

## Readers' Forum

# Homeowners Hit Livonia Council Paving Action

**Raps Paving Action** \$200 added to your tax bill each year for the next 10 years? Last Wednesday, Dec. 4, the

City Council passed a resolution to pave by cement or asphalt, Doris Ave. from Five Mile Road to Puritan, a distance of approximately one half mile. This will be done by a special assessment to all owners.

This resolution is the culmination of a series of studies and meetings that have been going on for several months, starting from a petition by one or more property owners and passed, over the loud objections at the meeting of many other property owners.

To begin with, undoubtedly there isn't a single property owner who would not like to have his street paved. However, at this time, the cost is absolutely prohibitive to many of the residents. A single 50-foot lot will cost in excess of \$800 and there are many residents who have 100-foot frontage which would exceed \$1600. It is my understanding the property owner would have 10 years to pay this off to the city with a six per cent interest charge.

The cost is not the only factor that the council failed to take into consideration. It has been repeatedly pointed out that this short stretch of road has not only been a race track for the hot-rodders, but has been a main, well-traveled thoroughfare to service the Riley Intermediate School.

It is my contention that if the very short stretch of Henry Ruff Road would be opened up to Five Mile Road, some 50 per cent of the traffic on Doris would be reduced. I do believe this should be done, if only from a safety factor, as there is no direct access to the school. Even as I write, petitions are being circulated to determine the number of residents who are opposed to the paving,

but would gladly agree to a more economical approach (by special assessment) at no charge to the city of seal coating. The petitions will be submitted to the proper authorities, prior to the Dec. 18 council meeting.

This letter is written with frustration reigning supreme. The council president, Mr. McNamara, at the close of the last meeting, gave me the very lame excuse that, and I quote, "We got to start somewhere."

If the council, in their wis-

dom, does not reconsider and follow the wishes of the majority, in the case of adding an undue tax burden on the property owners of Doris Ave., I respectfully submit this letter

as a warning to all other property owners who might be as unfortunate as I am, living on an unpaved street.

H.B. MARSH  
15765 Doris, Livonia

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