

As drivers turn onto southbound Farmington Road, traffic backs up at a stop sign in Shiawassee's eastbound lane. This is the proposed site for a new traffic signal.

## Historic district residents committed to traffic issues

By Casey Hans  
Staff writer

It was the same song, played in a different key.

Residents from Farmington's downtown historic district insist the city divert traffic cutting through their neighborhood that is making everyday life less than harmonious.

It is what the group has wanted for nearly a year, and they are holding that note.

"We're not giving up," said Ken Chiara, chairman of a committee of the Old Village Association, the homeowners group representing the historic district.

Chiara presented his group's ideas to the city council Monday. They were much the same as a proposal made last December, when the group asked the city to divert traffic out of their neighborhood and onto major thoroughfares.

Since then, the council has commissioned a traffic study for the entire city and is reviewing the results.

OVA LIGHTENED its stance on street parking, asking that it be restricted only during peak traffic hours. Members also changed their tune on the issues of additional traffic patrols by police and additional ramps for M-102, the city's bypass route.

Approving a measure in accord

with the homeowners and the city's traffic engineer, the council Monday authorized \$25,000 to install a traffic signal at the "T" intersection of Farmington Road and Shiawassee, at the top of the hill. City officials expect it could take up to 2½ years to install the light.

The council also took action to begin studying traffic speeds along Grand River — a procedure that would involve the state Department of Transportation.

FOR OTHER traffic issues, council members said they needed time to compare information from the citizens group and the traffic engineer's report before taking any action.

"I'm sure you realize we must study the impact of traffic . . . in the entire community, so we're not doing this community a disservice," Mayor Richard Tupper said.

"I, as a council member, need to have a little time to digest the information," councilwoman Shirley Richardson said.

THE REVISED proposal from the OVA includes six major points:

- Traffic speeds along Grand River should be reduced to 35 mph from Drake to Gill and to 35 mph from Gill to Fowler.
- Parking on the south side of Grand River should be prohibited

during morning and afternoon rush hours.

- A traffic signal should be installed at Farmington and Shiawassee, with a left-turn arrow and left-turn lane for westbound traffic.

- A right-turn lane should be installed on southbound Farmington Road at Grand River, and no parking should be allowed during rush hours in front of the Masonic Temple. The group also wants "no through traffic" signs posted for Oakland Street.

- A left-turn lane with a left-turn arrow should be installed for eastbound Grand River at Farmington Road. The group also asks that "no left turn" signs be used on eastbound Grand River at Shiawassee, Cass, Grace and Oakland.

- Warner Street should be blocked at Thomas Street, to alleviate traffic using Warner as a shortcut from Grand River to Shiawassee.

ANY PARKING changes, whether proposed by the traffic engineer or the OVA, continue to be a concern to the city's Downtown Development Authority. The group voted Aug. 3 to oppose any re-engineering of traffic that would diminish parking in downtown Farmington.

## Hills man 1 of 12 indicted in child pornography sting

A Farmington Hills man is among 12 southeast Michigan men indicted last Thursday on charges of using the mail to send or receive child pornography, some of it depicting child abuse.

Federal authorities seized videotapes, magazines and photographs allegedly depicting explicit sexual conduct involving children and, in some cases, depicting child abuse, said U.S. Attorney Roy Hayes.

A U.S. District Court grand jury in Detroit indicted the defendants separately; several were arrested in a sting operation conducted jointly by the Postal Inspection Service, U.S. Customs Service and state and local police, Hayes said.

The Farmington Hills man is Ronald M. Winslow, 41, a self-employed computer consultant. Under the federal Child Protection Act of 1984, he was charged with one count of receiving child pornography through the mail and one count of using an assumed name to receive child pornography through the mail.

Conviction on the first count carries a penalty of up to 10 years' imprisonment and a \$100,000 fine. Conviction on the second count brings a sentence of up to five years in prison and a \$1,000 fine.

Arraigned in U.S. District Court in Detroit before Magistrate Steven Pepe, Winslow was released on \$10,000 personal bond. An innocent plea was entered in his behalf. Winslow's attorney, Frederick Neumark of West Bloomfield, said Monday he had "no comment at this time."

WINSLOW WAS among several defendants arrested after the Postal

**Much of the pornography seized in the sting was produced in Denmark and Sweden. The defendants are not accused of producing or distributing the material.**

Inspection Service set up a phone company that advertised child pornography. When those defendants responded by asking for specific items, inspectors began monitoring their mail and determined they were allegedly receiving illegal material, U.S. Attorney Rosa Parker said.

On Feb. 21, Winslow ordered a videotape entitled "School Days," which portrays children involved in sexual activity. He received it May 26, according to his indictment.

Much of the pornography seized in the sting was produced in Denmark and Sweden. The defendants are not accused of producing or distributing the material or of conspiring with one another to order or receive it, Hayes said.

An indictment means "there is probable cause to believe a crime was committed and that the suspects committed the crime," said assistant U.S. attorney Richard Delonco. Arrest warrants were issued Friday.

Winslow surrendered Monday.

Each defendant was charged with at least one and as many as five counts of mailing, ordering or receiving child pornography through the mail. The investigation could possibly result in additional indictments, Hayes said.

### Farmington Observer

(USPS 187-840)

Published every Monday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 1225 Bowers, Birmingham, MI 48012. Second-class postage paid at Birmingham, MI 48012. Address all mail (subscriptions, change of address, Form 3589) to P.O. Box 2428, Livonia, MI 48151. Telephone 581-6500.

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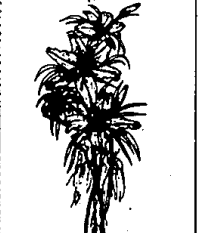
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