduct a study of noise and/or pollution on my property. They removed 3 huge trees and extended the road to merely 10 feet away from my property. All this was done because the city could not claim land on another side that belongs to BCCP (a federal body) that takes care of wildlife. I wrote to the city my concerns loud and clear before they started the project. Then raised it to HOA to voice it. Spoke of it in city meetings, engineering meetings and also shown through numerous emails how trucks, heavy vehicles, fuel and gas vehicles, etc violate the traffic every day.

Even a request for a speedometer to show speeding is not even installed. The idea is to not measure it so that it can never be claimed as wrongdoing. A contractor who once measured the noise level for other neighbors (Brian Hall) was warned by city engineers of contracts he may miss so he bailed out.

The engineers did "not" do any safety calculations, and even TBPE (CC Mr. Lance, TBPE) is unable to fix them as they cannot rule over city decisions.

City engineers have done ZERO (Maths: 0) <u>Safety Calculations</u> for the <u>last 25+yrs</u>. I do not think they know how to do it at all. They outsource this and then just submit "Accounting calculations" in the column of calculations. <u>Imagine all the lives lost due to this in the last 25 years</u>. I fail to understand how this white-collar killing of American lives is okay for anyone. I will definitely write to the president's office to not offer any Texas state engineer any job when the infrastructure bill is rolled out for planning and implementation. These engineers will just kill people and probably walk away with pointing fingers at speeding trucks, traffic, and bad sight, etc.

There is a road - "Lakeline Blvd" in Cedar Park. The neighbors from the road have been asking for protection for years. I have seen their hue and cry too. What is the fix that engineers had? Every time an accident happens (and who knows some life also lost in past 25 yrs) they fix road by putting red-light and signboards.

The city engineers have always pushed me to interact with the police in order to deal with noise and pollution. In my country

(India) police do not do pollution control or noise control. It seems weird asking them for sending equipment and doing the readings first.

I will like pollution checks and noise level meters checks. The noise level meters must be with directional microphones as they are generated by transportation vehicles' tires and body parts (not engine).

The 10 households were impacted by this road expansion. 3 Indian minority groups, 1 black minority, 1 LGBT minority, and 1 low-income retired family out of 10. 9 of the families have roads farther away than mine, and also have a tiny 4 ft wall to protect to some extend (though it is not enough I believe).

Any vegetation I have planted on the roadside is dead in days, the noise inside the property line is beyond 100 DB at night and more in the day, rarely seen any 18 wheeler following traffic rules, and the city is now gearing to sell properties around the area to Amazon and HEB and their trucking will be making it more unsafe than ever.

(Marking in CC the city council) Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 2:19 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a> wrote: Thank you for your response. The address of property in question is: 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX 78613 Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:58 PM Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov > wrote: Dear Sandeep, Thank you very much for reaching out with this concern regarding road expansion activity affecting your local community. You did in fact reach out correctly to the Office of Environmental Justice in EPA's headquarters office. I am putting you in touch with our EJ folks in EPA's Region 6 office (responsible for Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma). Gloria Vaughn is the EJ Coordinator for EPA Region 6 and Gerardo Acosta is I believe at present the manager over the EJ program in Region 6. Sincerely, Matthew Matthew Tejada

Director - Office of Environmental Justice

**Environmental Protection Agency** 

202-360-6867 (cell)

202-564-8047 (ofc)

Pronouns: he, him, his

For up-to-date information, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov. Follow us on Twitter: @EPAEnvJustice.

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com >

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:25 PM

To: Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov >; Lewis, Sheila < Lewis. Sheila@epa.gov >; Kumar, Chitra

<<u>Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov</u>>; Lee, Charles <<u>Lee.Charles@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

sorry I sent an email too soon. I wanted to add this

There were some end-results from the communication with some teams (though not very fruitful)

- [1] BCCP recently wrote to me that the city has worked in their capacity to expand and have not done any wrongdoing when expanding the road. Nothing about permits was communicated.
- [2] TBPE reported that they cannot act on city P.E engineers as they are outside their investigation purview.
- [3] In response to an email to City compliance, the city pushed me to the police dept for noise and pollution complaints.
- [4] Engineers have verbally confessed that the safety on the property is less than other 9 properties. and without commitment said If they have resources then they may try to fix things.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:12 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

To: Office of Environmental Justice:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.

