

31 March 2025

County Commission of Christian County, Missouri
100 West Church Street
Ozark, MO 65721

Dear Commissioners:

The following information supplements the attached petition. Should the commissioners approve vacating the rights of way bisecting the properties of Susan F. Spence and Stephen J. and Patricia A. Hobbs, these property owners intend to install a gate to eliminate through traffic. The Woodland Park, Kerr, and Holder Road neighbors will be allowed access.

Petitioners are aware of and have investigated maintaining access to important services such as emergency medical and fire. A representative of the Emergency Medical Services of Christian County, when specifically asked whether their services would be hindered if Holder Road was not a through road, and understanding the property locations, stated that Holder Road is served by emergency medical services from Clever and Republic who are expected to be in various places throughout their area of responsibility, not just at their station houses. He said that since they would be able to access Holder Road from either end (ZZ or 14), their response time would not be hindered.

The fire districts have in place a mutual aid agreement. For any fire location, two or three different fire departments may respond, and would require quick access through Holder Road to reach their dispatched locations. Emergency access to the gate will be installed. Both Christian County and Republic use the Knox system of products, which petitioners have investigated. Petitioners understand there are requirements for access initiation and annual checks, and would do all in their power to meet the requirements.

The process of gathering these signatures for the petition has been eye-opening; numerous residents related their stories of experiencing hazardous conditions because of the inadequacy of our residential country road to handle the overburden of traffic, especially speeding vehicles, semis, and other large or multi-axled vehicles. Every day, residents attempting to turn into their driveway or road have been nearly hit by drivers travelling too fast for the conditions; having to cross the road at a place of low visibility to oncoming traffic to reach a mailbox; mailboxes being clipped by careless drivers; owning a home for a short time only to discover that the children in the home cannot even play outside due to unpredictable traffic behavior; residents deal with

drivers yelling at them as they walk down their road, some of the drivers even swerving to come as close to the pedestrian as they can and some even stating [contrary to law] that it is illegal for people to walk on the road; residents must constantly clean up the trash accumulating on their properties on to where it is tossed by cut-through drivers because of the ease of discarding things in this remote area. These items often include drug paraphernalia, alcohol bottles and cans (sometimes full), stolen property, and construction and other hazardous materials. All of these things negatively affect the quality of life of the folks in our neighborhood.

Although these circumstances are very concerning to nearly all residents of the Holder Road neighborhood, they acutely affect the petitioners who own the properties through which the road runs.

Susan F. Spence

Stephen J. and Patricia A. Hobbs

Petition to Vacate a Portion of Holder Road

Road: the part of Holder Road currently held by the county as rights of way through the private properties of Susan F. Spence and Stephen J. and Patricia A. Hobbs in section 12, township 27 N, Range 20 W.

STATE OF MISSOURI }
 } ss. CHRISTIAN COUNTY COMMISSION, 2025
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN }

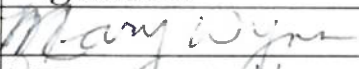
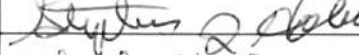
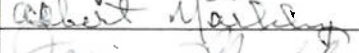
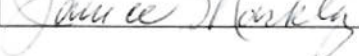
The undersigned petitioners hereby request that the Christian County Commission vacate a portion of Holder Road, located in Lincoln Township, which is currently held by the county as rights of way through the private properties of Susan F. Spence (SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$) and Stephen J. and Patricia A. Hobbs (NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$) in section 12, township 27 N, range 20 W. See attached image on the last page. The petitioners state the following:

1. This section of the road was paved without the consent of the affected property owners who remain the owners to this day. The county's paving of the road and otherwise implementing practices required by road safety standards have made the conditions more favorable to car traffic to the detriment of the safety of the residents: the numbers and sizes of vehicles on the road have greatly increased, as well as their speed, often greatly above the posted speed limit, causing unsafe conditions for the residents.
2. The sheriff has improved deputy visibility on the road in order to slow traffic, but this has been largely ineffective. Coverage of greater consistency, which we have observed to have a positive effect, would require increased regular assignment of deputies to this road. Sheriff Cole has indicated that we have the highest deputy coverage in the county and greater coverage is not likely to be provided given the manpower limitations.
3. This section of Holder running through private property has been identified by the county as the most dangerous section because of curves in the road decreasing visibility and tree growth which requires, in the county's opinion, continued maintenance in order to meet road safety standards. Once the right of way is vacated and returned to the owners, this work would be unnecessary, thereby saving the county these expenses.
4. Area residents recognize that this section is unsafe for pedestrian traffic, and drivers have complained about people walking on the road creating dangerous conditions. Cut-through drivers chastise the residents of this neighborhood for walking on the road. This doesn't even address conditions limiting livestock transfer from one portion of the property to another because the traffic intervenes.

