



Christine Nicole <cnicole@townofbelleair.net>

Poinsettia Road

'Molly duPont Schaffer' via Commission <Commission@townofbelleair.net>

Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 2:32 PM

Reply-To: Molly duPont Schaffer <mrsschaffer@me.com>

To: commission@townofbelleair.net

Thank you Mayor and Commissioners for your time-AS ALWAYS!

I will be on zoom tonight but wanted to make sure I got my comments to you.

I am very concerned about the nature of the discussion regarding Poinsettia Road. At the most basic level I find the terminology of "reopening" to not be helpful as the Town of Belleair did not close Poinsettia-as you are aware the Town of Largo closed Rosery.

I have comments/questions about access for EMS, blocking an artery that can be used for an evacuation route, and forcing traffic onto other roads that are already heavily traveled (and the closure of Mehlenbacher), the number of non-resident speeding tickets issued in that area, the percentage of crime in that are of our neighborhood vs. other areas, etc. I assume these may be discussed tonight.

In my opinion, closing the road sends a terrible community message that non-residents are not welcome and seen as some kind of threat. I may be wrong-and I am open to that-but why if you are on the corner of Rosery and Clearwater/Largo road (which is four lanes), would you use Poinsettia to come down to IRR (a two lane road with a roundabout) to "avoid traffic"? Just doesn't make any sense to me.

Finally, I believe closing Poinsettia road is not only inconvenient, but sets a precedence that a group of residents can request an action of the Commission that benefits only themselves, and not our entire town. This really could open Pandora's box....

You are an amazing team, giving much of your time and energy to our wonderful community, and our family truly appreciates all you do.

Sincerely, Molly

Molly duPont Schaffer
(727) 638-5389

Christine Nicole <cnicole@townofbelleair.net>

Re: Poinsettia Road Closure

Michael Wilkinson <mwilkinson@townofbelleair.net>

Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 3:20 PM

To: K Wikoff <nojunkplez@hotmail.com>, JP Murphy <jmurphy@townofbelleair.net>, Christine Nicole <cnicole@townofbelleair.net>

Hello Karen & Carl,

Thank you for taking the time to write and express your views. I have also copied our Town Manager and Town Clerk to make sure your views are documented.

Respectfully,

Mike Wilkinson
Commissioner--Town of Belleair
(727) 742-8799--cell

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On Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 10:29 AM K Wikoff <nojunkplez@hotmail.com> wrote:

We had hoped to attend the discussion meeting this evening. Now it seems that may not be possible. However, we wanted to convey our support of permanently closing Poinsettia Road at the Pinellas County Trail. Traffic on Poinsettia Road was a problem when we moved here 1993. Over the years it has only gotten worse. Having the road closed this past year has been wonderful. Cars no longer speed down our street. It certainly is a much safer place to live now.

The new apartment complex at opening at Rosary and Clw Largo Rd is a concern. It will certainly increase the volume of cut through traffic and worsen the problem of speeding cars. Belleair residents are used to the current traffic pattern so there should be no significant negative impact. For those of us directly affected by the closing, the positives are substantial. We urge you to leave Poinsettia Road closed at the Pinellas Trail.

Karen and Carl Wikoff
[653 Poinsettia Road](#)

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Michael Wilkinson
Commissioner, Town of Belleair
[901 Ponce de Leon Blvd](#)
[Belleair, FL 33756](#)
(727) 742-8799--cell

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Christine Nicole <cnicole@townofbelleair.net>

Poinsettia Rd reopening

'Tiffanie Lopatin' via Commission <Commission@townofbelleair.net>

Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 3:30 PM

Reply-To: Tiffanie Lopatin <tlopatin@me.com>

To: commission@townofbelleair.net

Cc: Tiffanie Lopatin <tiffanie@curtisprosearch.com>

Dear Commission Members,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend tonight's meeting regarding the reopening of Poinsettia Rd. I have been eagerly anticipating the reopening this thoroughfare.

I have lived on Ponce de Leon Blvd for almost 20 years. Since the closing of Poinsettia, Ponce has become more congested, in particular at the roundabout and at Clearwater Largo Rd. As someone that frequently used Poinsettia as the fasted route out of the neighborhood, I look forward to it reopening and thus easing the congestion throughout on our road. If however, you decide to keep Poinsettia closed, please let me know the process for having speed bumps installed on what has become the Ponce de Leon Speedway. If we can close a vital road into and out of town at the whim of a few residents, I look forward to my neighbors and I getting speed bumps to slow or deter traffic away from our street to make us happy too.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Tiffanie Lopatin
Sent from my iPad



Christine Nicole <cnicole@townofbelleair.net>

Community Discussion on Poinsettia Road Closure

Dick Williams <dick.d1072@gmail.com>

Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 4:33 PM

To: commission@townofbelleair.net

I spoke at an earlier Commission meeting opposing any action which would close or inhibit free passage of automobiles from Rosery Road to Poinsettia Road. In that I am unable to attend the meeting scheduled for 6pm today I wish to make my position know to the Commission. For the record I am drawing from my experience as the retired Pinellas County Director of Public Safety Services and as a graduate engineer to base my comments.

