

Cespedes, Christopher

To: Cespedes, Christopher
Subject: RE: Need Your Help--Movie of Speeding Car Passing on Geddes Ave

From: Cespedes, Christopher **On Behalf Of** City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2022 10:53 AM
To: Parag Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >
Cc: Flowers, Suzann <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Rebecca Yaciuk XXXXXXXXXXXX; Hess, Raymond XXXXXXXXXXXX; Naheedy, Cyrus XXXXXXXXXXXX; Liu, Luke XXXXXXXXXXXX
Subject: FW: Need Your Help--Movie of Speeding Car Passing on Geddes Ave

Good morning Parag & Kate,

Thank you for contacting the City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission. Your concerns will be provided as a communication item on the October 19th Commission Agenda.

Transportation staff are also copied here so that they are also aware of your comments and may respond separately.

Christopher Cespedes, Management Assistant

City of Ann Arbor | Guy C. Larcom City Hall | 301 E. Huron, 4th Floor · Ann Arbor · MI · 48104
XXXXXXXXXXXX | Internal Extension 43211
XXXXXXXXXXXX

From: Parag Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2022 9:39 AM
To: Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Dohoney Jr., Milton <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Griswold, Kathy <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Song, Linh <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Flowers, Suzann <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Trafficcops <XXXXXXXXXXXX >
Cc: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <XXXXXXXXXXXX >
Subject: Need Your Help--Movie of Speeding Car Passing on Geddes Ave

This message was sent from outside of the City of Ann Arbor. Please do not click links, open attachments, or follow directions unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Taylor, City Administrator Dohoney, Representatives Griswold and Song, Transportation Manager Flowers, and Ann Arbor Police,

This morning I was driving at the 25 mph speed limit westbound on Geddes, when a grey Prius flew by me, crossing the double yellow line. This has happened many times before, as I have shared with the city government. However, this morning, I was able to grab my phone and film the car as it was passing me (see attached). Such reckless driving is common, and is no doubt part of the reason that children have been hit or killed on this road. I hope that the police are able to identify the car and driver, and that the city acts to increase safety on Geddes.

I did read the MLive article by Ryan Stanton on the safety problems of MDOT owned streets in Ann Arbor. My understanding is that Geddes Ave is city owned and therefore in your hands. Let's work together and act before more children are injured or killed.

Thank you very much.

Parag Patil
Cell: XXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXX, Ann Arbor, 48104

On Sep 24, 2022, at 9:35 AM, Parag Patil XXXXXXXXXXXX > wrote:

Dear Ms. Flowers, Representative Song, Representative Griswold, and Members of the AA Transportation Commission,

Thank you for taking up the issue of pedestrian danger and traffic speeds on Geddes. Kate and I are grateful that the topic was taken up at the September 21 meeting. We would like to know the outcome of the meeting and what actions are planned. I apologize that Kate and I were not able to attend the meeting: we were out of town and without internet access. We look forward to working with you on next steps to make our neighborhood safer.

Warm regards,

Parag and Kate Patil

On Sep 14, 2022, at 8:19 AM, City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <XXXXXXXXXX > wrote:

Parag and Kate,

Thank you for contacting the City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission. Your concerns will be provided as a communication item on the September 21 Commission Agenda.

Respectfully

Suzann Flowers (she/her), Transportation Program Manager

City of Ann Arbor | Guy C. Larcom City Hall | 301 E. Huron, 4th Floor · Ann Arbor · MI · 48104

XXXXXXXXXX) Extension 43715 | XXXXXXXXXXXX

From: Parag Patil <XXXXXXXXXX >

Sent: Monday, September 12, 2022 6:01 PM

To: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <XXXXXXXXXX >

Cc: Hutchinson, Nicholas <XXXXXXXXXX >; Hess, Raymond <XXXXXXXXXX >; Liu, Luke <XXXXXXXXXX >; Naheedy, Cyrus <XXXXXXXXXX >; Redinger, Cynthia <XXXXXXXXXX >; Flowers, Suzann <XXXXXXXXXX >; Kate Patil <XXXXXXXXXX >; Song, Linh <XXXXXXXXXX >; Griswold, Kathy <XXXXXXXXXX >

Subject: Re: Pedestrian Dangers and Speeding on Geddes Ave

Hello Suzann and Members of the Ann Arbor Transportation Commission,

Thank you for your note and service to the City. My wife Kate and I are happy to hear that the City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission is taking up this important safety issue. We are also grateful for the support of our Ward 2 representatives Kathy Griswold and Linh Song and engagement of the police and Mayor.