5. Holder Road as a whole is not well-suited for heavy traffic and little can be done to reconcile the competing interests of the ever-increasing cut-through commuter traffic with the rights of the road's residents. At least two of the alternate routes are highways designed to carry vehicles of greater weight and length.
6. Alternate, safer routes are numerous. No one would be prevented from reaching their destinations if Holder Road were no longer a through road. The only advantage to any driver is the miniscule amount of time saved. Officially designating the road closed to through traffic will cause mapping utilities to redirect traffic to the safer alternate routes.
7. At most, blocking a portion of Holder Road to through traffic will be an inconvenience to some who will have to drive a slightly longer route. For the residents of the neighborhood of Holder Road, the current road conditions are not only inconvenient, but are also hazardous.
8. Vacating this section of the road would return it to private property and would eliminate through traffic. Complaints to the county regarding activity along the entire road would diminish by virtue of the fact that fewer cars would be utilizing the road, thereby leading to fewer accidents; lack of easy access for trash dumping would eliminate calls for trash pickup from the county; we would not require county assistance for tree removal, tree trimming, or road surface maintenance thereby saving the county that continuing expense.

RSMo. Section 228.110.4 states that "any 12 residents of the township or townships through which a road runs may make application of any such road or part of the same as useless, and the repairing of the same an unreasonable burden upon the district or districts."

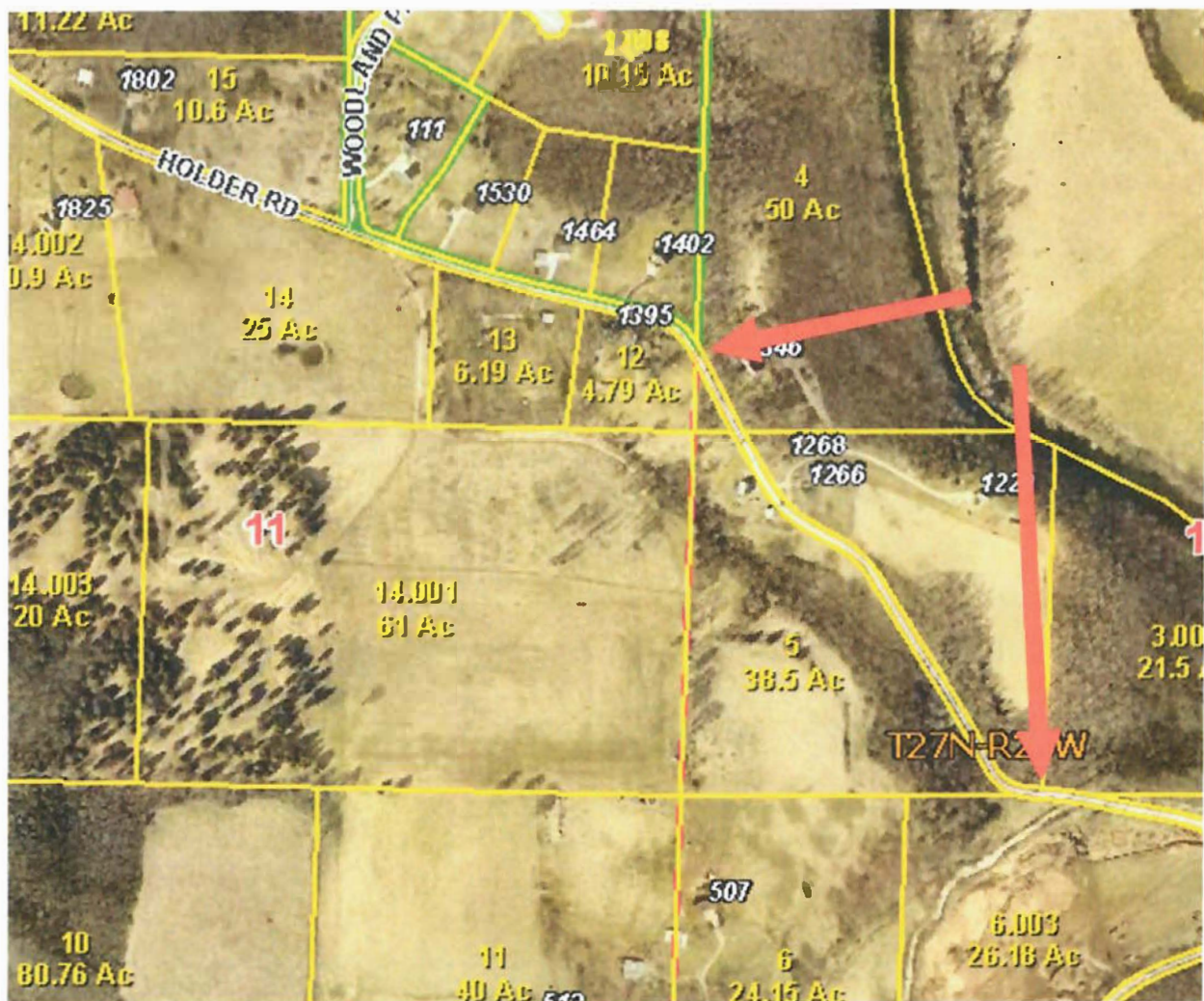
Below are the signatures of at least 12 residents of Lincoln Township requesting that the county rights of way through the properties of Susan F. Spence and Stephen J. and Patricia A. Hobbs be vacated since it does not serve the public welfare and causes an undue financial burden on the county.

