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**Sent:** 2019 DEC 18 PM 6:40 Tuesday, December 3, 2019 4:08 PM  
**To:** CITY CLERK DEPT  
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**Subject:** Water Services Pipeline Project Alignment thru Madison Heights Neighborhood and Phoenix Mountain Preserve

Dear Mayor Gallego and City Council Members,

My name is Sandra Kane and I have lived in the Madison Heights neighborhood north of Lincoln Dr. since 1984. Our neighborhood of approximately 500 homes is land-locked because we are surrounded by State Route 51 on the west, the Phoenix Mountain Preserve on the north and east, and Lincoln Dr. on the south. The only way for me and many of my neighbors to enter or leave the neighborhood by car is to take N. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, a two-lane street which runs in front of Madison Heights Elementary School, crosses two mountain washes, and has a major incline from E. Orangewood Ave. up to the Phoenix Mountain Preserve.

In mid-October, I learned for the first time that the City Water Services Dept. plans to construct a 66" water pipeline north of Lincoln Dr. along N. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and across 14 acres of the Phoenix Mountain Preserve. I also learned that a new 48" water pipe will be installed along N. 20<sup>th</sup> Street. Our home is between 20<sup>th</sup> Street and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street so we will be affected on both sides. The neighborhood has very hard, rocky soil with large boulders. I am aware that because of the rocky soil, blasting needed to be used to dig swimming pools during the development of the neighborhood. It will be difficult and time-consuming to drill through the rocky soil to install a 66" pipeline.

Along with approximately 300 neighbors, my husband and I attended a meeting with the Water Services Dept. at Madison Heights Elementary School on October 24. We learned that the first phase of construction would start in January 2020 and no change in alignment would be entertained. In fact, the Water Dept. speakers refused to allow neighborhood attendees to ask questions during the main presentation, requiring them to break up into small groups at the back of the room afterwards for questions. At that time, no one from the Water Dept. seemed to care about neighborhood concerns or to consider changing the project alignment to minimize the impact on our neighborhood or the Preserve. They acted like the project was a "done deal."

While the need to bring surface water to North Phoenix is understandable, the impact on our neighborhood and the Phoenix Mountain Preserve is huge. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street is heavily used -- children walk to and from school along 22<sup>nd</sup> Street; parents drop off and pick up their children from school; people walk to and from bus stops on Lincoln and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street; people drive cars to get to and from work, shopping, doctor appointments, etc.; people back out of and enter into their driveways on homes along 22<sup>nd</sup> St.; people walk, bike, and run on 22<sup>nd</sup> Street; children use 22<sup>nd</sup> St. to get to the schoolyard to play; and emergency, construction, repair, and delivery vehicles use 22<sup>nd</sup> Street to access homes in the area. Not only is 22<sup>nd</sup> Street very busy, it is not wide enough to permit cars to travel in both directions with a large hole being dug down the middle. When the City or utility companies work on 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, they need to direct traffic, and cars must wait for traffic from the opposite direction to clear before they can proceed. That will surely be the case with this project. Large construction vehicles working along 22<sup>nd</sup> Street will present further obstacles; and a large hole will present safety issues especially for neighborhood children. The noise, dust and vibration from the drilling will impact everyone, including children trying to learn in classes and playing in the schoolyard, and residents trying to enjoy their homes. The neighborhood has already experienced several water line breaks from old pipes. The vibration from intensive drilling will undoubtedly affect aging pipes, homes, and infrastructure which will be costly to remedy.

I am also deeply concerned about the impact on use, enjoyment and biodiversity of the Preserve. The Preserve is a special place enjoyed by city residents and visitors and an animal habitat and ecosystem. People moved into and invested in the neighborhood surrounding the Preserve with the understanding that the Preserve had special legal protection from development. If this project is allowed to proceed without express authorization by the City Council after a determination of necessity based on careful consideration of all alternatives, as required by the Charter, then nothing in the Preserve will be safe from development and an important piece of Arizona's heritage will be lost.

With all the expertise at the City and the involvement of the community, surely an easier, less intrusive way to install the pipeline can be found, without an adverse effect on our neighborhood or the Preserve. There are areas alongside the 51 that can be considered. Please put this matter on the agenda and halt the imminent construction to allow community input, consider feasible alternatives, and achieve the best outcome for Phoenix.

Respectfully,  
Sandra Kane

Submitted by Sandra Kane in her individual capacity  
as a citizen of Phoenix this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019.

By Sandra Kane

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