We hope that prompt action is taken this fall to remedy the situation. One question—is it helpful for my wife and I to participate in the meeting? I ask because we will be out of town on September 21st. Of course we are very committed to this issue and pedestrian safety, and we are also happy to reach out to the parents of the child who was killed and other neighbors who share our concerns. Please let us know how we may best provide input to the Commission if we are not available on September 21 (for example, if the discussion item should be rescheduled).

In addition, recently trees have been planted by the City in the right-of-way in front of our neighbors home (XXXXXXXXXX) that completely obscure our view of traffic when we are attempting to pull out of our driveway onto Geddes. Please see attached photo, taken looking East from our driveway—it is easy to see how the trees

block the view of oncoming traffic. This has resulted in several near-miss accidents, particularly with cars traveling at high speed westbound on Geddes. Thank you for considering this issue as well in your planning.

We look forward to your reply.

Best regards

Parag and Kate Patil

<IMG_0239.jpeg>

On Aug 23, 2022, at 8:31 AM, City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <XXXXXXXXXXXX wrote:

Prag and Katie Patil,

Thank you for contacting the City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission. Your concerns will be provided as a communication item on the September 21 Commission Agenda.

Transportation staff are also copied here so that they are also aware of your comments and may respond separately.

Respectfully,

Suzann Flowers (she/her), Transportation Program Manager
City of Ann Arbor | Guy C. Larcom City Hall | 301 E. Huron, 4th Floor · Ann Arbor · MI · 48104
XXXXXXXXXXXX Extension 43715 | XXXXXXXXXXXX

From: Parag Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX>

Sent: Saturday, August 20, 2022 5:43 PM

To: Griswold, Kathy <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Song, Linh <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Briggs, Erica <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Kaur, Atleen <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Dohoney Jr., Milton <XXXXXXXXXXXX >

Cc: Kate Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >

Subject: Re: Pedestrian Dangers and Speeding on Geddes Ave

Dear Ann Arbor City Leaders,

I am writing to check the status in follow up on our email conversation from July. Cars continue to race down Geddes, often passing cars that are going the 25 mph speed limit (it has happened to me twice in the past month). Pedestrians continue to cross regularly at the intersection of Onondaga and Geddes. Multiple neighbors have expressed interest in a crosswalk being included at the intersection when updates are done in the fall and some speed controlling methods.

Please let us know what we can do further to move things forward. Kate and I would be happy to schedule an appointment with City Supervisor Milton Dohoney, if that would be helpful.

Best regards,

Parag and Kate Patil

On Jul 18, 2022, at 7:41 AM, Griswold, Kathy <XXXXXXXXXXXX_> wrote:

Hello Kate and Parag,

I agree this dangerous condition needs immediate attention. I plan to observe the area this evening during rush hour and report out during the Council meeting in an effort to prioritize improvements.

All the best,
Kathy

From: Parag Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >

Date: Monday, July 18, 2022 at 8:36 AM

To: "Briggs, Erica" <XXXXXXXXXXXX >

Cc: Kate Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >, "Griswold, Kathy" <XXXXXXXXXXXX >, "Song, Linh" <XXXXXXXXXXXX >, City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <XXXXXXXXXXXX >, "Taylor, Christopher (Mayor)" <XXXXXXXXXXXX >, Engineering <XXXXXXXXXXXX >, Trafficcops <XXXXXXXXXXXX >

Subject: Re: Pedestrian Dangers and Speeding on Geddes Ave

Good morning Council Member Briggs,

Thank you for your voicemail message and for your engagement. I had a bit of difficulty following your message, as the audio was a bit garbled. My understanding of it is that the transportation commission and staff are the way to move the concerns forward to resolution, but there may be some hesitancy or bureaucracy that delay action. I'm sure we all agree that a child's death in the past and a recent hit-and-run injury to a child at the same intersection make clear that this issue is a pressing one for the City.

My wife and I are happy to provide input in the transportation commission meeting and/or to work with Chair Kleinman directly, whichever is most helpful to resolve the issue. With Ann Arbor's emphasis on pedestrian safety (e.g. Healthy Streets and Vision Zero), promptly addressing this known danger is most consistent with our values. We were not able to locate contact information for Chair Kleinman on the Ann Arbor website, so we are not certain if she is aware of the concern.