1. The City of Largo has constructed the Rosery road with no provision for a turn around at the junction with Poinsettia road. If the Commission decides to either close or impede traffic by use of a gate I would expect the City of Largo will pursue some form of remuneration from the Town of Belleair to construct such a turn around.
2. The Town of Belleair is serviced for fire and EMS by Largo Fire. Station 43 is our primary responder but if not available Station 41 responds. The Rosery/Poinsettia corridor is critical to enable timely responses. A study by Pinellas County's Safety Services Department must be done before any decision can be made.
3. Continuing the use of Bel Forest Road creates excessive traffic and is an unfair imposition on the residents of Belleair Forest.

I trust the Town of Belleair Commission will take these three points into serious consideration and will reject the proposal to close the street.

Blue Skies & Safe Travels

Dick Williams

29 Pelican Place

Belleair, FL 33756

Cell: 727-403-5662



Christine Nicole <cnicole@townofbelleair.net>

October 20 Meeting - Comments RE: Poinsettia Road Item

Christine Ruppel <christineruppel3@gmail.com>
To: commission@townofbelleair.net

Tue, Oct 20, 2020 at 4:48 PM

Dear Mayor Katica and Fellow Commissioners,

As a resident of the Town of Belleair, I wanted to thank you all for the time that you spend committed to the health, safety, and positive experience of our entire community. I wanted to share my comments about one item on the agenda tonight in the event that there is not enough time to discuss everyone's positions. I have attached it in a letter below.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christine Ruppel
727-698-6324



Poinsettia Road discussion 10-20-20.pdf
42K

October 20, 2020

Dear Town of Belleair Commissioners,

Thank you for all that you do for our town, always.

I am planning to attend the meeting tonight virtually, but I was concerned that there may not be enough time to share feedback about the Poinsettia Road item on the agenda.

I have been so excited that once again our community can utilize Poinsettia Road and Rosery Road to get to the arterial roads of our community. I understand that there is an idea that this may not happen. I would like to share my feedback with the Commission as I feel that there are many reasons why I believe that Poinsettia Road should be made available and open.

1. Poinsettia Road was only impacted because the City of Largo had to do necessary water, sewer, and road improvements to the Rosery Road portion of the road, so the question of “re-opening” is very concerning when it wasn’t “closed” to begin with. It was simply unusable while under construction.
2. Mehlenbacher Road is an older, less safe road to travel on. It has numerous locations that do not offer complete visibility because of the side drainage and significantly overgrown foliage and is not large enough to safely handle traffic from the entire community. Additionally, it does not offer a direct route to Missouri Avenue. As a result, the only routes from Belleair to Missouri would be Ponce de Leon Blvd. and West Bay Drive. This is a long distance to travel and could potentially cause an increase to the overall traffic flow on these smaller roads.
3. The potential closure of one east/west crossing of Pinellas Trail may be a bad precedent to start when there are so many of these such crossings along the entire north/south run of the entire Pinellas County Trail.

4. Rosery Road is now a newly paved, adequately constructed road to today's standards and traffic counts. It does not seem logical not to use such a road and consequently push traffic to less functional roads, resulting in potentially dangerous situations for all drivers and pedestrians. As a mother of three daughters, I am passionate about making sure that all younger drivers are given safe road access. Also, it is confusing when a driver has to weave around small roads to get from one point to another.
5. To add additional long-term traffic to Ponce de Leon Blvd., in close proximity to child drop off areas by the Belleair Recreational Center, soccer fields, and a school facility seems potentially dangerous.
6. Closing Poinsettia Road would remove an arterial road that can be used for emergency and emergency medical purposes.
7. Many residents and community members have been impacted on a daily basis since work commenced on the roads. That seemed acceptable given that there was an end in sight. Traffic for over one year has been pushed to other less functional roads including Mehlenbacher Road, Ponce de Leon Blvd., Belleview Blvd., and further Jasper St. Now that the roadwork is completed, all roads that were previously impacted (Poinsettia Road and Rosery Road) should be able to be utilized for use by the community and all of the residents.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Christine Ruppel
727-698-6324