

Cespedes, Christopher

From: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2025 12:05 PM
To: Cespedes, Christopher
Subject: FW: Wallingford Response
Attachments: Residents that Oppose Wallingford Curve Reconfiguration - Google Docs.pdf; Visual Representation of Oppo - Google Docs.pdf

From: Gina Katz <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 2:08 PM
To: Briggs, Erica <[REDACTED]@a2gov.org>; Akmon, Dharma <[REDACTED]@a2gov.org>
Cc: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission <TransportationCommission@a2gov.org>; Tori Langland <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>; City Council <[REDACTED]@a2gov.org>; Eyer, Jen <[REDACTED]@a2gov.org>; Peter Katz <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Subject: Wallingford Response

Dear Council Members,

It is unfortunate that as representatives of our community you would make a determination based on such a limited amount of information and research about our area.

While a bird's eye view of Wallingford looks like it would be dangerous and it obviously does not comply with today's ideal pedestrian safety standards, are you not curious why there have been zero pedestrian accidents here, EVER? As a resident of the curve, I can tell you why. There are clear lines of sight in all three directions as you approach the curve. Cars can not get enough speed coming from any direction to not stop quickly if they have to. And, even if cars coast through the stop sign, which happens from time to time like any intersection anywhere, again they have clear lines of sight to stop if necessary. A photo is below so you can see that there are zero obstructions of sight lines at this intersection. My boys play wiffle ball, football, race, etc in the middle of this intersection and I do not worry about their safety. Also, most of the people who drive on Wallingford are the people who live in Ives Woods, very few Burns Park neighbors even use our street.

Meanwhile, for years there has been a petition in queue from residents on Ferdon and countless communications between the city and residents on Ives Lane for traffic calming at the intersection of Ferdon and Ives Lane. From your google map, the birds eye view of this intersection likely looks very safe. Please see the photos of what this intersection looks like when walking down Ives Lane. Please see the photos of what this intersection looks like when walking down Ferdon. There have been accidents at this intersection and countless near misses between pedestrians and cars. Also, Ferdon is a cut through street between Washtenaw and Stadium. College students (I don't mean to pick on them but it is usually them) fly down Ferdon and many times do not even pause at that stop sign. If a pedestrian does not use the sidewalk when walking from Ives Lane and darts out across Ferdon from behind that retaining wall and a car does not stop at the Ferdon stop sign, the car could easily hit the pedestrian. I witnessed a near miss this fall between middle school kids on bikes crossing and an elderly woman not stopping. On the flip side, if a pedestrian is walking down Ferdon, a car driving down Ives Lane cannot see a pedestrian until the front end of the car is just about at the sidewalk. This intersection is a disaster waiting to happen and the city has ignored residents' calls for help for years. Olivia is also a cut through street and residents have petitioned the city for speed bumps. Also, nothing. The petition sits in queue.

When residents in Burns Park and Ives Woods heard about the Wallingford project many were furious that any time or money would be wasted to alter a historic curve on a quiet street when there is so much need

elsewhere. Please see the attachments that currently represent the list of 105 residents in our neighborhood that oppose this project, including every resident on Wallingford. Before committing to a project like this, city planners should have engaged the community. We know our streets and can work with city planners so our money can be invested in areas of our neighborhood that are actually dangerous for our children and families.

The resolution you cite to address traffic calming when resurfacing adjacent roads works in theory but in a city like Ann Arbor where there is so much need, it distracts from where pedestrian safety is actually needed. I'm also wondering why even if you disagree with our community on what's appropriate for the neighborhood, you are making such a point to support something that's not in your wards. Are there not traffic calming concerns in your wards that could benefit from an additional several thousand dollars? In fact, two people in Ward 4 have signed onto the opposition of this project as they live on the border of the wards and experience actual dangerous roads and intersections in our area that need attention. It is no wonder that what is needed never seems to get done in this city, local leaders and city planners seem to focus more on what they can and want to do instead of engaging the community to determine what is needed and what should be done.

Thanks for your time,
Gina Katz

Wallingford Road



Ives Lane





Ferdon



