

Project delays are unfair and expensive

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"Group's lawyers say they will prevent final P&Z review of Mulberry-Lemay Crossing." I am so sick and tired of members of our community and politicians who assume that "we, the people" don't understand the complicated language, the complicated issues or the other red tape related to issues that face our community.

I understand that Mark Goldberg and other investors pay interest on the money they use to develop their various projects. The longer and more complex the process is, the more it costs to move ahead. I believe that our city, county and state have done a wonderful job of putting a system in place to work for all of us. The system works. Mark Goldberg has worked within the system, continues to work within the system and is accepting the ever-increasing costs associated with his development of the property in question.

I understand Gary Carnes' and CARS' concerns. They have been



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Soapbox

human life and property damage, to make the river available to as many within our community as is safe and possible, within the reasonable limits and conditions as we can. I believe the city is doing a fine job of this effort as well.

Gary Carnes and CARS are, at this point, merely causing increased cost, unnecessary delays and over reacting to their bruised egos. I hope if the issue moves into the courts, that Carnes is ready, willing and able to

considered, heard and addressed. The truth is the floodplain has already been built on, for almost 150 years now. It will continue to be built on, for the next 150 years. Our challenge is to learn to make it safer, reduce the associated risks to

pay the entire cost, courts cost, fees and attorney fees on both sides, as well as any and all damages that Goldberg may suffer. Fair is fair, and my thought is why should Goldberg be expected to continue to suffer because of Carnes' refusal to accept the will of the people and move on.

Trust me, Mr. Carnes, "we, the people" are more familiar with building codes and regulations than you have given us credit for. We understand the issues of traffic and the floodplain. We have decided they need the funding and the attention they are being given. We are prepared to continue to improve and enhance these areas, with our time, energy and tax dollars. We also expect that people like you who make such assumptions, are prepared to pay, with your own money the cost(s) you are causing, by these unnecessary and unreasonable delays.

Richard Payne is a community resident and activist.