We did receive a response from PSS Opsahl in the Ann Arbor Police Department (attached) which stated that they will conduct extra traffic enforcement in the area, and forwarded our concerns to traffic engineering. We hope that the many parties involved in this issue can work together to make Geddes safe for pedestrians, especially children. We did not see signs of increased enforcement over the weekend, but it may take some time to get that in place.

Thank you again Council Member Briggs, and all of you for your engagement and service. Please let us know how we can best see this issue through to resolution.

Regards,

Parag

On Jul 14, 2022, at 10:52 AM, Parag Patil XXXXXXXXXXXX > wrote:

Dear Council Member Song and Mayor Taylor,

I hope that you had a nice trip, Ms. Song. Thank you both for your responses. Sorry that I missed Ms. Song's call—I was in a meeting when you called.

Kate and I are grateful to you for your help and that of Council Member Griswold and Mayor Taylor.

We are glad to hear that some work is being done on Geddes. For clarity, the area of concern is the region circled on the attached map below. It is a different area from the Racquet Club. We are aware that work is planned on our region of Geddes which, in addition to the hit-and-run on the little boy, is why we are reaching out now with such urgency.

When the work is being done, a crosswalk could be placed on the East side of Onondaga, across Geddes (see aerial view). We recognize that visibility and high speeds are an issue (that is how the first child (Annie) was killed at this intersection and also how the young boy was recently hit). Therefore, in addition to the crosswalk, we believe that it would be necessary to place flanking speed humps or speed tables. I've drawn on aerial view to show what we mean by this.

In addition to these measures, there are very few 25 MPH signs on Geddes Avenue. Placing more speed limit signs and encouraging the police to ticket frequently could do much to increase traffic safety, particularly for our children.

None of these interventions would involve major incremental cost. It is sad to think that Annie's life could have been likely saved for a tenth the cost of the hospitalization prior to her death.

Mayor Taylor, Kate and I have filled out the AAPD make-a-suggestion in the past, and have done so again, including this email chain. I've cc'ed the transportation commission (this is the instruction on the website you shared). Together with your efforts, we hope that Molly Kleinman is alerted to the issue in time for the July 20th meeting. I would be happy to speak with any of you by phone or to join a zoom meeting.

Best regards,

Parag

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Cell: XXXXXXXXXXXX

<Area of Geddes.png><Proposed Crosswalk & Speed Bumps.png>

On Jul 14, 2022, at 9:21 AM, Song, Linh <XXXXXXXXXXXX > wrote:

Hello Everyone,

My apologies for the late response as I was out of the country and am catching up with email. I left a voicemail for Dr. Patil and would look forward to chatting more. I noted that there will be a sidewalk addition by the Racquet Club, a requirement triggered by our ordinance requirements and that previous Councilmembers had approved waivers for. It does not address speed or traffic calming but that addition is one improvement supporting pedestrian safety that I'm eager to see happen.

I will work with CM Briggs and Transportation Commission Chair Molly Kleinman to explore what our traffic calming options are for Geddes. I'm happy to organize a Zoom call once we have some ideas to present back to your family and residents. Thank you again for reaching out.

Linh Song

From: Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <XXXXXXXXXXXX >

Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2022 6:05 AM

To: Parag Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >

Cc: Kate Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Griswold, Kathy <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Song, Linh <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Briggs, Erica <XXXXXXXXXXXX >

Subject: Re: Pedestrian Dangers and Speeding on Geddes Ave

Dr Patil,

Thank you for writing and for expressing your observations and concerns regarding traffic on Geddes. Pedestrian safety is a longstanding focus of mine and an important element of decision making at city hall.

The periodic filing of traffic complaints with AAPD will put this stretch on the department's radar with respect to traffic enforcement. Please see: <https://www.a2gov.org/departments/engineering/traffic/Pages/Make-a-Suggestion.aspx>

Regarding the Transportation Commission, I cannot direct their agenda or activities, but I am certain that folks there would be interested to engage as they can. Please contact the Chair, Molly Kleinman, via the website: <https://www.a2gov.org/departments/engineering/transportation/Pages/Transportation-Commission.aspx>.

I have also cc'd Councilmember Briggs, the Council liaison to the Transportation Commission, who may be able to constructively work with you on the matter.

Finally, I will also ensure that Staff, via the City Administrator, is aware of your communication and request that someone contact you to discuss.

