A regular meeting of the Troy Traffic Committee was held Wednesday, October 18, 2006 in the Lower Level Conference Room at Troy City Hall. Pete Ziegenfelder called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. **Roll Call**

PRESENT: John Diefenbaker
Jan Hubbell
Richard Kilmer
Gordon Schepke
Pete Ziegenfelder
Ted Hwang, Student Rep.
Prithvi Murthy, Student Rep.

ABSENT: Sara Binkowski
Ted Halsey

Also present: Gary Chegash, 318 Mt. Vernon Ave., Grosse Pointe Farms, MI
David Dietze, 1900 Witherbee, Troy
Birgit Felzer, 1850 Witherbee, Troy
Pat Bismack, 2742 Powderhorn, Rochester
Murray Deagle, 328 Evaline, Troy
and: John Abraham, Traffic Engineer
Lt. Scott McWilliams, Traffic Safety Division, Troy Police Dept.
Lt. Robert Matlick, Troy Fire Dept.

**Resolution to Excuse Absent Members**

RESOLUTION #2006-10-64
Moved by Kilmer
Seconded by Diefenbaker

To excuse Binkowski and Halsey.

YES: All-5
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Halsey)
MOTION CARRIED

2. **Minutes – September 20, 2006**

RESOLUTION #2006-10-65
Moved by Hubbell
Seconded by Kilmer

To approve the September 20, 2006 minutes as printed.

YES: All-5
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Halsey)
MOTION CARRIED

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

### 3. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 271 Habrand

R.W.T. Building requests a waiver for the sidewalk at 271 Habrand. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with the construction of a new house. The Public Works Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has signed an "Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks."

Petitioner states that the neighborhood is already developed with no sidewalks existing, and a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing. He mentioned that the road has a 50' right of way with ditches. Mr. Schepke mentioned that there are no other sidewalks in the area and that Blanche gets more traffic than Habrand; therefore, he does not see the need for a sidewalk at this spot.

Mr. Ziegenfelder reminded petitioner that in a survey of homeowners, the presence of sidewalks was the third major factor considered by potential home buyers.

RESOLUTION #2006-10-66
Moved by Diefenbaker
Seconded by Hubbell

1. WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8(D) allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

   WHEREAS, R.W.T Building has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct sidewalk on the property because there are no other sidewalks in the area; and

   WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

   a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and

   b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and

   c. The construction of a new sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a two-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 271 Habrand, which is owned by R.W.T. Building.

YES: All-5
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Halsey)
MOTION CARRIED

**4. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 2105 Kirkton**

R.W.T. Building requests a waiver for the sidewalk at 2105 Kirkton. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with the construction of a new house. The Public Works Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has signed an "Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks."

Petitioner states that the neighborhood is already developed with no sidewalks existing, and a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing. There are also ditches on both sides of the street. He mentioned that the street has open ditches, and being R1E zoning, the setbacks are at a minimum and he feels it is not reasonable to install a sidewalk.

RESOLUTION #2006-10-67
Moved by Kilmer
Seconded by Diefenbaker

1. WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8(D) allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

   WHEREAS, R.W.T. Building has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct sidewalk on the property because there are no other sidewalks in the area; and

   WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

   a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and

   b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and

   c. The construction of a new sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a two-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 2105 Kirkton, which is owned by R.W.T. Building.

YES: All-5
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Halsey)
MOTION CARRIED

**5. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 3281 Troy Street**

B & C Building requests a waiver for the sidewalk at 3281 Troy Street. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with the construction of a new house. The Public Works Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has signed an "Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks."

Gary Chegash, of B & C building, stated that the neighborhood is already developed with no sidewalks existing, and a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing.

Mr. Schepke asked what the setback is, and Mr. Chegash said it is 35' from the property line on the frontage.

RESOLUTION #2006-10-68
Moved by Hubbell
Seconded by Diefenbaker

1. WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8(D) allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

   WHEREAS, B & C Building has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct sidewalk on the property because there are no other sidewalks in the area; and

   WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

   a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and

   b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and

   c. The construction of a new sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a two-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 3281 Troy Street, which is owned by B & C Building.

YES: All-5
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Halsey)
MOTION CARRIED

**6. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 4077 Virgilia**

Pat Bismack requests a waiver for the sidewalk at 4077 Virgilia. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with the construction of a new house. The Public Works Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has signed an "Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks."

Petitioner states that the neighborhood is already developed with no sidewalks existing, and a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing.