# Background:

This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.

# Impact:

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just 10 to 11 ft

away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

## Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

## Communication:

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

You all:

\*Ref1:http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20Assessment%20Tech%20Report.pdf

Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

PS:

- [1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.
- [2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.

**Subject:** Fwd: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

**Date:** Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 7:14:37 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

**To:** Cedar Park Council < council@cedarparktexas.gov>

Attachments: Noise Complaints from Anderson Mill Rd..eml.eml, Notice of withdrawal of permission to

touch fence or change anything.eml.eml

email bounced. Retrying

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 23, 2021 at 6:37 PM

Subject: Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

To: Vaughn, Gloria < Vaughn. Gloria@epa.gov >

 $\label{eq:cc:council} $$ $$ Cc: \underline{Cedar\ Park\ Council@cedarparktexas.gov}$, Matthew $$<\underline{Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov}$, Sheila $$<\underline{Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov}$, Chitra $$<\underline{Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov}$, Charles $$<\underline{Lee.Charles@epa.gov}$, Lance Kinney $$$ 

<<u>Lance.Kinney@pels.texas.gov</u>>

## Dear Gloria (EPA Govt):

Please find attached 2 of the many complaint emails and responses that I have exchanged with the city of cedar park. There is a very high level of noise and pollution level inside my property line. The city has not addressed them and I have been asking them for the last 3 years before ultimately coming to EPA help. They have not even sent anyone to conduct a study of noise and/or pollution on my property. They removed 3 huge trees and extended the road to merely 10 feet away from my property. All this was done because the city could not claim land on another side that belongs to BCCP (a federal body) that takes care of wildlife. I wrote to the city my concerns loud and clear before they started the project. Then raised it to HOA to voice it. Spoke of it in city meetings, engineering meetings and also shown through numerous emails how trucks, heavy vehicles, fuel and gas vehicles, etc violate the traffic every day.

Even a request for a speedometer to show speeding is not even installed. The idea is to not measure it so that it can never be claimed as wrongdoing. A contractor who once measured the noise level for other neighbors (Brian Hall) was warned by city engineers of contracts he may miss so he bailed out.

The engineers did "not" do any safety calculations, and even TBPE (CC Mr. Lance, TBPE) is unable to fix them as they cannot rule over city decisions.

City engineers have done ZERO (Maths: 0) <u>Safety Calculations</u> for the <u>last 25+yrs</u>. I do not think they know how to do it at all. They outsource this and then just submit "Accounting calculations" in the column of calculations. <u>Imagine all the lives lost due to this in the last 25 years</u>. I fail to understand how this white-collar killing of American lives is okay for anyone. I will definitely write to the president's office to not offer any Texas state engineer any job when the infrastructure bill is rolled out for planning and implementation. These engineers will just kill people and probably walk away with pointing fingers at speeding trucks, traffic, and bad sight, etc.

There is a road - "Lakeline Blvd" in Cedar Park. The neighbors from the road have been asking for protection for years. I have seen their hue and cry too. What is the fix that engineers had? Every time an accident happens (and who knows some life also lost in past 25 yrs) they fix road by putting red-light and signboards.

The city engineers have always pushed me to interact with the police in order to deal with noise and pollution. In my country (India) police do not do pollution control or noise control. It seems weird asking them for sending equipment and doing the readings first.

I will like pollution checks and noise level meters checks. The noise level meters must be with directional microphones as they are generated by transportation vehicles' tires and body parts (not engine).

The 10 households were impacted by this road expansion. 3 Indian minority groups, 1 black minority, 1 LGBT minority, and 1 low-income retired family out of 10. 9 of the families have roads farther away than mine, and also have a tiny 4 ft wall to protect to some extend (though it is not enough I believe).

