

Submitted 5/14/01

#001066

May 21, 2001

Good Evening Commissioners:
My name is Marilyn Walker

I want to thank you for approving the first reading of the moratorium on I-2 zoning. We thank you for being good stewards of our community.

Since we became aware of the I-2 zoning and all its implications I have spoken before you many times, both as a representative of Citizens to Reform Industrial Zoning (CRIZ) and as an individual. As you know, I have consistently stressed the thousands of residents and many existing businesses near these ill zoned areas and the extremely high pollution already present. I have documented this well. I have never once singled out asphalt or concrete. Why in the world would I or any other members of CRIZ be more opposed to concrete and asphalt than we would any other hazardous use? We are extremely concerned about the synergistic effect of the existing risks and feel that ANY, emphasize ANY, additional toxic risks are unconscionable.

I was in the courtroom last week when Watson tried to seek an injunction against the city because of the moratorium. The judge laughed when Ms. Boyes said we were only for the moratorium for political reasons. In regard to the hardship issues he said they shouldn't buy or lease the land from Yelvington until they knew if they could go forward. He stated that the plant, "not state of the art, but good") in storage could be used elsewhere. Judge Doughty said that left them only with the change of date argument if that had any legs at all. Mr. Radson has given his opinion stated, both here, and in the courtroom that the moratorium ball started rolling on Feb. 12th. I was there. So were most of you.

In terms of hardship that leaves Watson with the site plan costs. The residents of all the adjacent neighborhoods will experience hardships of many kinds. Our property values will go down, and become very difficult to sell. The odor, noise, increased diesel traffic, and most of all the health of the families of all ages will be a tremendous hardship and not just a tax write off loss. We are the ones with the extraordinary hardship. There are thousands of us and we live here in Gainesville.

Please continue with your approval of the second reading with no exceptions. We are proud of you. Thank you for listening and

caring about the effects of **all** I-2 zoned areas on all your constituents.

Please include my remarks in the permanent record of this meeting.