Mr. Schepke has lived a block away on Paragon for the past 36 years. He stated that Virgilia gets a lot of traffic and he is concerned about safety for pedestrians and children playing. He believes the new homes have good setbacks from the road and there is enough room for sidewalks. He is particularly concerned about the corner, which is a very high traffic area, and there is really no place for kids to walk/play. He walks that area on a daily basis and feels strongly that a sidewalk should be installed.

RESOLUTION #2006-10-69
Moved by Schepke
Seconded by Kilmer

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined, after a public hearing, that Petitioner failed to establish the standards justifying the granting of a waiver,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee denies a waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 4077 Virgilia, which is owned by Pat Bismack.

YES: All-5
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Halsey)
MOTION CARRIED

**7. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 4059 Virgilia**

Pat Bismack requests a waiver for the sidewalk at 4059 Virgilia. The sidewalk ordinance requires that sidewalk be installed in conjunction with the construction of

a new house. The Public Works Department recommends denial of this waiver request. Petitioner has signed an "Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks."

Petitioner states that the neighborhood is already developed with no sidewalks existing, and a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to nothing.

The property in question is on a corner. Mr. Diefenbaker wanted clarification on whether the sidewalk requirement applies to both streets. Dr. Abraham said the rule applies to the whole parcel.

Mr. Schepke lives a block away on Paragon. He stated that Virgilia gets a lot of cut-through traffic and he is concerned about safety for pedestrians and children playing. He believes the new homes have good setbacks from the road and there is enough room for sidewalks. He feels that this would continue the sidewalk from 4077 Virgilia and potentially can be extended to Wattles if other properties are redeveloped.

Mr. Deagle, in support of Mr. Bismack, interjected that the engineering requirements for a sidewalk on this site would be much more difficult because of existing ditches that may require culverts for sidewalk connections to the roadway.

RESOLUTION #2006-10-70
Moved by Schepke
Seconded by Kilmer

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined, after a public hearing, that Petitioner failed to establish the standards justifying the granting of a waiver,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee denies a waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 4059 Virgilia, which is owned by Pat Bismack.

YES: All-5
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Halsey)
MOTION CARRIED

## REGULAR BUSINESS

**8. Request for NO PARKING Signs on the South Side of Witherbee between Eton and Graefield.**

Birgit Felzer requests NO PARKING signs on Witherbee between Eton and Graefield, on both sides of the road. Parking is restricted on the north side (water main side) of Witherbee and is marked with NO PARKING signs. During construction work in the Pembroke School parking lot, employees were forced to park along Witherbee across from the school. Now that the parking lot is completed, they continue to park there. Mrs. Felzer has difficulty backing out of

her driveway when vehicles are parked on either side of her driveway on Witherbee.

The parking lot has more than adequate parking spaces and during different times of the day only around half of the parking spots are occupied.

Lt. Matlick said the road is narrow and very tight for maneuvering fire trucks if cars are parked on the road.

Lt. McWilliams approves parking restrictions because the road is narrow and can also cause difficulty for the school buses; however, he doesn't think full-time parking restrictions are necessary. He suggests restricting parking during the school beginning and ending hours. He has run license plate checks on the vehicles parked in the area and found they are mostly owned by non-residents.

Mr. Dietz, of 1900 Witherbee, opposes full-time parking prohibition, and says that his neighbor, Bob Flynn opposes it too. Mr. Dietz says his household has three cars, most of the neighbors have two, and on-street parking is needed. He also states that because of the bridge work on Adams there is a lot of cut-through traffic, and he estimates that 30% of the vehicles roll through the stop signs.

Lt. McWilliams suggested that a compromise would be to restrict parking ½ hour before and ½ hour after school arrival and dismissal times, 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. and 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. on school days only. This may prevent school personnel from parking on the street; the renovation of the school now provides more than adequate parking.

RESOLUTION #2006-10-71
Moved by Diefenbaker
Seconded by Hubbell

Recommend installation of NO PARKING SCHOOL DAYS ONLY 8:15 – 9:15 AM AND 3:15 – 4:15 PM signs on the south side of Witherbee between Eton and Graefield.

YES: All-5
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Halsey)
MOTION CARRIED

## 9. Visitors' Time

No one else wished to address the committee.

## 10. Other Business

Lt. Matlick said that there is a private road between Research and Stephenson, north of Maple, where tenants are parking and could restrict fire truck access. There are currently NO PARKING signs posted, but since it is a private road, the

police cannot issue violations. He requests that the road be posted as fire lanes so police could enforce the parking restrictions.

RESOLUTION #2006-10-72
Moved by Kilmer
Seconded by Hubbell

To recommend posting FIRE LANE signs on the Stephenson Highway access drive to Research Drive, north of Maple.

