

From: Erin Schwie Langston eslangston@gmail.com

To: Dr. Carolyn Brookhart <carolyn@brookhart.org>; Megan Wooley <mwooley@townofchapelhill.org>;
comp plan compplan@townofchapelhill.org

Cc: Todd LoFrese <tlofrese@chccs.k12.nc.us>; Drew Ware <dware@chccs.k12.nc.us>; Adam Schwartz
<jaameschwartz@gmail.com>; Jennifer Villa jennifervilla22@aol.com

Sent: Sun 7/21/2013 10:28 AM

Subject: Re: CW Parent Safety Comment for Walk Zone

Hi again Megan,

Can you confirm to Carolyn & me when this is:

1. forwarded via email to CW steering committee,
2. That it will be read aloud into first 10 min as a public comment at this Monday's CW steering com meeting,
3. & posted to CW public input page on the town's CW "engagement spot" at that link online?

As Carolyn mentioned, she cannot make the meeting Monday (nor can I) so we want to make sure that you confirm when all 3 steps are completed. The CW Steering Committee needs to verbally hear this so that they may choose to have dialogue & discuss it during the agenda that follows the public comment [on Monday night](#).

Thanks

Carolyn (& Erin too)

Erin Schwie Langston

eslangston@gmail.com

{Sent via my phone. Please excuse any typos - thanks.}

On Jul 20, 2013, at 1:30 AM, Erin Schwie Langston <eslangston@gmail.com> wrote:

Central West Parent forwarded Walk Zone Public Safety Comments for this listserve and CW Steering Committee (response to Sarah & Firoz emails).

Megan - can you please forward to the CW Steering Committee as requested by Dr. Brookhart below?

From: Carolyn Brookhart <carolyn@brookhart.org>

Date: July 20, 2013, 1:08:52 AM EDT

To: Erin Schwie Langston <eslangston@gmail.com>

Subject: FW: Central West Parent Safety Comment

Hi Erin,

Below are my thoughts on safety for the walkzone to Estes Hills and Phillips. I would appreciate if you could share my message below with the **listserv**/steering committee. Thank you for the neighbor input request.

We live on Clayton Rd. and have walked our daughter to Estes for the last 3.5 years. Not only does Clayton Rd provide walking, biking, and car access to Estes Hills and Phillips, it also is a direct pedestrian/biking connection to **Pritchard** Park and the public library. In addition, where Clayton meets Curtis, there is a residential home for intellectually disabled, active adults who walk, bike, and take the public bus.

There are several safety issues:

Issue #1: The crosswalks are poorly marked and have no signage at the actual site of the crosswalk.

1. Crosswalk across Clayton Road (at 415 Clayton Road) at the Curtis Road intersection.

This crosswalk has become increasingly dangerous over the last year because more parents/visitors to Estes are parking on the first segment of south side of Clayton closest to the school. The cars are parked within 30 feet of the Curtis stop sign and sometimes on the crosswalk itself. It is difficult to cross because the crosswalk is poorly marked (no signs) and cars and pedestrians can not see each other because of the parked cars. In addition, cars on Curtis turning on Clayton toward Estes will "roll" through the stop sign and cross the path of the crosswalk.

2. Cross walk across Curtis Road at intersection of North Elliot Road.

This crosswalk has some signage and a crossing guard during school hours but cars still do not stop on a regular basis. Despite our wonderful, dedicated crossing guard, cars do not always stop at the crosswalk and continue to make right hand turns when she is physically in the middle of the street with additional stop sign in her hand. The crossing guard has put out orange cones to increase the crosswalk visibility but has not helped in compliance in stopping.

At my request, the town painted both crosswalks about 1.5 years ago (which faded within 6mths). A few signs were posted for pedestrian crossing but no improvements were made at the site of the actual crosswalks. I was told that there was no place to put pedestrian crossing signs with arrows pointing the crosswalk (like on **MLK Jr**). I think raised crosswalks at both of these intersections would highlight the pedestrian walkway and ensure that motorists slow down.

Issue #2: speeding on Clayton Road.

