

PKts. 10-23-20

**Diane Voss**

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**From:** John Haila  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 22, 2020 5:03 PM  
**To:** Diane Voss  
**Cc:** Lawrence Cunningham; City Council and Mayor; Steve Schainker  
**Subject:** Re: Neighborhood Safety Concern

Diane,

If Steve hasn't already directed this to staff, or if Steve or Damion are going to proceed with a traffic study without requiring a referral from council, it should be included in the Disposition of Communications to Council for next Tuesday night.

Thanks.

**John A. Haila**  
*Mayor*



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**From:** Lawrence Cunningham <lawrence.c.cunningham@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2020 11:16 AM  
**To:** Tim Gartin <tim.gartin@amescitycouncil.org>; Rachel Junck <rachel.junck@amescitycouncil.org>; Amber Corrieri <amber.corrieri@amescitycouncil.org>; Gloria Betcher <gloria.betcher@amescitycouncil.org>; David Martin <david.martin@amescitycouncil.org>; Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen <bronwyn.beattyhansen@amescitycouncil.org>; Nicole Whitlock <nicole.whitlock@amescitycouncil.org>; John Haila <john.haila@cityofames.org>  
**Subject:** Neighborhood Safety Concern

[External Email]

Good Morning, Council Members.

I hope this message finds you doing well. I'm writing to ask for your guidance regarding a traffic safety concern. I hope you don't mind me reaching out. I also corresponded with Mayor Haila and our Ward 1 Council Representative, Gloria Betcher, earlier this week. I was encouraged to ask for the council's consideration of our request.

My family resides in the South Campus neighborhood on the corner of Beach Ave. and Cessna St. (2003 Cessna). For most of the six years we've lived here, the neighborhood families have been concerned with our children's safety due to Cessna street acting as a cut-through for drivers between east and west Ames.

This past weekend, I personally witnessed three near-miss accidents with pedestrians/bicyclists and vehicles speeding through the neighborhood. Additionally, the stop sign at Beach and Cessna seems to have a significant uptick in drivers not stopping at all. In particular, one neighbor experienced a near-miss bicycle/vehicle accident when a driver didn't stop at all for the stop sign. All of these events happened on Sunday and were not due to increased gameday traffic.

We have neighbors that have worked with Damion Pregitzer to do a traffic study. The study was deployed last January, which showed 1.90% of traffic in the "excessively speeding range." This did not eclipse the 5% number required to trigger traffic calming improvements. However, during this study, the streets were snow-covered most of the time, and general conditions caused drivers' altered behaviors.

We've reached a tipping point of concern in our neighborhood as our children continue to gain more independence. I feel strongly that our neighborhood needs to be proactive in partnering with the City to implement safety protocols.

With this in mind, I'm asking for your guidance. What is the best path to bring quick action to these concerns?

The two solutions discussed most often by the families showing concern are:

1. Installation of a flashing light and speed meter near the Beach/Agg triangle, similar to the one across from Reiman Gardens on Beach Ave.
2. Increase visibility/awareness of stop signs at Beach and Cessna -- perhaps a solar-powered LED stop sign or flashing light.

I value your the work each of you does in your volunteer roles as Council Members. I also understand this is one concern from one neighborhood and thus am not certain this rises to a council consideration level.

However, this is an important issue we, as parents and Ames citizens, feel needs to be addressed quickly. I'd hate to think it would take a serious or loss of life accident to support traffic calming improvements for this area in the South Campus neighborhood.

I am happy to provide additional context or information as needed and am available by phone at 515-509-5126 or via this email.

lc

Lawrence Cunningham  
2003 Cessna Street, Ames  
515-509-5126