YES: All-5
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Halsey)
MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Ziegenfelder hit a deer on Wattles, and wants DEER CROSSING signs installed. Dr. Abraham will study crash reports to see if signs are warranted. They can be installed without Traffic Committee action.

Mr. Kilmer asked about Osborne Square on Crooks. Dr. Abraham said there were five broadside crashes in 2005, and he will talk to the property owners about the City staff proposal of reducing the width of the existing driveway and adding another drive on the north side of the Osborn Square development.

Mr. Diefenbaker commended the City about the recent intersection pavement improvements at Wattles and Rochester, and at Square Lake and Rochester. He added that he is pleased to see that Long Lake and Livernois are also fixed, making driving a pleasure. The rest of the Committee expressed similar sentiments.

## 11. Adjourn

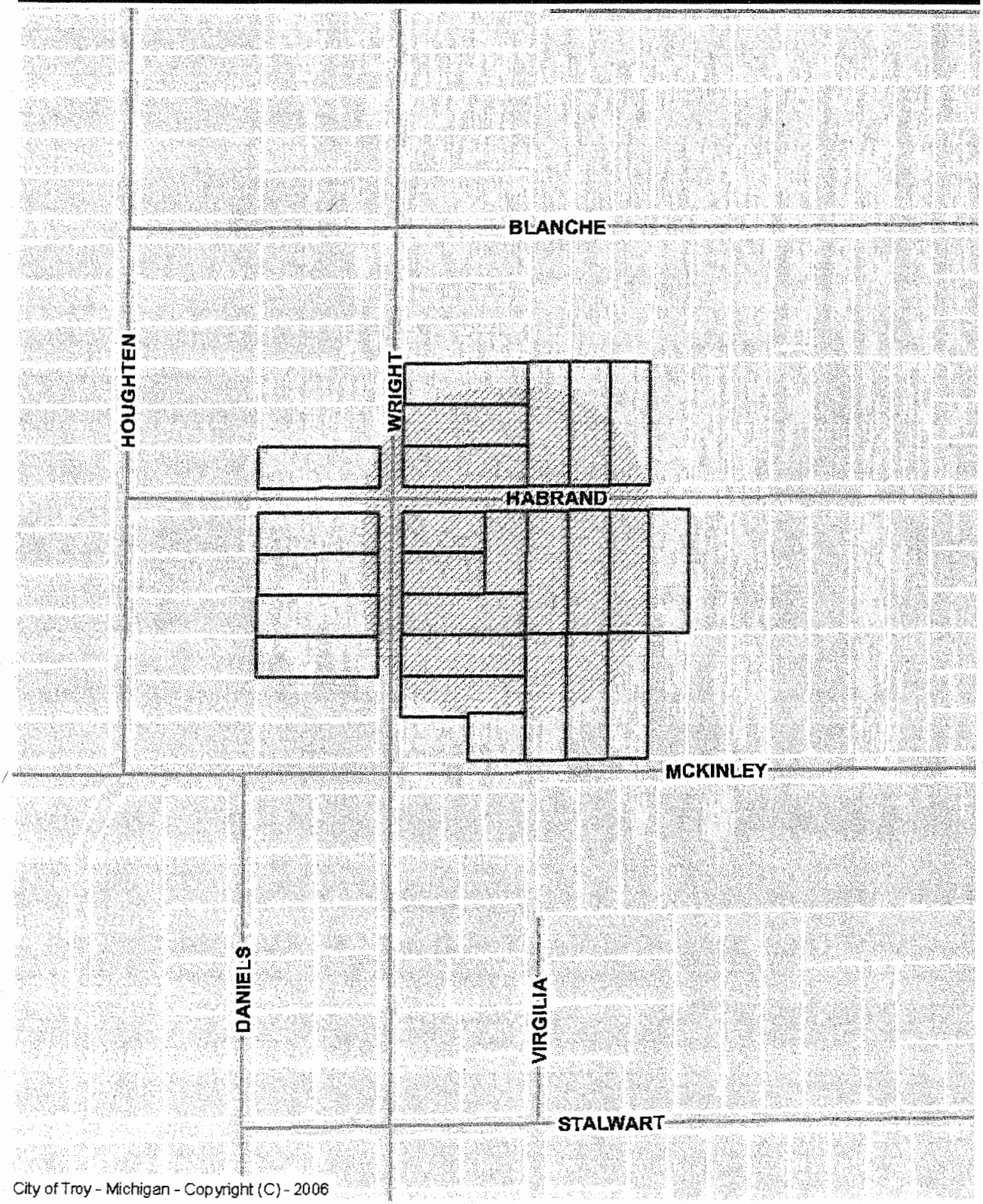
The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2006.

