**[EZ Speech Writers No. 15502]**

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Remarks by Mrs. Lesa Martino before her homeowners association’s Board of Directors concerning the removal of the speed bumps that were recently installed in the streets of Parsons Woods.

SINCE I HAVE ONLY THREE MINUTES TO SPEAK, I WOULD LIKE TO STATE MY OBJECTIONS TO THESE SPEED BUMPS LIKE DAVE LETTERMAN. SO THESE ARE THE TOP 10 REASONS WHY THE DECSION TO INSTALL THESE OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE FIRST PLACE WAS A LOUSY ONE, AND ONE WHICH I URGENTLY REQUEST THIS BOARD TO REVERSE:

NUMBER TEN: ***THEY’RE UNATRRACTIVE***! THOSE SPEED BUMPS ARE JUST PLAIN UGLY. JUST LOW GRAY SLABS LITTERED ACROSS OUR STREET THAT’RE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO SEE AT NIGHT.

NUMBER NINE: ***THEY’RE UNANNOUNCED***! THERE’S ONLY ONE SIGN AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE TO WARN DRIVERS OF THE PRESENCE OF SPEED BUMPS.

NUMBER EIGHT: ***THEY’RE UNSAFE***! THERE’S NO LIGHTING TO ILLUMINATE THEM, AND NO REFLECTIVE STRIPS FASTENED ANYWHERE. HIDDEN BARRIERS LIKE THOSE BUMPER STRIPS WILL CAUSE MORE

ACCIDENTS THAN THEY MIGHT PREVENT. AND HOW DO YOU INSTALL SPEED BUMPS IN A NIEGHBORHOOD STREET AND *NOT* REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT TO 5 MILES PER HOUR?!?

NUMBER SEVEN: ***THEY’RE UNECONOMICAL***! IT DOESN’T MATTER HOW MUCH EACH OF THOSE BUMPER STRIPS COST, OR HOW MUCH IT’S GONNA COST TO MAINTAIN ‘EM ONCE THEY START CRUMBLING, THIS MONEY COULD SURELY HAVE BEEN PUT TO BETTER USE BY THE BOARD FOR ANY NUMBER OF MORE USEFUL PURPOSES, WHICH WOULD BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITY A HELLUVA LOT MORE THAN ABUNCH OF SPEED BUMPS.

NUMBER SIX: ***THEY’RE UNNECESSARY***! ALTHOUGH SOME HOMEOWNERS FEEL OTHERWISE, WE HAVEN’T AND WE DO NOT NOW HAVE A SPEEDING PROBLEM. I WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE ACTUAL EVIDENCE TO REFUTE THIS ASSERTION. IT’S NOT A SCHOOL ZONE. IT’S A DEADEND STREET. THERE IS NO PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED BY SPEED BUMPS.

NUMBER FIVE: ***THEY’RE UNTHINKING***! SINCE THERE’S NO EVIDENCE, THE BOARD MUST’VE BASED ITS DECISION TO INSTALL THESE BUMPER STRIPS ON CONSIDERATIONS THAT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH LOGIC OR THINKING. I CAN’T IMAGINE JUST WHO OR WHAT PROFITED BY THIS CONSCIOUS SUBJUGATION OF THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE.

NUMBER FOUR: ***THEY’RE UNAPPEALING!*** ASK ANY REALTOR AND YOU’LL BE TOLD EXACTLY THE SAME THING, NAMELY, THAT THE PRESENCE OF THOSE BUMPER STRIPS LOWERS THE VALUE OF ALL THE HOMES FACING THOSE STREETS — BY AS MUCH AS 25 TO 50 PERCENT.

NUMBER THREE: ***THEY’RE UNACCESSABLE***. I MADE THAT UP TO KEEP THE “UN” THING GOING, BUT THE FACT IS, THOSE BUMPS MAKE IT TENS TIMES MORE DIFFICULT FOR EMERGENCY AND RESCUE VEHILCES TO GET THROUGH TO THE CITIZENS WHO’RE COUNTING ON THEIR HELP.

NUMBER 9: ***UNREASONABLE!*** IN VIEW OF ALL THESE OBVIOUS NEGATIVES AND OBJECTIONS — WHICH, IT SEEMS TO ME ANY REASONABLE COULD SEE OR FORESEE — IT IS TOTALLY UNREASONABLE THAT THE BOARD WOULD HAVE IGNORED THEM ALL AND GONE AHEAD WITH THIS DECISION.

AND THE NUMBER TEN REASON WHY PUTTING IN THOSE BUMPER STRIPS IN WAS UNTHINKING, AND DOWNRIGHT UNACCEPTABLE: ***THEY’RE UNAMERICAN***. TWO OF THE PRINCIPLES UPON WHICH THIS COUNTRY WAS FOUNDED WERE DEMOCRACY AND TRANSPARENCY.

THEY ARE WRITTEN INTO OUR CONSTITUTION. BUT THE PROCESS BY WHICH THE DECISION WAS MADE TO INSTALL THOSE BUMPER STRIPS WAS MADE WAS NEITHER DEMOCRATIC *NOR* TRANSPARENT.

AND SO, HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE PARSONS WOODS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION: I URGE YOU TO TEAR DOWN THOSE BUMPS!

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