Any vegetation I have planted on the roadside is dead in days, the noise inside the property line is beyond 100 DB at night and more in the day, rarely seen any 18 wheeler following traffic rules, and the city is now gearing to sell properties around the area to Amazon and HEB and their trucking will be making it more unsafe than ever.

(Marking in CC the city council) Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 2:19 PM Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > wrote: Thank you for your response. The address of property in question is: 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX 78613 Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:58 PM Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov > wrote: Dear Sandeep, Thank you very much for reaching out with this concern regarding road expansion activity affecting your local community. You did in fact reach out correctly to the Office of Environmental Justice in EPA's headquarters office. I am putting you in touch with our EJ folks in EPA's Region 6 office (responsible for Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma). Gloria Vaughn is the EJ Coordinator for EPA Region 6 and Gerardo Acosta is I believe at present the manager over the EJ program in Region 6. Sincerely, Matthew

Matthew Tejada

Director - Office of Environmental Justice

**Environmental Protection Agency** 

202-360-6867 (cell)

202-564-8047 (ofc)

Pronouns: he, him, his

For up-to-date information, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: <u>join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov</u>. Follow us on Twitter: <u>@EPAEnvJustice</u>.

From: Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>>

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:25 PM

To: Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov >; Lewis, Sheila < Lewis. Sheila@epa.gov >; Kumar, Chitra

< <u>Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov</u>>; Lee, Charles < <u>Lee.Charles@epa.gov</u>> **Subject:** Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

sorry I sent an email too soon. I wanted to add this

There were some end-results from the communication with some teams (though not very fruitful)

- [1] BCCP recently wrote to me that the city has worked in their capacity to expand and have not done any wrongdoing when expanding the road. Nothing about permits was communicated.
- [2] TBPE reported that they cannot act on city P.E engineers as they are outside their investigation purview.
- [3] In response to an email to City compliance, the city pushed me to the police dept for noise and pollution complaints.
- [4] Engineers have verbally confessed that the safety on the property is less than other 9 properties. and without commitment said If they have resources then they

	may try to fix things.		
	   <del></del>		
Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra			
On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:12 PM Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com > wrote:			
	To: Office of Environmental Justice:		
	Dear Sir/Madam:		
	I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.		
	Background:		
	This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.		
	Impact:		

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just 10 to 11 ft away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

## Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

## Communication:

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

You all:

\*Ref1:<u>http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20Assessment%20Tech%20Report.pdf</u>

Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

PS:

- [1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.
- [2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.

**Subject:** Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

**Date:** Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 6:37:54 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>
To: Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>

**CC:** \_Cedar Park Council <council@cedarparktexas.gov>, Matthew <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>,

Sheila <Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>, Chitra <Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov>, Charles <Lee.Charles@epa.gov>, Lance Kinney <Lance.Kinney@pels.texas.gov>

Attachments: Noise Complaints from Anderson Mill Rd..eml.eml, Notice of withdrawal of permission to

touch fence or change anything.eml.eml

## Dear Gloria (EPA Govt):

Please find attached 2 of the many complaint emails and responses that I have exchanged with the city of cedar park. There is a very high level of noise and pollution level inside my property line. The city has not addressed them and I have been asking them for the last 3 years before ultimately coming to EPA help. They have not even sent anyone to conduct a study of noise and/or pollution on my property. They removed 3 huge trees and extended the road to merely 10 feet away from my property. All this was done because the city could not claim land on another side that belongs to BCCP (a federal body) that takes care of wildlife. I wrote to the city my concerns loud and clear before they started the project. Then raised it to HOA to voice it. Spoke of it in city meetings, engineering meetings and also shown through numerous emails how trucks, heavy vehicles, fuel and gas vehicles, etc violate the traffic every day.

Even a request for a speedometer to show speeding is not even installed. The idea is to not measure it so that it can never be claimed as wrongdoing. A contractor who once measured the noise level for other neighbors (Brian Hall) was warned by city engineers of contracts he may miss so he bailed out.

The engineers did "not" do any safety calculations, and even TBPE (CC Mr. Lance, TBPE) is unable to fix them as they cannot rule over city decisions.