	Signature	Print name	Address
1		Mary Wynn	258 Westland Park Dr
2		Patricia A. Hobbs	1220 Holder Rd
3		Stephen J. Hobbs	1220 Holder Rd
4		Albert Markley	1493 Holder Rd
5		JANICE MARKLEY	1493 Holder Rd

	Signature	Print name	Address
6	David M. Pierce	David M. Pierce	328 Woodland Park Dr Clever, MO 65631
7	Rebecca Hilpert	Rebecca Hilpert	1402 Holder Rd Clever MO 65631
8	Milissa Rowell	Milissa Rowell	1395 Holder Rd Clever MO 65631
9	Brad Mayles	Brad Mayles	544 State Hwy 22 Billings 65610
10	Drew Hilpert	Drew Hilpert	1402 Holder Rd Clever MO 65631
11	Kathy Sadduth	Kathy Sadduth	510 Holder Rd Clever
12	Erika Hilpert	Erika Hilpert	1402 Holder Rd Clever, MO 65631
13	Susan F Spence	SUSAN F SPENCE	1341 Holder Rd, Clever, MO
14	Lindy G Pierce	LINDY G PIERCE	328 WOODLAND PK DR, CLEVER, MO 65631
15	James Circo	James Circo	1266 Holder Rd, Clever, MO 65631
16	Dominique Circo	DOMINIQUE CIRCO	1266 HOLDER RD, CLEVER, MO 65631
17	Corbin Allie	Corbin Allie	1464 Holder Rd. Clever, MO 65631
18	Ryan Allie	Ryan Allie	1464 Holder Rd Clever MO 65631
19	Jennifer Allie	Jennifer Allie	1464 Holder Rd Clever MO 65631
20	Jana Allie	JANA ALLIE	1268 HOLDER RD CLEVER MO 65631
21	Shirley M. Gimet	Shirley M. Gimet	710 Holder Rd. Clever MO 65631
22	Victoria Baggett	Victoria Baggett	710 Holder Rd Clever MO 65631
23	Trevor D Baggett	Trevor D Baggett	719 Holder Rd Clever MO 65631
24	Bethany Baggett	Bethany Baggett	710 Holder Rd Clever MO 65631
25	Stephen Buck	Stephen Buck	122 Kerr Rd Clever MO 65631
26	Stacey Buck	Stacey Buck	122 Kerr Rd Clever, MO 65631
27	Charles Kibak	Charles Kibak	379 Holder Rd
28	Todd D Ball	Todd D Ball	379 Holder Rd
29	Kim P. McGowan	Kim P. McGowan	2126 Holder Rd. Clever MO 65631
30	Donald Summers	DONALD SUMMERS	1825 Holder Rd. Clever MO 65631
31	Mason Stipp	Mason Stipp	1825 Holder Rd Clever MO
32	Shawna Rivera	Shawna Rivera	1825 Holder Rd Clever MO
33	Geraldine Summers	Geraldine Summers	1825 Holder Rd Clever MO 65631
34	Angela Stipp	Angela Stipp	1825 Holder Rd. Clever MO 65631
35	Shiloh Lance	SHILOH LANCE	699 KERR ROAD CLEVER MO
36	Macheall Lance	Macheall Lance	699 Kerr Road Clever, MO
37	Doug Pinkley	Doug Pinkley	513 Kerr Rd. Clever

	Signature	Print name	Address
38	<i>Amanda Presko</i>	Amanda Presko	512 Holder Rd
39	<i>J. N. Sudduth</i>	Jeremiah Sudduth	508 Holder Rd
40	<i>Austin Presko</i>	Austin Presko	512 Holder Rd
41	<i>Bruce Sudduth</i>	BRUCE Sudduth	510 Holder Rd
42			
43			
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I Patricia A. Hobbs certify that the signatures above were obtained by me for the purpose stated in the attached petition.
 Patricia A. Hobbs 30 March 2025



Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on the 31st March 2025, the foregoing petition and addendum were submitted to the office of the County Commissioners of Christian County, Missouri, at 100 W Church St., Room 100, Ozark, MO 65721.

Patricia A. Hobbs

Patricia A. Hobbs

Received 3/31/25 10:22 AM