Pete Ziegenfelder, Chairman

Laurel Nottage

Laurel Nottage, Recording Secretary

# Geographical Information Systems Online

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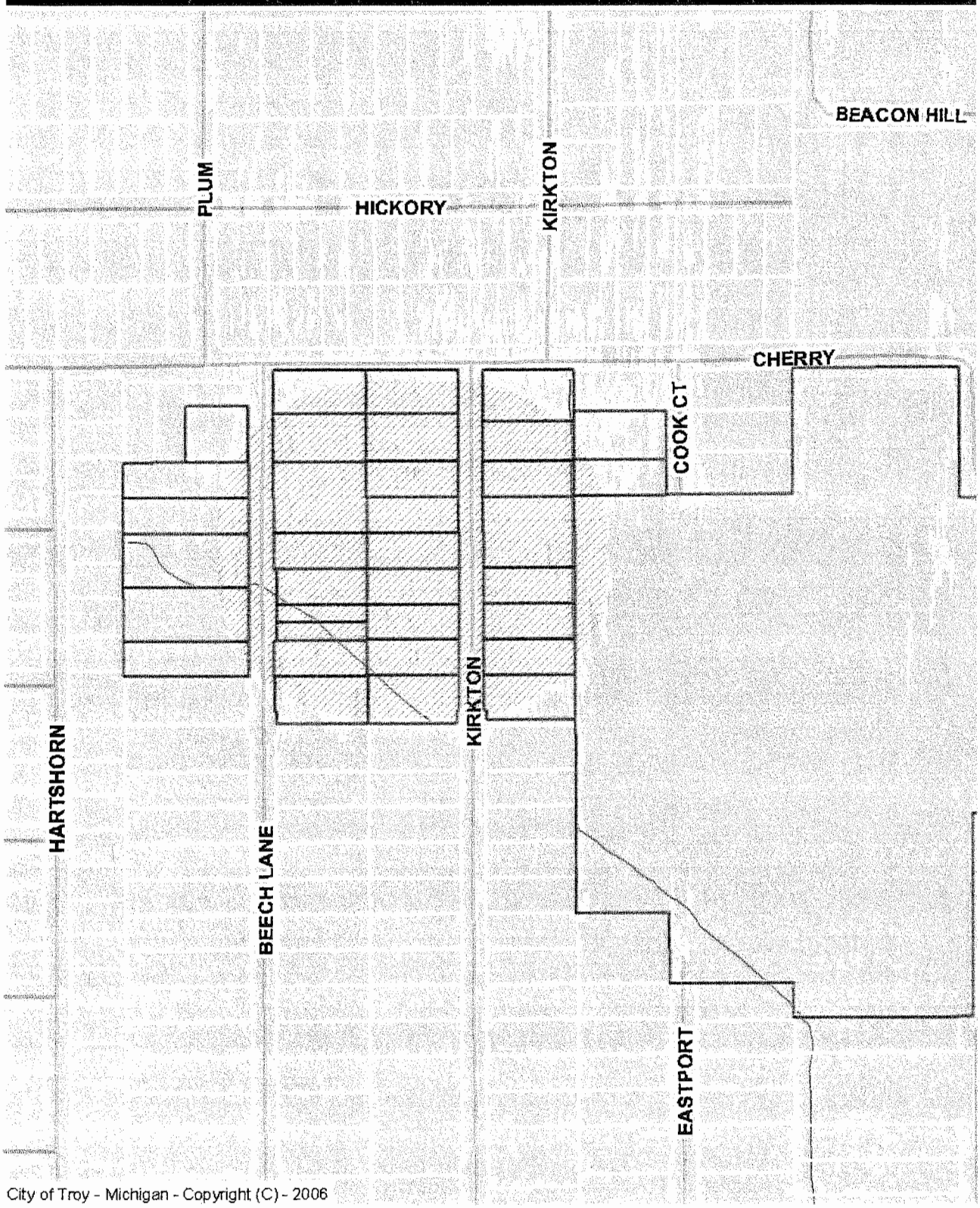


