

December 19, 2012

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to my neighbors and others that will be affected by a proposal that was brought to my attention this past weekend. There was an article in the Greenville Herald Banner entitled "Council votes to support toll road." At first glance, you may wonder what this has to do with you. Upon further inquiry, you will find that the proposed privately owned toll road will disrupt your quiet country life and most likely TAKE a portion of your private property that you have worked so hard to obtain and maintain.

Please read this excerpt from the article...

Phase 1 of the project would be a privately owned and built toll road which would cover approximately 24 miles between just west of Greenville and Lavon in Collin County, along a portion of the Northeast Texas Rural Rail Transportation District (NETEX) right-of-way.

The right-of-way will be secured through a long term ground lease agreement between the Texas Turnpike Corporation (TTC) and NETEX from just west of Greenville through the cities of Josephine and Nevada, to just west of State Highway 278 in Lavon.

The TTC is proposing to build a limited access four lane divided toll road in and along the right-of-way, leaving room for NETEX's rail restoration plan in the future, in order to help relieve congestion along Interstate 30 between Rockwall County and Dallas County.

(To read the whole article, go to heraldbanner.com and search for "turnpike".)

The NETEX railroad right-of-way borders my property and yours. This right-of-way is about 100 feet wide. What you should be VERY concerned about is the statement that reads "in and along the right-of-way." The 100 feet right-of-way is not anywhere near wide enough to support a 4-lane divided highway AND leave room for rail restoration in the future. According to expert engineers that I have talked to, they will need another 100-300 feet to build these roads. Where will they get this? They will TAKE it from your property and mine. And if you don't think private companies can get permission from authorities to take your property, just ask the people whose homes stood in the way of the new Dallas Cowboys football stadium and countless others who have been forced to sell or move in the name of privately owned facilities that are "for the greater good."

I have enclosed a copy of a map of the proposed area. This map was obtained from the Collin County website. This map and others like it are available on the website mentioned below, as well as links and other information.

I have never been involved in anything like this. I am not a politician or an activist. I honestly don't even know what steps to take or if it is even possible to stop this from moving forward. But I am no longer willing to sit back and do nothing. I want to protect my property and my family, and I hope you will join me. The time to act is now. The farther into the project this

company gets, the more they will be willing to push it through. Our best bet is to act quickly before they are more heavily invested in the idea. I am sure many of you have more experience than I do with these matters. I welcome your assistance. My husband and I have taken it upon ourselves to mail this letter to everyone along the NETEX railroad border whose address we could find. Feel free to distribute copies to anyone you think would be interested in the information. This does not only affect those whose property borders the railroad. The construction, traffic, noise, and population will affect everyone in the area. We can not afford to continue to mail paper copies of new information as it comes available, so I have set up a website where we can discuss the issue and hopefully form some sort of action plan. I would also like to put together an email list for quick and inexpensive communication. If you are concerned about your property please contact us. You may visit the website at

<http://www.notollroad.com> and/or send email to **notollroad@gmail.com**.

I would be happy to speak with anyone on the phone regarding this issue. Just send your phone number to **notollroad@gmail.com**. I'm sure a good first step would be to contact people such as your state representative, county officials, the Texas Turnpike Corporation/Public Werks Inc., North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), and anyone else you can think of who might be able to affect the outcome of the proposed toll road. There is contact information on the website mentioned above.

I look forward to hearing from you and working with you to preserve our area.

Sincerely,
William & Brenda

P.S. About the time I finished writing this letter, my husband spoke to someone at the NCTCOG. The next meeting regarding this issue is to be held on Tuesday, January 8, 2013. Apparently, they are much farther along in the planning and development of this project than we realized. It has a lot of support from the affected cities, TxDOT, and other officials. More info on the upcoming meeting will be posted on the above mentioned website.

P.P.S. We realize there will be those who support the construction of the toll road. You are welcome to join the discussion on the website above. This forum will remain open-minded and civil.