

April 15, 2004

Charles Soules
Director of Public Works
City of Lawrence
P.O. Box 708
Lawrence, KS 66044-0708

Dear Charles,

As previously discussed, several of my neighbors, my wife and I are very concerned about the unsafe traffic conditions that exist on Goldfield Street ("Goldfield"). In particular, we are troubled by the amount of traffic and the excessive speeds at which many vehicles travel through our neighborhood.

A study of vehicle traffic along Goldfield was conducted by the City of Lawrence last year on September 15, 2003 that examined traffic volume and speeds over a twenty-four hour period. The study found that 1,231 vehicles traveled along Goldfield within the twenty-four hour period with 416 of the vehicles, or 33.79% of the total traffic volume, traveling in excess of the 30 mph speed limit. These statistics clearly validate the assertion that the traffic conditions along Goldfield can be made safer.

Perhaps most disturbing to us is how these traffic conditions jeopardize the safety and well being of the children who reside along Goldfield. At least twelve children ranging in ages from several months to 16 years live in the block between Prescott and Eldridge. I have three children from the ages of seven months to six years. As parents, we have an obligation, as does the City, to take reasonable and prudent precautions to mitigate the risks related to the traffic patterns on Goldfield.

Despite the best efforts of many parents to supervise and protect their children, the dangerous traffic conditions along Goldfield persist. We understand that there will always be some level of risk as long as cars are traveling down our street. However, we believe there are some rather simple and relatively inexpensive devices that could be installed along Goldfield to make it a safer environment for the residents, as well as the drivers.

A recent five year study conducted by Dr. June Tester, a pediatric resident at Children's Hospital in Oakland California revealed that children living within a block of a speed hump have about a 50% lower risk of being injured or killed by a moving vehicle than do



their peers who do not live near one. A copy of an article summarizing Dr. Tester's findings is attached for your review.

We, the residents listed below who reside on Goldfield between Prescott and Eldridge, would greatly appreciate the City's support in helping us determine which devices will minimize the potential dangers associated with the unsafe traffic conditions along our street and install them. Specifically, we request that the Traffic Safety Commission consider the use of "traffic humps" between Prescott and Eldridge, and any other traffic calming devices, such as stop signs, that can make our neighborhood a safer place for all its residents, especially the children who live there. Let's not wait until someone is seriously injured before we decide to address this issue.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration regarding this matter.

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Sincerely,	
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Raymond and Lisa Zweiner	Matthew and Angela McClorey
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Alonzo Longoria	Ralph and Sue Fitch
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4116 Goldfield	4117 Goldfield
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D	Davidos
Roxanne	Drucker
4120 Gold	dfield

C.C. and Janet Herbison 4121 Goldfield

Dennis and Sharon Spratt
4124 Goldfield

Mary Holcomb 4125 Goldfield

Michael and Dena Podrebarac

Myraele Mouha 4108 Goldfield, Little

4129 Goldfield

Taylor and Angelyn Miller

4133 Goldfield

cc: David Woosley

Attachments

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