

From: [Mohr, Thomas](mailto:Thomas.Mohr@cityofmadison.com)
To: [McGulgan, Patrick](mailto:Patrick.McGulgan@cityofmadison.com)
Subject: FW: Item at Traffic this evening re North Star and Orion Trail
Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 12:44:04 PM

TC Agenda 02.26.20
ITEM F.3.

From: Barbara Davis <wumpus30@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 11:41 AM
To: Mohr, Thomas <TMohr@cityofmadison.com>; Lemmer, Lindsay <district3@cityofmadison.com>; North Star Neighborhood Association <board@northstarmadison.org>
Subject: Item at Traffic this evening re North Star and Orion Trail

Dear Mr Mohr,

I am writing to you to express my support for traffic calming measures installation at the intersection of North Star Dr and Orion Trail. I live on Orion Trail approximately 1/2 block from North Star.

1. Orion Trail has a lot of foot traffic for pedestrians and bicyclists going too and from the Metro Market. Many have to cross over North Star with groceries, some with strollers or children in wagons. North Star Dr. is a downhill street coming from a four way stop near the Great Dane and people are accelerating at speeds way in excess of the limit by the time they hit Orion. As a dog walker at night, I have been nearly run over many a time by people eager to get home from work who are not paying attention to people trying to cross the street.

2. From the other direction, North Star is calmed with a series of speed bumps and roundabouts. This has been very effective in slowing down speeds of cars that line the part of North Star abutting the park. However, since the installation of traffic calming humps, I have observed an increase in "angry speeding" upon entering/exiting the roundabout at Apollo. People in a hurry are irritated at the traffic calming and over compensate by rapidly accelerating.

An additional traffic circle or round about at Orion would be a welcome measure to ensuring speed limits are respected as drivers approach the four way stop. Many of the residents on North Star are families with small children who are crossing the street to play with friends. There have been past efforts including a petition that was submitted by a resident last Fall requesting traffic calming be added to the intersection.

I am writing to express my support of the measure and thank you and the committee for reconsidering the situation, please forward my comments to the remaining members in advance of this evenings meeting.

Sincerely,
Barbara Davis
North Star Neighbourhood Assn President

From: c-smith@onu.edu <c-smith@onu.edu>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2020 7:58 PM
To: Lemmer, Lindsay
Subject: intersection of North Star and Orion Trail

General Information

Name: Claude Smith
Address: 712 Orion Trail
City: Madison
State: WI
ZIP: 53718
Phone: 608-230-6247
Work Phone: 608-230-6247
Email: c-smith@onu.edu
Should we contact you?: Yes

Message:

Several months ago a young boy possibly boy scout or cub scout, accompanied by his father, rang our doorbell, circulating a petition for a stop sign at the corner of North Star and Orion Trail. I urge you to come out and study this intersection. There are stop signs on both sides of Orion Trail, and there is a slight swale upwards to get into the North Star intersection, no matter which direction one is traveling, and this causes a problem in wet or snowy weather. There are other several problems here. One is that North Star is on a curve coming down the hill, so people are picking up speed. The second is that, making a left onto North Star from Orion Trail, your vision is often blocked by cars parked on the east side of North Star. Thirdly, in winter, as now, Orion Trail is never plowed until two or three days after a snow event. The most difficult driving I do all winter is to get 100 yards from my driveway at 712 Orion Trail to the stop sign at the North Star intersection. Today I was nearly hit by a car coming down North Star because my wheels were spinning as I tried to pull into the intersection from a dead stop, and the car, as usual, was coming fast. There is a lone yellow sign on the right hand side of North Star as you come down the hill. It shows a car with wavy lines, indicating potential skidding when wet. The young boy was gathering petitions for a stop sign on North Star, which would ensure that cars would come down the hill slowly, especially if there was a sign on North Star, right after Gemini, indicating STOP ahead. There is also a bus stop at North Star and Orion Trail, making the situation worse. In the morning and afternoon, school children get on the bus there. This is really scary. Vehicles coming down North Star, when cars are parked on the right hand side, cannot see cars at the stop sign trying to turn up the hill from Orion Trail. It is just a matter of time before a serious accident occurs there. Two days ago, at our condo association meeting, unit members were also complaining that people run the four-way stop signs by the Dane. Perhaps blinking lights could be put back on those signs, as there were when they were first installed. A speed bump on North Star above Orion Trail would be helpful but dangerous because of the curve. The new speed bumps beyond Orion Trail, by North Star Park, are working beautifully. WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS FOR SLOWING THE TRAFFIC BETWEEN THE DANE AND ORION TRAIL BEYOND THE EXISTING YELLOW WARNING SIGN OF A SKIDDING CAR? I have tried to bring up this issue with the Madison traffic Engineer Mark Winter: 266-6543 but he has not returned my call/message. Please let me know what you think can be done. Were you aware of the petition? If the city would plow Orion Trail I know it's a "side street" when it does North Star, at least one problem at the intersection would be eliminated. I don't want to be the one to say "I told you so" when someone is killed at that intersection.

Recipient:
Lindsay Lemmer