

From: Peter Houk

To: City of Ann Arbor Transportation Commission

Subject: Scio Church Crosswalks

Date: Monday, July 19, 2021

Dear Transportation Commission,

I live near Scio Church Rd. and I am a daily user of this roadway as a driver, cyclist, and pedestrian. I am concerned that the plan for Scio Church Rd. improvements and crosswalks does not offer enough protection for pedestrians. Misuse of the center turn lane is rampant on Scio Church Rd., and the new plan does not do enough to correct this. Based on my review of the plans and my emails with staff, the crosswalk infrastructure is limited to paint, signs, and seasonally installed flexible bollards.

Scio Church Rd. needs a year-round solution to deter misuse of the center turn lane and protect crossing pedestrians.

I am planning to speak during the public comment time in this week's Transportation Commission meeting. I'll be referencing some of my personal experiences that are pictured in the attached file.

Please contact me with any questions. You can reach me at 734-610-8588

Thank you,

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Scio Church Rd. Crosswalks

Peter Houk

July, 2021

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Current State of Scio Church Rd.:

- **Very wide and very fast (45 feet wide!)**
- **Frequent passing in the center lane**
- **Potholes**
- **Poor/missing bike lanes**
- **Very few crosswalks**
- **Scheduled for reconstruction starting September, 2021**

Bad driving behavior on Scio Church results in near misses that I have witnessed many times

A near miss that I witnessed at the intersection of Churchill and Scio Church



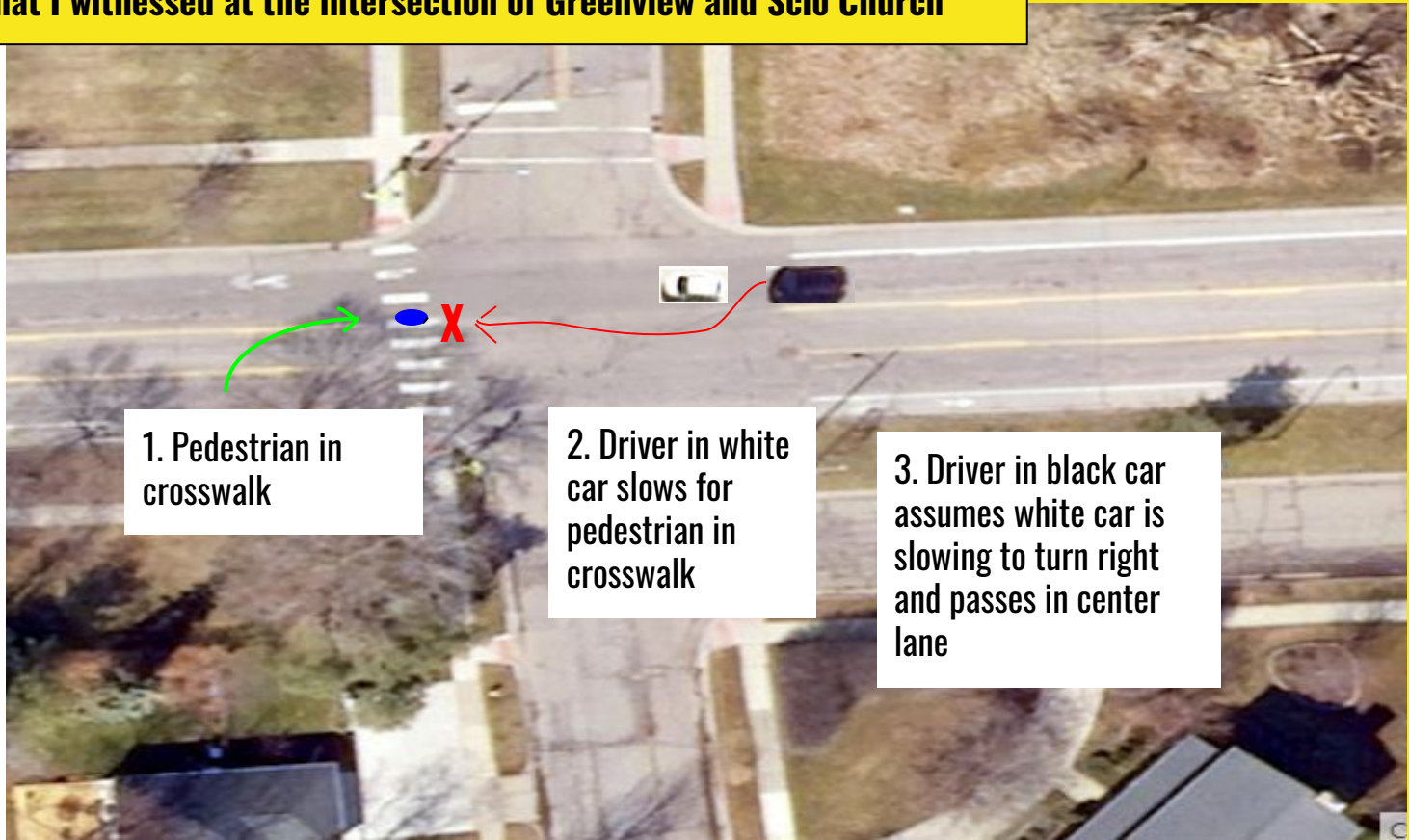
1. Driver in red car slows to make a right turn

2. Driver in black car passes in the center lane

3. Driver in white car merges into center lane for a left turn

Improper usage of the center turn lane is very common on Scio Church Rd. This example was memorable to me because I was the driver of the white car and was almost in a head-on collision!