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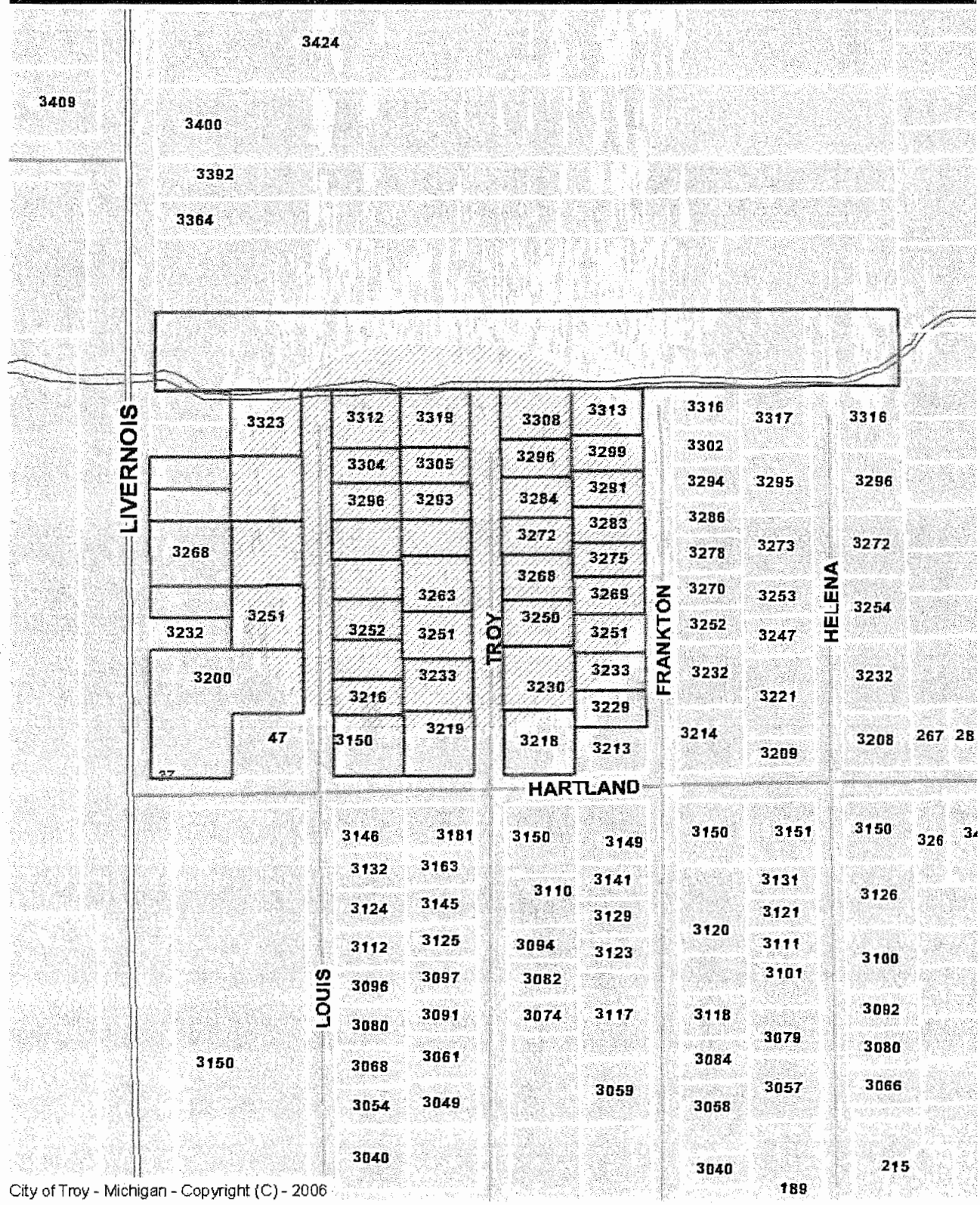


