

To: Dave Rosselle
From: JANETTE SHELTON
Subject: Traffic Signal at 129 & Old Pendergrass
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

At 02:21 PM 1/17/2007 -0500, you wrote:

Good afternoon Dave -

I was just reading through the emails regarding the immediate need for a traffic signal at Hwy. 129 & Old Pendergrass Road and I am absolutely stunned that the GA DOT would state "it is highly unlikely that a traffic signal is warranted at this time".

I understand they do not base the need on future growth or future traffic, but we can certainly meet or exceed the need currently. Has the DOT set up any method of counting the vehicles that travel through that intersection on a daily basis?

I live in a neighborhood off Old Pendergrass Road and my neighborhood alone consists of 400 homes (not including the neighborhoods down Old Pendergrass and traffic from the new Rec. Center). With just my vehicle alone, this dangerous intersection is crossed 4 to 6 times a day with my taking my child to school, picking her up, and going to church.

The volume of vehicles traveling through that intersection on a daily basis is astounding to me. Let's just use my neighborhood for example. 400 homes, assuming they are two parent homes = 800 people x 4 times through intersection per day = 3,200 times vehicles travel through that intersection daily. And that's on the low end of the spectrum. Many of these parents take their children to and from school and the other parent is still traveling to work through this intersection. Add on all the other neighborhoods, school buses transporting children, the dumptrucks, etc. and we're looking at closer to 5,000 times this intersection is traveled through on any given weekday. Those figures are staggering and the DOT says a traffic signal is not warranted. Ridiculous!

I am pleased that there is now a way around this intersection since construction of the new Kroger has begun. I drive behind the Kroger and out to Hwy. 129 just right of Old Pendergrass to avoid this intersection completely. But, if a sign is put up behind the Kroger that says "no thru traffic" you can bet I'll still be going thru that way. I'm not putting my life or my child's life in danger over someone else's opinion of whether a traffic signal is

warranted. And all those comments about the decision not being based on how many fatalities there are at that intersection but how many accidents of the same "type" have occurred. Tell THAT to someone who lost a loved one due to the negligence of those that engineered the traffic through this area. One fatality is one too many.

Dave, what I am asking of you is what can I do? What can I do to make a difference? What can I do or who can I write to or speak to about this?

What can I pass on to my neighbors that are as concerned as I am? What can we do as a community to ensure we can travel safely on the roads we carry our children on?

I am a concerned parent, resident, and city tax-payer of Jefferson, GA.

Thank you,

Janette Shelton