

Mayor Alfin, City Council Members, and City Manager,

Ref: FlaglerLive Article - **Wawa Will Rise in Place of Paul Katz Building on Palm Coast Parkway and Florida Park Drive** <https://flaglerlive.com/183985/wawa-katz-building/>

I would not have an issue with the news article, if I believed Mr. DeLorenzo was unaware of FL PK DR issues and had the best interest of residents at heart. However, he has been aware of the harm since 2013 and has refused to listen to residents' complaints then and now.

News Media Quote: "Palm Coast City Council Members over the years have heard complaints from some property owners along Florida Park Drive about noise and traffic there. Asked whether the addition of a Wawa at the south end of Florida Park Drive might exacerbate those complaints, DeLorenzo said those voices are few, and more recently have been limited to one person."

1-Palm Coast: 'No easy solutions' for traffic woes along Florida Park Drive – (2013)

"The complaints keep coming — and they've been coming for several years — about traffic along Florida Park Drive, a 1.8-mile, two-lane road that connects Palm Harbor Parkway to the north and Palm Coast Parkway to the south."

[Palm Coast: 'No easy solutions' for traffic woes along Florida Park Drive \(news-journalonline.com\)](https://news-journalonline.com)

2-Homeowners on Florida Park Drive say traffic is a problem – (2013)

"Those living along Florida Park Drive have had no shortage of ideas on how best to either reduce or slow down the traffic."

[Homeowners on Florida Park Drive say traffic is a problem \(baynews9.com\)](https://baynews9.com)

3-On Florida Park Drive, Council Wants a Stop To Traffic-Calming Proposals That Dead-End - 2018

"Florida Park Drive, the busiest residential street in Palm Coast, is again baffling city council members, who are searching for solutions to reduce traffic, noise and pollution along the two-mile road in the heart of the city's F and C Sections."

<https://flaglerlive.com/120639/florida-park-drive-proposals/>

4-What is a safe distance to live or work near high auto emission roads?

"A nearby roadway may be putting your household's health at risk. The same is true of workplaces, schools, and other places where people spend significant time. This health risk is from the elevated auto emissions near high traffic roadways. It's a health risk separate and in addition to the regional air pollution from auto emissions." [SafeDistance.pdf \(flpkdr.com\)](https://flpkdr.com/SafeDistance.pdf)

Palm Coast Development Director Jason DeLorenzo comments about not many, down to one, residents complaining about the speeding and harm of toxic traffic fumes & dust, and harmful noise as you can see as represented in the articles is very misleading and from my point of view is to purposely influence and sway the City Council to approve the WaWa project. Mr. DeLorenzo was on the City Council when Jon Netts was mayor and heard complaints and heard suggested solutions from many residents on FL PK DR. Celia Pugliese would and has often represented residents of Florida Park Drive during City Council Meetings. FL PK DR resident, Ernie Tykarski, complained about the traffic speeding and noise often and put a sign on his mailbox to slow down, which the city made him remove [Ernie-FLPKDR-25MPH.pdf](https://flpkdr.com/Ernie-FLPKDR-25MPH.pdf). Mr. Tykarski also gathered signatures on a petition and personally delivered them to Mayor Jon Netts before his mother passed away. Another resident, I believe Mr. Janis (a veteran), did a petition complaining how the traffic fumes/dust/noise was harming his and his wife's health; both died while they lived on FL PK DR. The petition had each resident fill out a form and mail that form directly to Mayor Netts; which I did and never received a reply. A little research of petitions, e-mails, articles presented at City Council

