

# DOT decision on intersection 'appalling'

Dear Editor:

For the DOT to turn down a traffic light at the Damon Gause Bypass (Hwy. 129) and Old Pendergrass Road is astounding! As a taxpayer, I demand that City of Jefferson officials respond immediately.

The DOT forgets that they work for the taxpayers. For them to determine this intersection is only dangerous because of speeders and people that do not know proper yielding is appalling.

I suggest a city official from Jefferson have a DOT official sit at this intersection from 7 a.m. until 9 a.m. and from 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.; and again from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Also, all day on Saturday (especially

UGA Football game days).

There would be no accidents caused from failure to yield if there was a traffic signal. The main problem with the intersection is not proper yielding, the problem is the backup on Old Pendergrass Road. This causes people to rush out into the intersection to get past cars on the bypass.

There is not a problem turning from the bypass onto Old Pendergrass Road. And what may I ask will happen when Kroger opens? The traffic for the shops that have opened, plus the new recreation department, have doubled, maybe tripled traffic on Old Pendergrass Rd. I insist, no I demand that someone in the City of Jefferson step up and do

something now!

For the people of this city, and county, our local representative for the DOT is Bill Kuhlke, Jr. His address is: 3704 Benchmark Dr., P.O. Box 14549 Augusta, GA 30919. His office number is 706-650-8722.

We as a community should bombard his office with letters and voice mail until something is done for us, the taxpayers, the ones who traverse this intersection daily, the ones who risk their lives and our children's lives that are on school buses.

Nothing will be done until we take a stand and make them do something.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Ashworth Brazil  
Jefferson

# State unresponsive to local concerns

Dear Editor:

I agree with your assessment that the Department of Transportation's comments regarding the intersection at Old Pendergrass Road and the Damon Gause Bypass are out of line.

Our state government wields far too much power when it comes to decisions better left to

local officials. Continued residential and commercial growth along the corridor is not just a possibility, it's reality. That Old Pendergrass Road serves as a direct route to our public schools should have weighed more heavily in the DOT study. And, it's not just the bypass — the DOT refuses to allow the restoration

of our historic town square here in Jefferson.

When will bureaucrats at the state level become more responsive to concerns of local citizens directly affected by their policies?

Sincerely,  
Rick Stanziale  
Jefferson