



# ST. CHARLES PARISH

## OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

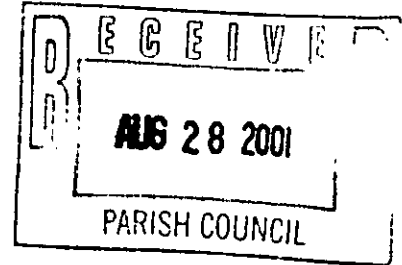
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2001-0330

ALBERT D. LAQUE  
PARISH PRESIDENT

August 28, 2001

Hon. Barry Minnich, Chairman  
St. Charles Parish Council  
P.O. Box 302  
Hahnville, LA 70057



Re: Ordinance No. 01-8-12

Dear Councilman Minnich,

On Monday, August 20, 2001, the Council approved Ordinance No. 01-8-12, "to allow the Planning Commission to require Traffic Impact Analysis for certain developments within St. Charles Parish before construction approval is granted".

While I agree with the intent of the legislation, the ordinance as adopted contains conflicting requirements. Section I.b. , "If development thresholds of Section III.A.6.a. are met or exceeded, or if otherwise deemed necessary by the St. Charles Parish Planning Commission, the Director of the Department of Public Works or the Director of the Department of Planning and Zoning, the applicant shall submit a Traffic Impact Analysis." Section II.7.a. states, " A Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) shall be required for all subdivisions or developments when the following project threshold levels are met or exceeded."

Developers will be unable to clearly understand when or if such an analysis is required. The agencies cited in the ordinance will be burdened with writing the rules as each situation arises. The result will be unnecessary bureaucratic layers being added to what should be a clearly defined process.

In addition, there is no stated basis for the thresholds required in the ordinance. In the absence of a Master Transportation Plan, these thresholds are of an arbitrary nature since there is no data to correspond as to how these figures were derived.

For a Traffic Impact Analysis to be fair, equitable and enforceable the requirements should be derived through careful analysis and the resulting legislation should be clearly understood by all who will be affected, including the applicant and the enforcement agencies.

The Council should also note that this ordinance was rejected unanimously by the Planning Commission on August 2, 2001.


It is for these reasons that I have vetoed Ordinance No. 01-8-12.

The Department of Planning and Zoning is preparing to advertise a Request for Proposals for a Master Transportation Plan. Once this process is

completed and a plan is in place, a Traffic Impact Analysis with proper benchmarks and relevant targets could be implemented.

I humbly request that the Council sustain my veto so that this legislation can be enacted in a timelier and more effective manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Albert D. Laque". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Albert D. Laque  
Parish President

Cc: Parish Council