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ITEM 6

ITEM 7

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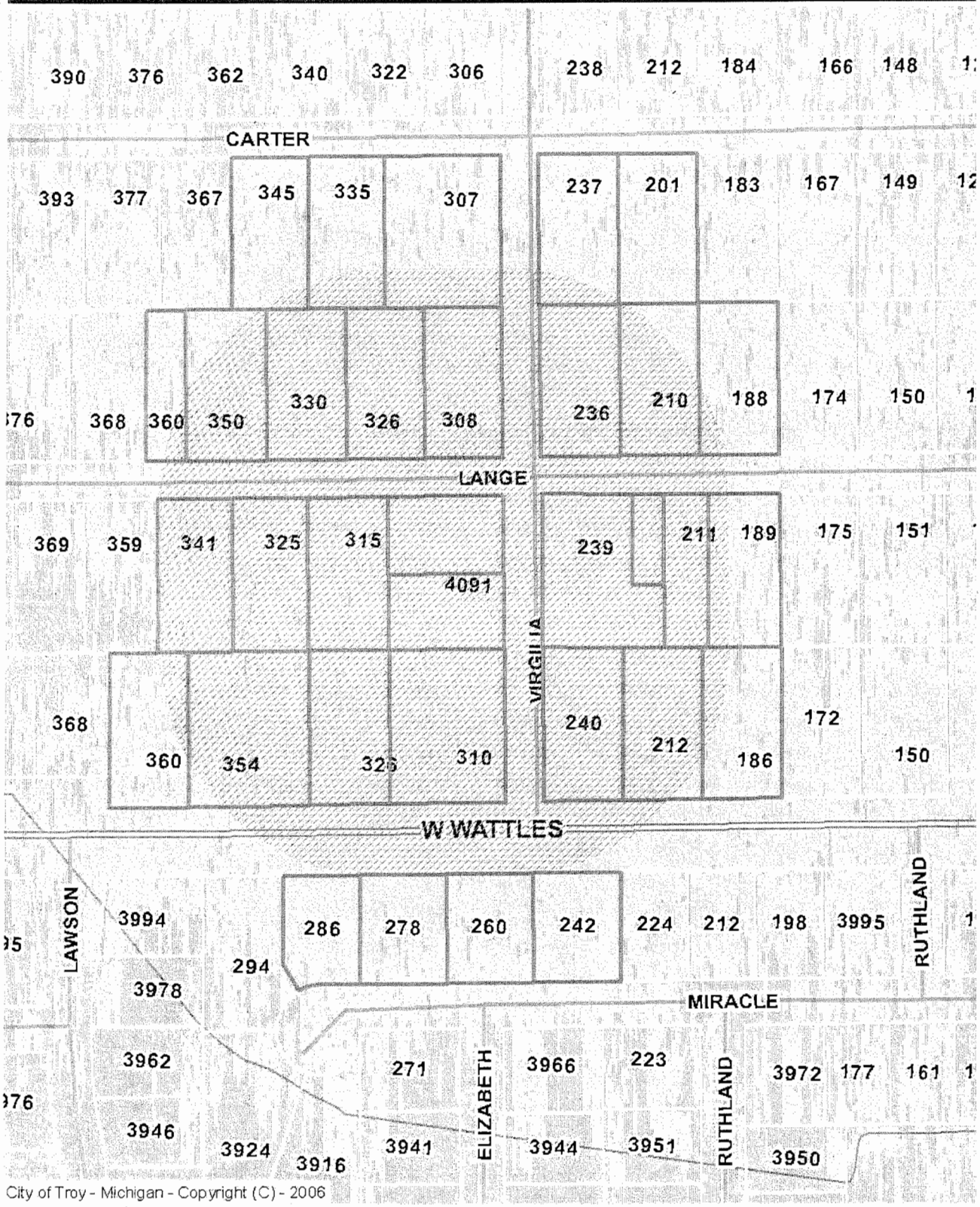