Kind regards,

Christopher

Christopher Taylor
Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor
301 East Huron Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
XXXXXXXXXXXX
he/him/his

From: Parag Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2022 8:17 PM
To: Taylor, Christopher (Mayor) <XXXXXXXXXXXX >
Cc: Kate Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Griswold, Kathy <XXXXXXXXXXXX >; Song, Linh <XXXXXXXXXXXX >
Subject: Pedestrian Dangers and Speeding on Geddes Ave

Dear Mayor Taylor,

My wife Kate and I live at XXXXXXXXXXXX. After speaking to our local Council Member, we are writing to request that the issue of pedestrian accidents, crosswalks, and traffic speeds on Geddes Avenue be raised with the Transportation Commission. As shared in the emails below, one child was killed and another injured on Geddes in front of our home (intersection of Onondaga and Geddes Avenue).

For your convenience, I have attached a photo of the intersection, looking North (towards our home). This is a location that many are forced to cross Geddes, as there is no sidewalk on the South side of Geddes to the East of this intersection (right side of photo). In addition, many park in this area or walk their animals. In any hour, several people are crossing. At the same time, traffic routinely goes 40-50 MPH (including trucks) in a 25 MPH zone. In fact, when we drive 25 on Geddes Avenue, we are routinely passed by aggressive drivers crossing the double yellow lines. I have yet to see police give a citations in this area.

The numbers of racing cars/trucks and close-calls we witness from our home are horrifying. The latter child that was hit (which Kate describes below) was a hit-and-run, leaving a young child thrown to the pavement.

We understand that road repairs and upgrades are planned soon on Geddes in this location and we urge you to include speed bumps/traffic controls and a well-marked crosswalk in those plans. Something must be done to prevent more children from being hurt.

Best regards,
Parag Patil

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Cell: XXXXXXXXXXXX

<IMG_0208.jpeg>

On Jul 13, 2022, at 6:31 PM, Parag Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX > wrote:

Dear Council Members Song and Griswold,

Thank you for your service to the City of Ann Arbor and the residents of Ward 2. If you have not yet seen it, I wanted to draw your attention to the critical issue on Geddes that my wife Kate shared with you a week ago. One child was killed and another injured on Geddes in front of our home. And the numbers of racing cars/trucks and close-calls we witness from our home are horrifying. We also understand that road repairs are planned soon on Geddes and we urge you to include speed bumps/traffic controls and a well-marked crosswalk in those plans.

Something must be done to prevent more children from being hurt.

Best regards,

Parag Patil

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Cell: XXXXXXXXXXXX

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kate Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >
Subject: Fwd: Traffic on Geddes Ave
Date: July 13, 2022 at 6:08:05 PM EDT
To: P-Diddy Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >

Hi babe, see if you can get any response from either, I forgot to CC you on both but it's been a week without any response.

K
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kate Patil <XXXXXXXXXXXX >
Date: July 6, 2022 at 18:12:37 EDT
To: XXXXXXXXXXXX, XXXXXXXXXXXX

Subject: Traffic on Geddes Ave I am resending this to include you both. The following was sent to Ms. Song over the past weekend.

Dear Council Members Griswold and Song,

My family and I reside at XXXXXXXXXXXX. On June 13, 2022, I returned home after dropping my daughter off school, while sitting in my driveway finishing a phone call, I saw police lights and upon walking out to the sidewalk, found a police officer aiding a young boy who had been hit by a vehicle. This is the second, that I know of, child to be hit at this location and while it appeared that this child would survive his injuries, the little girl who was hit in 2014 did not.

We have been completing extensive renovations on our home and landscape and have had to park across Geddes

at different times. Crossing Geddes at every time of day is nearly impossible without fear and actual danger of being struck by a speeding vehicle. Large trucks pulling trailers barrel down the road daily which surely causes the surface to deteriorate faster. That said, nearly all vehicles travel much too fast. My husband and I are frequently passed by speeding vehicles while traveling the proper speed (25 mph) on double solid yellow lines. This situation is unsafe and the process to request "traffic calming" seems unnecessarily laborious considering that all of us lead busy lives. This has been the suggestion from the city to neighbors who have utilized the clickfix app to report the nightly drag races occurring on Geddes Ave.

I would like to meet with you to discuss all aspects of this issue so that you have an understanding of the issues facing those of us in Ward 2 who live on and around Geddes Avenue.

This is a safety issue for all who live and Ward 2 and visitors who park nearby to visit the arboretum. Ann Arbor already lost a child to this problem, we need your help to ensure this does not happen again.

Sincerely,

Kate Patil

Sent from my iPhone