



Packer temporary closing Monday: log impressions with Gadfly

The Bethlehem Gadfly Lehigh University, Southside March 8, 2020

 *Latest in a series of posts about Lehigh University and the Southside* 

*What is the official position of the City regarding the closure of Packer Ave? An agreement seems to have been made in secret to purchase the street from the city by Lehigh University. As a concerned citizen, tax payer and motorist I'm deeply worried that the public good has been yet again been forgotten in favor of some smoky back-room deal.
Edward Ballinger, Bethlehem City Hall Facebook page, Friday*

Temporary closure of Packer Ave. between Vine and Webster to study the Lehigh University proposal to permanently close that stretch begins tomorrow, Monday, March 9.

As of noon today, Sunday, March 8, Gadfly sees no notice from the City in the news or on Facebook or Twitter.

Or on the City web site.

Maybe tomorrow.

Here's what Gadfly was hoping for:

- 1) The City will put out a story not only with the technical details of the closure
- 2) but also full details of the Lehigh "ask" that is behind the study
- 3) as well as the means for citizens to record their travel experiences during the temporary closure plus their thoughts on a permanent closure
- 4) and concrete plans for a community meeting to discuss the results and steps forward, including at least a tentative date for such.



Here is what Gadfly is not hoping for: “the smoky back-room deal” that Mr. Ballinger speaks of above.

In absence of other options, Gadfly will gladly receive your thoughts and impressions and photos, which don't have to be long, which can be multiple, and of which he will keep a running log.