Meetings and a review of City Council (Meetings & Workshops, Videos & Audios) since 2013 will reveal many more residents that have complained, that Mr. DeLorenzo seems to intentionally ignore. Mr. DeLorenzo also tends to ignore articles published about the traffic issues of Florida Park Drive; he is actually mentioned in one article (see article (1) above). In the first article it mentions a Town Hall meeting held by then Council Member DeLorenzo on Oct 08, 2013 – Councilman DeLorenzo was sent an email by me on 09/18/2013 of issues residents of FL PK DR would like addressed and when I asked him to address those issues he refused to answer and shut out the residents of FL PK DR from getting answers to those questions (pull the audio for that Town Hall Meeting and listen to it). Have the issues on FL PK DR been resolved, no! My personal opinion, Mr. DeLorenzo's intentional misrepresentation of facts in the newspaper was to purposely gain favor with the public and City Council. Palm Coast residents deserve better and will never know how many other misrepresented projects could have already been approved by the City Council based on his recommendations that has affected Quality of Life in other residential neighborhoods or how many future projects will be misrepresented. If Mr. DeLorenzo misrepresented the number of complaints to any city officials or city departments, my personal opinion is it could rise to an ethics violation; however, I'll leave that discovery to the city.

News Media Quote: "As always, we encourage residents of the "C Section" to use Palm Harbor as often as possible for shopping."

There are not many shopping areas along Palm Harbor Parkway. Nowhere in the article did it discourage the practice of using residential neighborhoods as thoroughfares to get to shopping.

Florida Park Drive, a residential neighborhood is being used as a thoroughfare to exchange traffic between the two parkways (Palm Coast Parkway and Palm Harbor Parkway). As traffic increases along either of the parkways, it usually does the same to traffic through residential FK PK DR. ITT designed the **Intersection of Palm Coast Parkway and Palm Harbor Parkway** for the exchange of traffic between the two parkways. Along with the two parkways intersection there are **four** north/south non-residential connectors from Palm Coast Parkway to (Matanzas Parkway & Palm Harbor Parkway); US-1, Belle Terre, I-95, & Old Kings Road. No need to use any residential street to move traffic north/south. It seems to me that the city is purposely harming this residential neighborhood by not controlling the speed and volume of traffic through it and not discouraging its use as a thoroughfare.

Quote from [The History of Palm Coast 1969.pdf \(flpkdr.com\)](#): "The F section is built around a network of salt water canals with access to the Intracoastal Waterway. Palm Coast Parkway, the commercial corridor, is an east/west divided highway which allows more development frontage than a non divided road. Residential roads in each section access feeder roads, which, in turn, access major traffic highways. This design limits the traffic in residential neighborhoods."

FL PK DR residents, according to FDOT, are already experiencing approx 9,000 cars per day (3+ Million cars per year) through this residential neighborhood, just 60 feet from the bedrooms of children and 80 feet from children in high cardio activity on the basketball courts of Holland Park. This amount of traffic is very harmful to health of residents according to multiple worldwide health organizations and universities scientific studies over the last 30+ years (WHO, CDC, EPA, NLH, etc.).

Infographic: Living Near Busy Roads or Traffic Pollution

<https://envhealthcenters.usc.edu/infographics/infographic-living-near-busy-roads-or-traffic-pollution>

Residential Traffic and Children's Respiratory Health

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2535634/>

Even Low-Level Constant Traffic Noise Harms Children's Health

<https://renew.com/general10/evenlowlevel.htm>

- - See Other References below.

News Media Quote: “Asked whether the addition of a Wawa at the south end of Florida Park Drive might exacerbate those complaints, DeLorenzo said those voices are few, and more recently have been limited to one person”.

What he did not say was this “one person” represented many FL PK DR residents and it seems to me he took upon himself represent all of FL PK DR residents with that statement to purposely misrepresent FL PK DR residents.

I have been representing the residents of FL PK DR for 15+ years. Many elderly residents that complained have either died or moved. Please review all City Council Meetings since 2013 and email correspondences with all City Council Members, City Mangers, & any City Departments to see how many times different residents have complained and offered solutions. Also, Celia Pugliese has represented Florida Park Dr and Clubhouse Dr for many more years (review how many times she addresses FL PK DR).