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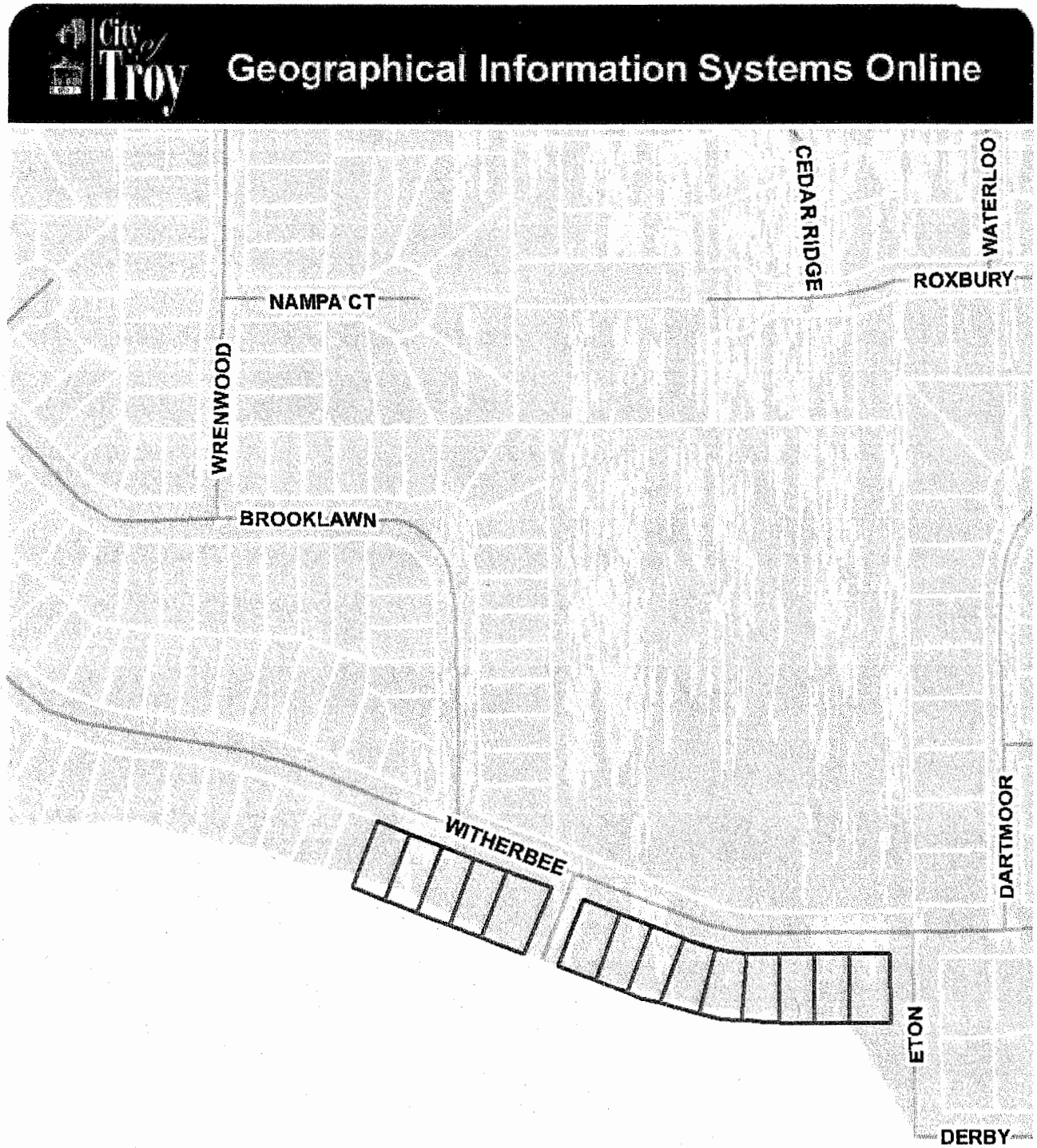


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Traffic Committee Members
Cc: Lt. Scott McWilliams, Police Department
John K. Abraham, Traffic Engineer

**RE: Traffic Committee Meeting Item #8**
**Installing NO PARKING signs on Witherbee between Eton & Graefield**

I am writing this letter in response to the request by Birgit Selzer to have No Parking signs installed on Witherbee Drive between Eton and Graefield. I and my wife reside at 1900 Witherbee, directly across from Pembroke Elementary.

During this summer's construction project at Pembroke, there was a tremendous amount of parking congestion throughout the nearby streets. Apparently, some employees of the school continue to park on Witherbee now that the construction is over. Additionally, at student drop-off and pick-up times, the street is crowded with parents parked while dropping off or retrieving their children. I have noticed that it is sometimes difficult to enter or exit my driveway due to how close people park to the driveway entrance when it is crowded.

However, I am concerned that were Ms. Selzer's request to be approved, residents would lose the ability to park in front of their own home. Firstly, the driveways in this area are very small and if one has three cars in the home, it is nearly impossible to put them all in the driveway. Secondly, when having guests or holiday get-togethers, it seems unnecessarily inconvenient to make your guests park a block down the road, which additionally would only make it more crowded in front of other people's homes.

It appears to me that the problem is related to inadequate parking and standing areas in the Pembroke parking lot and driveways. I am strongly opposed to adding No Parking signs. Minimally, I strongly believe the committee should consider creating a permit parking or residents only parking designation rather than eliminating parking altogether, which I believe would unduly burden those who reside on the street.

Sincerely,

David A. Dietze

October 18, 2006

Liberty Property Trust
1650 Research Drive
Troy, Mi 48083

RE: Property at Stephenson & Maple (Drive off Stephenson, North of Maple to East)

Dear Brian,

The Troy Fire Depart has surveyed the above captioned property for the establishment of fire lanes. This action is pursuant to Chapter 1076 of the Troy City Code, and was recommended by the Fire Department and the Traffic Committee.

This letter is to notify you that the installation and maintenance of the fire lane signs is the obligation of the property owner. The fire lane signs are to be installed and maintained in compliance with the criteria as set forth in the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Some of the criteria as set forth in the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices are:

1. Signs shall be red on white background and shall read:
   "No stopping, standing, parking- Fire Lane- Tow Away Zone"
2. Spaced no further than 100 feet apart.
3. Installed at right angle or 90 degrees.
4. Seven (7) feet from the bottom of the sign to grade.
5. Double faced where possibility exists for left wheel to curb parking.

