

ELVEHJEM NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
PO Box 14625
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53708-0625

October 15, 2014

Dear Alder DeMarb and City of Madison Traffic Engineering:

On behalf of the Elvehjem Neighborhood Association, I would like to state our support for the morning/afternoon crossing guard currently in place at the intersection of East Buckeye Road and Droster Road. We ask that this crossing guard be maintained in the name of safety for neighborhood children who live on the south side of East Buckeye Road and attend Elvehjem Elementary School on the north side of East Buckeye Road.

It is our understanding that while numbers of children crossing this road have fluctuated over the years, we believe we are maintaining significant counts, thus warranting adult presence to cross a very dangerous county road that is heavily traveled by commuters and construction equipment alike. I can personally note that the morning traffic has increased during the five years I have lived directly on East Buckeye Road, and it often takes me several minutes before I am able to safely exit my driveway in the morning. I leave at slightly varying times, but most often between 7:50 and 8:30 a.m. when traffic is at its peak and kids are walking and biking to school. In talking with the current crossing guard and hearing stories about several close calls with aggressive and high speed vehicular traffic, we cannot in good conscience assume that the newly installed flashing lights alone will provide enough visibility, warning, or time to ensure safe crossing for all children.

In addition, as a green and growing city that embraces health and wellness, we implore you to continue to find \$5000 within the City budget to promote and model a form of transportation that not only encourages healthy living among our children but also helps create more environmentally conscious citizens. If you've ever visited Elvehjem Elementary School or others in the area during "morning rush hour," you'll appreciate and subsequently support efforts to reduce vehicle traffic. In return, we'll do our part to continue promoting the "walking school bus" concept and make sure families are aware there is a crossing guard available to assist children across the street.

Sincerely,

Tiffani Roltgen



Tiffani Roltgen
Elvehjem Neighborhood Association President
5306 East Buckeye Road
Madison, WI 53716
608.513.9433
tiffani@elvehjemneighborhood.org