A near miss that I witnessed at the intersection of Greenview and Scio Church



A collision with the black car, which was accelerating to pass the white car, would have been disastrous for the pedestrian. Thankfully it was just a near miss. As in the previous example, I was in the white car.

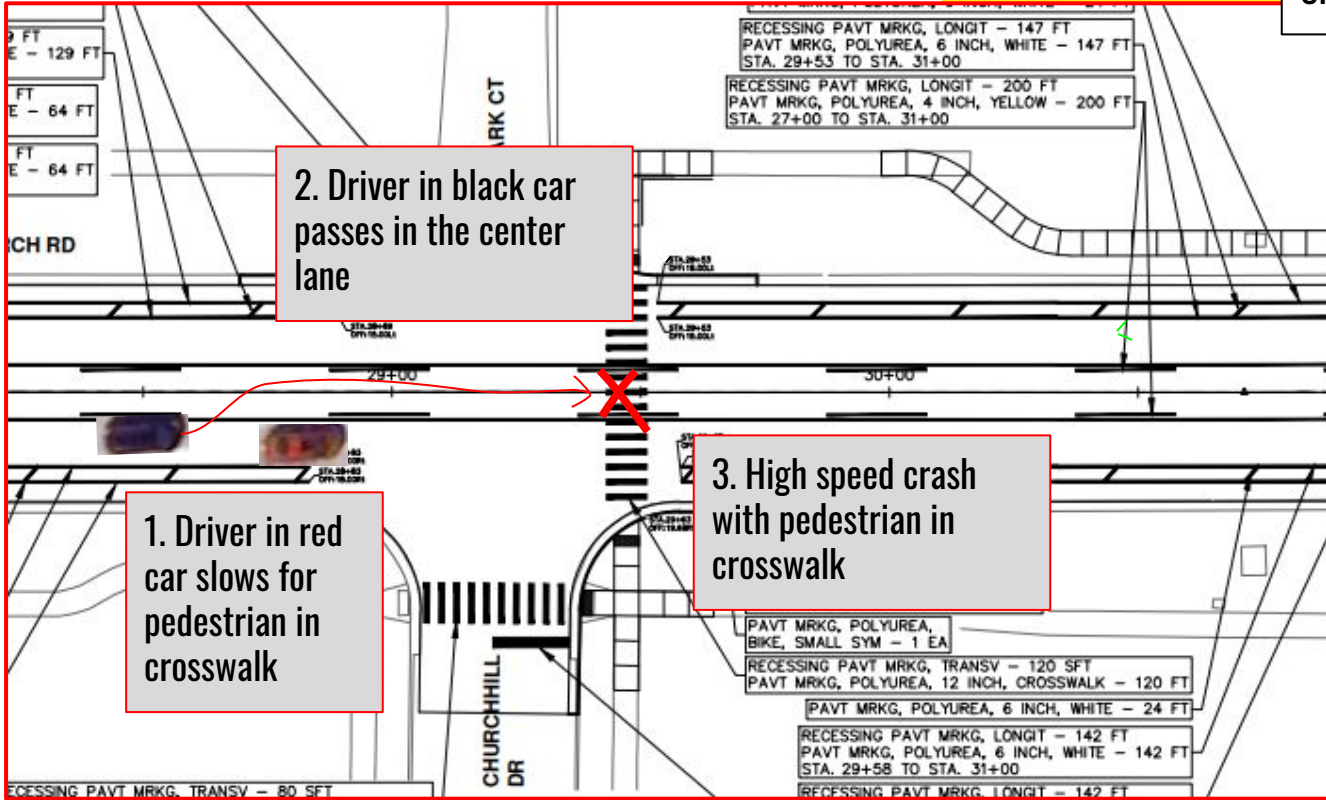


Examples of improper use of the center lane on Scio Church Rd.

- **Passing traffic that is too slow**
- **Passing vehicles that have slowed or stopped for a pedestrian**
- **Passing vehicles that are turning right into driveways or side streets**
- **Jumping the queue**
- **Racing**

Clear lane markings and signage do not deter this behavior today, and I don't expect they will do so with this new design

Crosswalk plans for intersection of Churchill and Scio Church



- Current plan:
- No refuge islands
 - No RRFBs
 - No median

This is the kind of crash that I'm worried about happening in the new crosswalks

Scio Church Rd. Crosswalks

- Misuse of center turn lane is rampant
- Current plans do not include adequate protection for pedestrians in crosswalks
- Current plans will not deter the common bad behavior on Scio Church Rd.

Construction has been delayed until Fall, 2021; let's use this time to develop a plan that will protect pedestrians by preventing misuse of the center turn lane!