It is the requirement of the Troy Fire Department that the compliance be attained immediately. A diagram of your property and fire lane sign placement is attached for your reference. For our reference, please return the enclosed form with the name and contact information of the parties responsible for maintenance of this property.

The Traffic Committee meets the third Wednesday of each month, at 7:30 pm, in the Lower Level Conference Room at Troy City Hall. Should you have any questions about posting these signs, please attend. Call 248-524-3379 to confirm the date of the meeting. Otherwise, you are not required to attend.

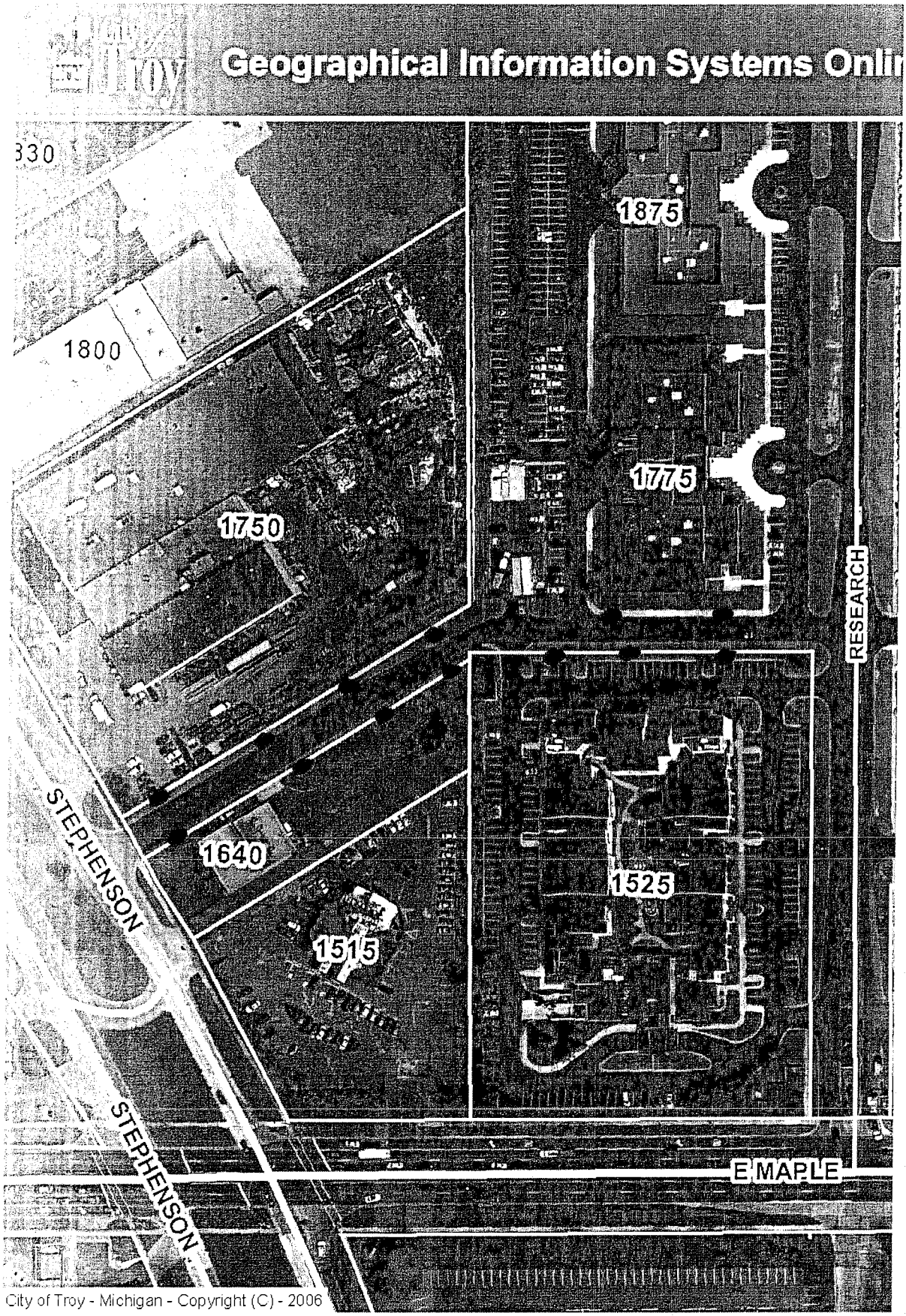
If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the Troy Fire Department at 248-524-3419. Thank you for your immediate cooperation in this matter.

Protectively,

Troy Fire Department

Robert Matlick, Lieutenant

Attachments
Cc: L. Nottage

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