

**Diane Voss**

PKts. 9-11-2020

**From:** Gloria Betcher  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 3, 2020 5:16 PM  
**To:** Arvid's Gmail  
**Cc:** Gayle Osterberg; Steve Schainker; City Council and Mayor; John Joiner; Damion Pregitzer  
**Subject:** Re: speeding on Ash Ave

Arvid,

All the issues you describe are familiar to me from my walks on Ash, but your ideas for dealing with the issues are appreciated. I had hoped that the separate cycle track that was added to Ash would be a traffic calming device, but it clearly hasn't served that purpose.

Brad Becker's suggestion of speed testing would be the next step, and maybe he has already taken action to make that happen. The City needs to document the problem to determine what solutions are warranted.

To be sure everyone is aware of these issues and your contact with Brad, I'm cc'ing the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, our Traffic Engineer Damion Pregitzer, and Director of Public Works John Joiner in this email. John and Damion are probably already aware of the contact. If Council needs to move that we take action on a speed study, this email can serve as your request to us.

I won't call this time since I'm not surprised in the least about what you and Gayle have to report and since your email describes the situation so clearly. But, by all means get in touch if you have additional insights to share. My phone number appears below.

Thanks for your work to keep your street safe. I appreciate it and will do what I can on your behalf.

All best,

Gloria

Gloria J Betcher  
Ward 1 Representative  
Ames City Council  
531 Hayward Avenue  
Ames, IA 50014  
[REDACTED]

On Sep 3, 2020, at 4:46 PM, Arvid's Gmail <[arvideo67@gmail.com](mailto:arvideo67@gmail.com)> wrote:

[External Email]

Gloria,

I would like to call your attention to the speeding on Ash Ave. Although the posted speed limit on Ash is 25 mph, many vehicles are going 35 or 40, and some go much faster. There is a straight a way section in

front of our house where people tend to speed up. There are many pedestrians, joggers, mothers pushing strollers, bicyclists, skate boarders, etc. who use the west lane that is separated from the main street. However, at the north end of the lane, most of these people cross the street to go up the next driveway and onto the sidewalk, but there is no marked cross walk. I am concerned about people's safety. It is also more difficult to pull in and out of driveways when so many people are speeding.

I wrote a note to Brad Becker with the city and told him about the situation and I requested flashing "your speed" signs, one in each direction, like the one on Beach near Mortensen. Brad called me and we discussed the situation further. He said he would order speed testing, but also said those "your speed" signs are expensive and may not be very effective. He also said that speeding was a problem throughout Ames that has gotten much worse over the past few years.

I would like to see speed cameras that ticket speeders. I know this takes community support, so I am expressing my support.

The safety of pedestrians, joggers, mothers pushing strollers, bicyclists, skate boarders, etc. should be of the utmost importance, and the city needs to take action before unnecessary injuries and deaths.

When Ash was modified a few years ago with the separate pedestrian et. al. lane, we were told it would slow down traffic. Well, I can tell you, it has not.

In the past I have made a number of suggestions or shared ideas for the city to consider, but all of them have been rejected, ignored or put aside. One was to post no left turn signs at Ash for east bound traffic on Mortensen, which is a very dangerous left turn. Another suggestion was to install speed bumps. Another suggestion was to install a three way stop sign at Ash and Country Club. I don't know for sure which are the best solutions, but something needs to be done before someone gets killed.

Please call if you would like to discuss the issue further. In the mean time my wife Gayle and I and our neighbors on Ash would very much appreciate your advocacy of resolving this issue.

Thanks,

Arvid

Arvid Osterberg  
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