

Sparks, Genevieve

From: Thomas and Genevieve [tjsneed@cwnet.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2004 8:47 AM
To: bmaul@djud.k12.ca.us
Subject: Re: Ivy Town Neighborhood Association/Holmes Junior High School

Yes, residents are arguing that it is difficult to negotiate a safe and successful turn onto J Street from Drexel Drive. This, in turn, causes problems with the traffic flow on J Street. Primarily, this is due to the intersection's design, lack of visibility, and the speeds traveled on J Street. There are several other factors also, but residents feel *they are all irrelevant to the relative enrollment at the nearby junior high school.*

I will bring by a copy of what we submitted to the Safety Advisory Committee and the City Council, so these points are laid out for you. While making the intersection a 3-way stop, residents hope to (1) be able to negotiate a safe and successful left or right turn onto J Street from Drexel Drive, (2) create a 'pause' in the traffic flow on J Street, and (3) create a safe east-west passageway for bikes, pedestrians, and whatnot.

The school is reducing it's enrollment next year, so the vehicle traffic should reduce proportionally. Making the intersections in and around the school safe for bikes, may reduce the vehicle traffic further, by encouraging bike riders instead.

The data...well, there were several problems with the data presented by the City of Davis. First, they did not count bicycle or pedestrian traffic, just vehicles. With this added count, the Commission felt that we would make these unit volume warrants. Second, a few of the units used were confusing because they refer to 90 vehicles/day, and 90 vehicles/hour in another section. Third, the dates used to calculate the traffic volume flow do not necessarily correlate to the dates the traffic volume flow was collected. Fourth, the line of site calculations were calculated from the perspective of cars on J Street (Car A), not the car on Drexel Drive (Car B). Our argument is from the perspective of Car B. Fifth, accident histories should not qualify an intersection next to a school, for traffic controlling measures. Finally, Mr. Tobia, a member of the Commission corrected the city's critical speed calculation on J Street to be 39 miles/hour, not 34 miles/hour.

The Commission has requested the City redo their vehicle traffic flow collection, and to include bicycles. They must also calculate the line of site calculations from the perspective of Car B. The City's Staff Report must include the corrections also.

In regards to the overall traffic congestion in and around the school...Our Neighborhood Association, and the residents immediately adjacent to the school, along L Street, J Street, and Alice Street, would like to work with your Traffic Committee. Possible solutions impact the neighborhood, and residents feel that if we worked together on this problem, we could come to a mutually satisfying agreement...We thought we'd approach your Traffic Committee next October, after the new school year has begun, and see where we are.

The next Safety Advisory Committee meeting is on Thursday, May 6, 2004, at 5p.m. at the Community Chambers.

Thank you for your consideration, Gen Sparks

-----Original Message-----

From: bmaul@djud.k12.ca.us <bmaul@djud.k12.ca.us>
To: tjsneed@cwnet.com <tjsneed@cwnet.com>
Date: Monday, April 12, 2004 9:11 AM
Subject: RE: Ivy Town Neighborhood Association/Holmes Junior High School Liaison

Hello, Gen!

I have put the next meeting on my calendar. I am happy to look at the data about the intersection. From my experience at Willett school, I've learned that, when it comes to traffic, solutions sometimes cause many other problems. I think our goals are the same: a safer situation overall (and at both L and J intersections). I have been out looking at each intersection at arrival and dismissal times, and the L intersection with stop signs seems the most unsafe to me. Part of the problem is that drivers and students don't always follow the rules at stop signs.

Our PTA safety committee here at school is planning to write something to send out to families about safe driving, dropping off students in other places than the front of the school and better driving routes.

Bev

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas and Genevieve [mailto:tjsneed@cwnet.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 07, 2004 8:39 PM
To: Bev Maul
Subject: Re: Ivy Town Neighborhood Association/Holmes Junior High School Liaison

Hello, Ms. Maul,

Thank you so much for meeting with me to discuss our neighborhood's concerns. The Safety Advisory Commission meeting went well, however, the matter of installing stop signs at the intersection of J Street and Drexel is being continued until May 6, 2004 (the next Safety meeting). We found 3 errors in the data that the City of Davis gathered, and one of the Safety members found another error. In addition, only vehicles were counted, not bicycles or pedestrians.

I received your message April 2, 2004 regarding the meeting. It sounded as if you were in support of the stop signs being installed? If I sent you the correct information, would you please write a letter stating such to the Safety Advisory Commission membership prior to the next meeting? Or, attend the meeting?

The argument by residents is this: regardless of the relative enrollment at the nearby school, this intersection is dangerous due to several factors, but primarily the speeds traveled on J Street and low visibility entering J Street from Drexel Drive. We feel that installing stop signs would 'pause' traffic so that one could safely cross the intersection, or enter the intersection. Since the intersections are safer around Holmes, more students would hopefully bicycle, thus reducing the overall traffic congestion in the area.

Please let me know. Thank you again, Gen Sparks

-----Original Message-----

From: Bev Maul <bmaul@djud.k12.ca.us>
To: Business <Business@djud.k12.ca.us>; tjsneed@cwnet.com <tjsneed@cwnet.com>
Cc: Aaron Shonk <ashonk@djud.k12.ca.us>
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2004 5:44 PM
Subject: RE: Ivy Town Neighborhood Association/Holmes Junior High School Liaison

Dear Mrs. Sparks,

I will be happy to meet with you regarding the concerns. Please call Jan Chandler to set up a time at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Bev Maul

New Principal at Holmes

-----Original Message-----

From: Business
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2004 3:51 PM
To: 'tjsneed@cwnet.com'
Cc: Aaron Shonk; Bev Maul
Subject: Ivy Town Neighborhood Association/Holmes Junior High School Liaison

Dear Mrs. Sparks:

Thank you for your email to Superintendent Murphy regarding Ivy Town Neighborhood Association. Mrs. Beverley Maul, the new principal, is an experienced and caring professional and, like Mr. Inns, she will be glad to assist you in any way she can. Also, I am forwarding your email to Mr. Aaron Shonk,

District's Resource Enhancement **Manager**, who is also the designated liaison with the City. Please contact Mr. Shonk about any issues you may wish to discuss regarding the school district.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance. Thanks

Tahir Ahad
Deputy Superintendent-Business Services

-----Original Message-----

From: Thomas and Genevieve [mailto:tjsneed@cwnet.com]

Sent: Monday, February 23, 2004 8:41 PM

To: Superintendent

Subject: Ivy Town Neighborhood Association/Holmes Junior High School Liaison

Dear Mr. Murphy,

Recently, the Ivy Town Neighborhood Association has formed to address problems within our neighborhood, one of which is the traffic congestion in and around Holmes Junior High School. Representatives from our Association have met with Mr. David Inns, Principal at Holmes Junior High, among others, to discuss possible solutions to the traffic problems. A letter dated December 19, 2003, was sent to you thanking Mr. Inns for his participation in our meeting. Unfortunately, Mr. Inns is leaving Holmes Junior High School to oversee the new junior high, which leaves us without a contact at the school district.

To facilitate a dialogue between our Association and the Davis Joint Unified School District regarding this problem, we would like you to appoint a liaison from your office. Is this possible?

Please let me know. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Gen Sparks