City engineers have done ZERO (Maths: 0) <u>Safety Calculations</u> for the <u>last 25+yrs</u>. I do not think they know how to do it at all. They outsource this and then just submit "Accounting calculations" in the column of calculations. <u>Imagine all the lives lost due to this in the last 25 years</u>. I fail to understand how this white-collar killing of American lives is okay for anyone. I will definitely write to the president's office to not offer any Texas state engineer any job when the infrastructure bill is rolled out for planning and implementation. These engineers will just kill people and probably walk away with pointing fingers at speeding trucks, traffic, and bad sight, etc.

There is a road - "Lakeline Blvd" in Cedar Park. The neighbors from the road have been asking for protection for years. I have seen their hue and cry too. What is the fix that engineers had? Every time an accident happens (and who knows some life also lost in past 25 yrs) they fix road by putting red-light and signboards.

The city engineers have always pushed me to interact with the police in order to deal with noise and pollution. In my country (India) police do not do pollution control or noise control. It seems weird asking them for sending equipment and doing the readings first.

I will like pollution checks and noise level meters checks. The noise level meters must be with directional microphones as they are generated by transportation vehicles' tires and body parts (not engine).

The 10 households were impacted by this road expansion. 3 Indian minority groups, 1 black minority, 1 LGBT minority, and 1 low-income retired family out of 10. 9 of the families have roads farther away than mine, and also have a tiny 4 ft wall to protect to some extend (though it is not enough I believe).

Any vegetation I have planted on the roadside is dead in days, the noise inside the property line is beyond 100 DB at night and more in the day, rarely seen any 18 wheeler following traffic rules, and the city is now gearing to sell properties around the area to Amazon and HEB and their trucking will be making it more unsafe than ever.

(Marking in CC the city council)			
Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra			
	Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 2:19 PM Sandeep Kalra < <u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u> > wrote: Thank you for your response.		
-	The address of property in question is: 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX 78613		
	 Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra		
(	On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:58 PM Tejada, Matthew < <u>Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov</u> > wrote:		
	Dear Sandeep,		
	Thank you very much for reaching out with this concern regarding road expansion activity affecting your local community. You did in fact reach out correctly to the Office of Environmental Justice in EPA's headquarters office. I am putting you in touch with our EJ folks in EPA's Region 6 office (responsible for Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma).		
	Gloria Vaughn is the EJ Coordinator for EPA Region 6 and Gerardo Acosta is I believe at present the manager over the EJ program in Region 6.		
	Sincerely,		
	Matthew		
	Matthew Tejada		
	Director - Office of Environmental Justice		
	Environmental Protection Agency		
	202-360-6867 (cell)		
	202-564-8047 (ofc)		

Pronouns: he, him, his

For up-to-date information, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: <u>join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov</u>. Follow us on Twitter: <u>@EPAEnvJustice</u>.

From: Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>> Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:25 PM

To: Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov >; Lewis, Sheila < Lewis. Sheila@epa.gov >; Kumar, Chitra

<<u>Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov</u>>; Lee, Charles <<u>Lee.Charles@epa.gov</u>>

**Subject:** Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

sorry I sent an email too soon. I wanted to add this

There were some end-results from the communication with some teams (though not very fruitful)

- [1] BCCP recently wrote to me that the city has worked in their capacity to expand and have not done any wrongdoing when expanding the road. Nothing about permits was communicated.
- [2] TBPE reported that they cannot act on city P.E engineers as they are outside their investigation purview.
- [3] In response to an email to City compliance, the city pushed me to the police dept for noise and pollution complaints.
- [4] Engineers have verbally confessed that the safety on the property is less than other 9 properties. and without commitment said If they have resources then they may try to fix things.

---

Best Reg	ards,
Sandeep	Kalra

On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:12 PM Sandeep Kalra < <a href="mailto:sandeep.kalra@gmail.com">sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</a>> wrote:

To: Office of Environmental Justice:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.

# Background:

This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.

# Impact:

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just 10 to 11 ft away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

## Communication:

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

## You all:

\*Ref1:http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20Assessment%20Tech%20Report.pdf

Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families

impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

PS:

- [1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.
- [2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.

