the city of Doraville

DIVERSITY | VITALITY | COMMUNITY

THE CITY OF DORAVILLE AGENDA ITEM SHEET

Subject: Grandfather Gravel Driveway - Revisit Vote

Date of Meeting: 8-16-10

Budget Impact: ☐Yes ■ No

Budget Impact Amount: $_____

Funding Source:

☐ Annual ☐ Capital ☐ Grant ■ N/A

Regular Meeting ■
Work Session ☐
Recommendation ☐
Policy/Discussion ☐
Report ☐
Other ☐

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Action Requested:

See attached narrative

History, Facts, Issues:

See attached narrative

Options: _____

Recommended Action:

Repeal previous vote, amend 5-40 for additional options and date requirements as noted in attached.

Department: Brian Bates **Department Head:** Mayor

Administrative Comments and Recommendation: _____

Action Taken By Board: _____

On July 19, 2010, the following appeared on the agenda:

2. Driveway Limitations – Pam Fleming

The ensuing discussion was around eliminating the requirement to convert existing driveways from gravel to a less permeable surface such as concrete.

Ultimately, a motion was made to grandfather the existing gravel driveways but to not allow them to expand. The requirement was for them to register their driveway, with photograph, by December 31, 2010. Failure to register would require them to fall into compliance with the existing ordinance.

There are several issues at hand:

1. The motion to "Grandfather" existing driveways was made at the table and was not part of the agenda packet. As a result, residents were not able to comment for or against the proposed motion. This council has gone to great lengths to ensure that residents have a chance to comment on agenda items and in this particular instance, the ability to comment on "grandfathering" the existing gravel driveways was not provided.
2. As was mentioned in the discussion, there is not an existing audit on how many driveways we are discussing. No information was presented as to how many properties this could affect, should everyone choose to apply for the "grandfathering".
3. There was no separation of the discussion between primary driveways and secondary "parking pads".
4. There was no action taken to modify the allowable materials under 5-40 to include other, more permeable options, such as: open cell block; grid system; and porous concrete.

After reviewing the items and the discussion in minutes, I am making the following recommendations:

1. Repeal the "grandfather" vote.
2. Extend the deadline for compliance to August 31, 2013.
3. Require residents to apply for the extension by December 31, 2011.
4. Modify 5-40 to include additional porous options, with the requirement that grass grid and open block systems be maintained in accordance with existing lawn maintenance ordinances:
    a. Grid System for Grass such as: Grasspave; Garden Grid; Checkblock™; EZ Roll Grass Pavers; Geoblock®; etc.
    b. Porous Concrete
    c. Open Cell Block
5. Modify 5-40 to eliminate asphalt as an option.
6. Modify 5-40 to allow repair to existing gravel driveways, only if the 2-year extension is requested.
7. Modify 5-40 to apply to primary driveways only. Existing secondary driveways and parking pads may remain gravel but should be registered with the city, along with photographic evidence, no later than March 31, 2011.
    a. Secondary driveways and parking pads should conform to the following requirements:
        i. Minimum of 4" depth.
        ii. Gravel less than 2" diameter and neutral in color (beige or gray).
        iii. Must be contained within a durable border
        iv. Kept weed and grass free
        v. May not be expanded as of passage of this ordinance
        vi. Installed to prevent ruts and compaction as well as gravel entering adjacent landscaped areas, driveways, or street.