

Hall, Renee

From: Betcher, Gloria
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 2:58 PM
To: Orville Berbano
Cc: wells@wcoyote.com; julie7snyder@gmail.com; mtyolson@mediacombb.net; Robb.thorson@gmail.com; hmbanwart@gmail.com; City Council and Mayor; Hall, Renee; Schainker, Steve
Subject: Re: Little Bluestem Ct to Mortensen Rd

Dear Orv,

Thank you for getting in touch about this issue. Living on Hayward Avenue, I'm very familiar with the curve you mention and the challenges it poses. Jane was correct about directing your query to me, and I am copying the rest of the City Council on your message and my reply.

The process we follow is this. Having received your message, I've passed it on. It will appear among the Communications to Council on the agenda for our meeting on June 25. Council, then, will vote on how to respond. If a majority of Council members believe we should have staff look into this issue, it will be passed on to our traffic engineer, Damion Pregitzer, for further review. We don't discuss traffic concerns until a staff review is complete. I don't recall a review of the traffic and pedestrian situation on Mortensen Rd in recent years and would be in favor of getting staff input on it, but Council needs to vote on that officially.

If you or any of your HOA members would like to address Council about the situation, you may attend the meeting on June 25 and speak at Public Forum, which occurs at the start of the meeting. We meet at the Council Chambers in City Hall, 515 Clark Ave, at 6pm on Tuesday.

In the meantime, I'm also forwarding this query to the City Manager. If trees are involved, he might want to have staff look at that issue before anything else is done regarding traffic calming or other major mitigation strategies. It may be that there is an easy way to improve visibility in the short term.

All best,

Gloria

Gloria J Betcher, PhD
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Ames City Council
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On Jun 18, 2024, at 2:01 PM, Orville Berbano <orvberb@gmail.com> wrote:

Prof. Betcher,

Good afternoon. I spoke with Jane at the City office a few weeks ago & she suggested contacting you. I'm a Board Member of our small Mission Ridge HOA at Little Bluestem Ct. Our group has mentioned before about the traffic that comes around the bend from both sides of Mortensen Rd.

When trying to bike/walk across or drive onto Mortensen Rd, vision is obstructed from the bend of the roadway & from the trees by the edge of the bend. It's especially dangerous when vehicles suddenly appear coming fast from both sides of the bends.

Can something be done - cut the trees, put some signs, put a crossing light . . .? There are students & elderly & many vehicles that come to/from Little Bluestem Ct. We would appreciate it if a proactive solution is implemented to protect people's safety.

Thanks for your consideration,
Orv

Orville N. Berbano, CLS, MT, MPA, MS, Criminalist (Retired)

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Many Roads - One Journey ONB