Date:	Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 2:19:13 PM Central Daylight Time				
From:	Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com></sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>				
To:	Tejada, Matthew <tejada.matthew@epa.gov></tejada.matthew@epa.gov>				
CC:	Lewis, Sheila <lewis.sheila@epa.gov>, Kumar, Chitra <kumar.chitra@epa.gov>, Lee, Charles <lee.charles@epa.gov>, Acosta, Gerardo <acosta.gerardo@epa.gov>, Vaughn, Gloria <vaughn.gloria@epa.gov></vaughn.gloria@epa.gov></acosta.gerardo@epa.gov></lee.charles@epa.gov></kumar.chitra@epa.gov></lewis.sheila@epa.gov>				
Thank you for your response.					
The addre	ss of property in question is: 201 Gaspar Bend, Cedar Park TX 78613				
Best Rega Sandeep K					
On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:58 PM Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov > wrote:					
Dear Sa	andeep,				
commu am put	you very much for reaching out with this concern regarding road expansion activity affecting your local unity. You did in fact reach out correctly to the Office of Environmental Justice in EPA's headquarters office. I ting you in touch with our EJ folks in EPA's Region 6 office (responsible for Texas, New Mexico, Louisiana, as, and Oklahoma).				
	Vaughn is the EJ Coordinator for EPA Region 6 and Gerardo Acosta is I believe at present the manager over program in Region 6.				
Sincere	ely,				
Matthe	ew				
Matthe	ew Tejada				
Directo	or - Office of Environmental Justice				
Enviror	nmental Protection Agency				

**Subject:** Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

202-360-6867 (cell)

202-564-8047 (ofc)

Pronouns: he, him, his

For up-to-date information, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: <u>join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov</u>. Follow us on Twitter: <u>@EPAEnvJustice</u>.

From: Sandeep Kalra < sandeep.kalra@gmail.com >

Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 2:25 PM

To: Tejada, Matthew < Tejada. Matthew@epa.gov >; Lewis, Sheila < Lewis. Sheila@epa.gov >; Kumar, Chitra

< <u>Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov</u>>; Lee, Charles < <u>Lee.Charles@epa.gov</u>> **Subject:** Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

sorry I sent an email too soon. I wanted to add this

There were some end-results from the communication with some teams (though not very fruitful)

- [1] BCCP recently wrote to me that the city has worked in their capacity to expand and have not done any wrongdoing when expanding the road. Nothing about permits was communicated.
- [2] TBPE reported that they cannot act on city P.E engineers as they are outside their investigation purview.
- [3] In response to an email to City compliance, the city pushed me to the police dept for noise and pollution complaints.
- [4] Engineers have verbally confessed that the safety on the property is less than other 9 properties. and without commitment said If they have resources then they may try to fix things.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:12 PM Sandeep Kalra <<u>sandeep.kalra@gmail.com</u>> wrote:

To: Office of Environmental Justice:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.

# Background:

This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.

# Impact:

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just 10 to 11 ft away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

## Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

## Communication:

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

## You all:

\*Ref1:  $http://www.183 north.com/005\_183N\%20Community\%20Impact\%20Assessment\%20Tech\%20Report.pdf$ 

Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as

person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

PS:

- [1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.
- [2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.

Subject: Re: help please - Office of Environmental Justice

Date: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 1:25:21 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

To: tejada.matthew@epa.gov <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>, lewis.sheila@epa.gov

<Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>, kumar.chitra@epa.gov <Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov>, lee.charles@epa.gov

<Lee.Charles@epa.gov>

sorry I sent an email too soon. I wanted to add this

There were some end-results from the communication with some teams (though not very fruitful)

- [1] BCCP recently wrote to me that the city has worked in their capacity to expand and have not done any wrongdoing when expanding the road. Nothing about permits was communicated.
- [2] TBPE reported that they cannot act on city P.E engineers as they are outside their investigation purview.
- [3] In response to an email to City compliance, the city pushed me to the police dept for noise and pollution complaints.
- [4] Engineers have verbally confessed that the safety on the property is less than other 9 properties, and without commitment said If they have resources then they may try to fix things.

