

To Whom It May Concern:

Aug. 18, 2015

We live at 88 E. Belvidere St. at the end of the dead end alley.

We would have been present tonight, but we are working in Springfield, MO., for the next few days

We are opposed to the blacktopping alley improvements. When Thomas approached us with a petition to sign I was told this was only to obtain a cost estimate for improving the alley, not having it completed. We did not wish to participate.

We have lived in this house for the past 37 years and watched the neighborhood evolve, some of it for the good and some for the bad.

The streets are not paved, only oil and sanded over the course of time to look like paving. We do not have proper pitch to the roads nor have curb and street gutters. The water in the alley for many years before my residency came down the alley and exited onto Robert Street via the empty lot that is now 805 South Robert. I still have contact with a person that lived at 84 E. Belvidere Street, during that time. When the 805 house was built the property was raised. In 19xx there was a garage added to 805 and the property was raised again. The water flow redirected its movement, traveling into the north facing properties of 88, 84, 80 and 76 Belvidere.

I installed a French drain from the south going north on my property to shed the water to Belvidere St. I have also installed two sump pumps to keep my basement dry.

I suggested to the city street crew they install a berm at the top of the alley to prevent the water from the surrounding streets from entering the alley. This was approved and completed. When the repair crews patch the streets they would fill in the berm and let the water re-enter the alley. Now the berm has been cut back in so the rain water runs down Livingston St. to the storm sewer on the southeast corner at Belvidere St. like it should.

I had suggested to the resident at 80 E. Belvidere Street that they install a French drain like mine which they did, but then they blocked the end, covered it with black dirt and installed sod over it, so it is useless. Then they improved their driveway years ago with class 5 which in turn has raised it up so the rain water can't enter their property so it has to stay in the alley forming pot holes. They have the rain gutters on their garage also dumping into the alley rather than in their yard.

The duplex across the alley from them also dumps into the alley due to the natural slope of that property.

At 805 Robert St. South, that residence also has the garage gutters draining into the alley rather than the street.

The added assessments and improved alley taxes will become a hardship on ourselves and many of the other residents of the alley. Just 1 of them is the young couple at the corner of Livingston and Winona Streets, they can't even use the alley and will be assessed over \$6,000.00 with no benefits for their money.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Richard Johnson

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Richard Johnson', written in a cursive style.

Jeanette Johnson

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jeanette Johnson', written in a cursive style.

**J**  
Mr. Richard Johnson  
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