Coker Hills is a well known "cut through" from North Estes to East Franklin Street, and the close connections to 15-501 and I-40. Clayton Road, in particular, is a short cut within **Coker Hills**, to avoid several turns and stop signs on North Elliott. Motorists at all times of day exceed the 25mph speed limit. It is a relatively wide, well maintained paved road which is safe in some regards, but also allows cars to accelerate without consequence. In addition, there is a blind hill to motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians which is located between #402 and #406 that increases the danger of crossing the road to get to the sidewalk or back again to the driveway.

I have not aggressively pursued traffic calming measures with the town because of the CH 2020 planning. However, the EH/Phillips walk zone and access to town public space and library are becoming increasingly hazardous to pedestrians and bikers. It will only become worse with increased traffic on Estes/N. Elliott and Clayton with proposed development at Estes/**MLK**. I am interested in partnering with the **CWSC** and/or town to discuss and implement measures (signage, traffic calming, painted bike lanes, etc) to ensure a safe route to EH/Phillips, public space and the library for pedestrians and bikers.

Thank you for your commitment to safety for our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Brookhart

406 Clayton Rd

On Wed, Jul 17, 2013 at 10:27 AM, Erin Schwie Langston <eslangston@gmail.com> wrote:

If you are not on the central west citizens listserve but want to pass on written feedback to my request below, I can forward it to the listserve.

From: Erin Schwie Langston <eslangston@gmail.com>

Reply-To: <Centralwestneighbors@yahoogroups.com>

Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2013 2:03 PM

To: "Centralwestneighbors@yahoogroups.com" <Centralwestneighbors@yahoogroups.com>

Cc: "Erin S. Langston" <eslangston@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: [Centralwestneighbors] FW: Central West: Email from Sarah and Firoz comments

I'd be curious to hear from current walk zone parents on safety issues from the most recent 2012-13 school year. And I mean the entire walk zone for both schools since designated pathways to school span all over Central West Focus Area. For example, paths on Kensington, Somerset, N Elliott/Curtis, Clayton, Caswell, Halifax, Burlledge Circle, etc.

Surely the Central West Steering Committee has gotten concrete input from both schools, all 4 crossing guards, school improvement teams, etc. on safety efforts/concerns to bring to the table. And if not, hope parents speak up.

Erin Schwie Langston

On Jul 16, 2013, at 12:13 PM, F Mistry <fmistry@hotmail.com> wrote:

FYI

Regards,
Firoz

From: fmistry@hotmail.com

To: compplan@townofchapelhill.org; abby.parcell@gmail.com; amymorrisryan@gmail.com; thecareysare@gmail.com; acarey@sienahotel.com; bmurray@chcymca.org; buffie@kw.com;

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mjsorrell@gmail.com; sarhkamc@gmail.com; tlofrese@chccs.k12.nc.us; whitr@aol.com

Subject: RE: Central West: Email from Sarah

Date: Tue, 16 Jul 2013 12:12:10 -0400

Hi Sarah,

Thank you for sharing your observations on the traffic on Estes especially around the two schools. You have the most experience regarding this street since you have lived there for 27 years and your children walked to school there.

The resolution of Estes Drive should be the highest priority goal for the CWSC given:

- the safety of our children should be our paramount concern. One way of course is to have **proper wide sidewalks and bike paths**. We must work with the NCDOT to get this done first.
- Why do parents feel the need to drop off their children in their cars? One reason is the perceived lack of safety of the sidewalks. Second, may be that the school buses arrive too early before school time - I have heard parents complain that the buses pick them up 30-60 minutes before school start, when the parent could drop them off 10 minutes before. For an elementary school child that means being at the bus stop at 6:30 am or sooner. Can the schools **change their bus schedules (more, smaller buses) to reduce the journey time**? If we want to reduce traffic **we need more buses**.
- How do we ensure that the new development at CW and Carolina North will not make the situation worse? **I do not believe that just depending on "goodwill" alone will work** - people will not drop off their cars and walk and bike everywhere given the existing infrastructure which cannot be changed? What can we control? The answer is that **do not create more traffic deliberately which means dialing back the plans for building out all the green spaces**. I do not see any way to escape this conclusion. Do you?

Thanks again for raising the issues and being a campaigner for school safety.

Regards,
Firoz

> From: compplan@townofchapelhill.org

> To: abby.parcell@gmail.com; amymorrisryan@gmail.com; thecareysare@gmail.com;
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