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

On Tue, Sep 21, 2021 at 1:12 PM Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com> wrote:

To: Office of Environmental Justice:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.

## Background:

This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.

### Impact:

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just 10 to 11 ft away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

#### Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

### Communication:

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

### You all:

\*Ref1: <a href="http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20Assessment%20Tech%20Report.pdf">http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20Assessment%20Tech%20Report.pdf</a>
Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

## PS:

[1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.
[2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.

**Subject:** help please - Office of Environmental Justice

**Date:** Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 1:12:22 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Sandeep Kalra <sandeep.kalra@gmail.com>

To: tejada.matthew@epa.gov <Tejada.Matthew@epa.gov>, lewis.sheila@epa.gov

<Lewis.Sheila@epa.gov>, kumar.chitra@epa.gov <Kumar.Chitra@epa.gov>,

lee.charles@epa.gov < Lee.Charles@epa.gov >

Attachments: concerns - 22nd may 2017 -- shared with city of cedar park.pdf

To: Office of Environmental Justice:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am not sure if I am reaching out to the right people that can act in any capacity to help me. Please reply back if this is wrong group to ask for help.

#### Background:

This is the background: In 2017 my city(City of Cedar Park TX) decided to hurry up and expand a road next to my home for giving benefits to other towns and potentially sell land at higher value to suiter companies such as Amazon and HEB. In doing so, they violated many city ordinances such as (a) did not take permits with Balcones Canyonland(BCCP, a federal body) to expand the road next to wildlife, (b) Engineers did not do safety studies, nor did they followed TXDOT guidances to take permits (c) Licensed Engineers did not submit any calculations for the project. But being part of the city these all kind of let go when I approached TBPE and BCCP.

#### Impact:

It has also negatively impacted many residents, and one primarily family is mine as our family was the only 1 out of 10 impacted to not even receive any safety barriers, and the road was brought nearest to my home (it sits just 10 to 11 ft away from property line) with just a walkway in between. I have also seen deterioration in quality of air, and all vegetation being killed that I planted.

#### Concerns:

I would also like to say that I voiced my concerns in writing even before the project started because I was seeing this coming. We all know that the city pushed the road on our side because it lost in negotiations with BCCP to acquire a road to expand on the other side. I am also attaching with the concerns.pdf that I posted to the city.

#### Communication

I have written numerous emails to the city, their engineering, and their compliance department to conduct tests and verify the noise levels and pollution levels inside my property boundary both in the back and front side but have been redirected from one place to another because they know that it will not give them the right results and may put them in fix.

I have more than 20+ MB of email communication in last 4 yrs that I can share via google drive. I have communicated with B.C.C.P, T.B.P.E, H.O.A, City Compliance team, City Attorneys, City Engineerings, City Mayor, City council, and various local news papers. I have even raised concern in Williamson county property court to the county judges.

City engineers have "on record" mentioned in email that they do not do any calculations nor mandate one from the PE engineers who do design planning. I further went to the PE that did the design and he was indeed missing all calculations (again I have written proof of it all).

Many of the other roads here are with similar problems. In my city another road "Lakeline road" has undergone improvements with a lot of similar hue and cry such as mine and when there are accidents and loss of life then city comes in and add a bandaid

speeding meter or red-light. I am not sure how is this normal.

### You all:

\*Ref1:http://www.183north.com/005\_183N%20Community%20Impact%20Assessment%20Tech%20Report.pdf

Recently I came across this web report\*(Ref1) that probably makes me qualify as person from "minority group" as I am from India and actually out of 10 families impacted, 4 are from india and one is a LGBTQ couple, so we are all kind of minority and want to see if Office of Environmental Justice can help me with this.

I do not know what to do next other than emailing and asking for help.

---

Best Regards, Sandeep Kalra

## PS:

[1] I am not a native english speaker, so pardon if there are grammar mistakes or things that you fail to understand. I will try my best to clarify again if there is something that is not clear.

[2] In 2022, President Biden is rolling out infrastructure bill and will do road expansion. I plan to raise my voice in international forums once more if the engineers and compliance people from Texas are going to join because I genuinely believe that they will not a justice to service of America.