

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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JESSICA FARRAR
DISTRICT 148

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HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

COMMITTEES:
BORDER AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION
VICE-CHAIR

April 15, 2011

Daniel Krueger, Director
City of Houston Department of Public Works
611 Walker
Houston, TX 77002

Mr. Krueger:

I write you today about concerns I have regarding future traffic problems on Yale Street and Heights Boulevard due to the incoming big-box retail development at the corner of Koehler and Yale Streets.

From conversations my staff and I have had with TxDOT and the City of Houston, I have become increasingly worried about the possibility of trucks using the Yale Street bridge. As you are well aware, the load limit of this bridge is low enough that it will become a safety hazard if a fully loaded delivery truck utilizes the bridge. Additionally, the bridge will need to be repaired sometime in the not-too-distant future. If trucks are not allowed on this route, the issue becomes one of enforcement - specifically, whether or not any and all offenders will be caught. It will only take one fateful trip over the bridge to create catastrophe.

I am also worried about the use of Heights Boulevard for delivery trucks and incoming customer traffic. Heights Boulevard is very much a neighborhood street where people walk with their families. Utilizing the street for such a large influx of commercial traffic will create safety issues for neighbors who use the street.

Please provide me with a copy of the City of Houston's most up-to-date plan of truck deliveries to the retail site. Please also keep in mind while creating plans such as these that this retail center is being built in the middle of a neighborhood, and as such special consideration must be taken to accommodate the needs and safety of the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JESSICA FARRAR".

State Representative, District 148

CC: Mayor Annise Parker
City Councilmember Ed Gonzalez
Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee
Responsible Urban Development of Houston