Florida Park Drive residents have been asked to present solutions to reducing the volume of traffic to protect children’s lungs, elderly health and to reduce speeding (see article 2 above). However, when they have presented solutions their solutions have never been implemented. More troubling is the city is aware of the harm addressed in the scientific studies and the city has yet to present their plan to protect the health of children or elderly from the toxic traffic fumes, toxic traffic dust, and damaging noise or speeding vehicles. A very troubling deceptive practice of the city is conducting short studies that cannot equal the 30+ years of the scientific studies done by Health Organizations and Universities. Another deceptive practice is proposing and spending money on studies (less than 1 yr or using improper equipment, Ref: 1 below) or solutions that do not significantly reduce the Volume of Traffic (fumes/dust/noise). There are Traffic Calming Method Information Charts that specify which method will reduce speed & the most traffic to provide the most protection for safety and health. Each election resident’s have to present the facts over for new members at 3 minutes intervals a meeting; taking months to bring new members up to date with existing and new scientific studies. It seems new members are not made aware of unresolved complaints so they could have the opportunity to research FL PK DR history and complaints filed.

To date the City Council has not addressed any of the scientific studies about traffic harm to residents by Health Organizations or Universities nor responded to health complaints from residents via email or in person at City Council Meetings.

Residents of FL PK DR do not care if the city uses Traffic Calming Methods or some other methods just as long as the method used protects residents from speed vehicles and reduces traffic volume to protect resident’s health from traffic fumes/dust/noise.

How does the city plan to protect residents of FL PK DR from speeding vehicles and form health harm caused by Traffic in Close Proximity to Homes and Prolonged Exposure to Traffic Fumes/Dust/Noise?

REFERENCES 1-10 Below

To ignore scientific proof of health harm is purposely encouraging and participating in the harm.

1.The toxic killers in our air too small to see

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20191113-the-toxic-killers-in-our-air-too-small-to-see>

2.Long-term exposure to traffic-related air pollution and selected health outcomes: A systematic review and meta-analysis

[Long-term exposure to traffic-related air pollution and selected health outcomes: A systematic review and meta-analysis - PubMed \(nih.gov\)](#)

3.Even Low-Level Constant Traffic Noise Harms Children’s Health

<https://rense.com/general10/evenlowlevel.htm>

4.Health Effects of Noise Exposure in Children

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40572-015-0044-1>

5.Road traffic noise linked to deaths, increased strokes

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/06/150623200112.htm>

6.Health and Environmental Effects of Particulate Matter (PM)

<https://www.epa.gov/pm-pollution/health-and-environmental-effects-particulate-matter-pm>

7.Infographic: Living Near Busy Roads or Traffic Pollution

<https://envhealthcenters.usc.edu/infographics/infographic-living-near-busy-roads-or-traffic-pollution>

8.Health fears as traffic fumes shown to damage immune system

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/environment/health-fears-traffic-fumes-shown-damage-immune-system-1442206> (What about fighting off viruses, such as COVID?)

9.Traffic noise disrupts vocal development and suppresses immune function

[Traffic noise disrupts vocal development and suppresses immune function - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)

10.Another one bites the (road) dust: Study shows consequences of particulate matter

<https://environment-review.yale.edu/another-one-bites-road-dust-study-shows-consequences-particulate-matter-0>

[Meeting Minutes \(palmcoastgov.com\)](#) – June 15, 2015 - 5 15-241 RESOLUTION 2015-XX APPROVING PHASE TWO TASKS WITH LASSITER TRANSPORTATION GROUP - See Mr. DeLorenzo’ comment in City Council Meeting Minutes 06/15/2015 “CM DeLorenzo asked if we could post a sign "No through traffic" realizing the enforcement is difficult to enforce? CM DeLorenzo-Can we have an article in the Palm Coaster to educate the public with the difficulties the neighborhood is having with traffic?”

I apologize for the lengthy email: I felt a need to bring new members up-to-date.

I request this document be placed in the City Council's Records as the city evaluates the proposed construction of the WaWa Gas Station on the corner of FL PK DR and Palm Coast Parkway.

Sincerely,

Steven Carr