



ARLINGTON RIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION/
AURORA HIGHLANDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION
2604 SOUTH GRANT STREET
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202

July 30, 2009



Mr. Dennis Leach
Director, Transportation Division
Department of Environmental Services
Arlington County Government
2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 900
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Mr. Leach;

This letter is a formal request of the Arlington Ridge and Aurora Highlands Civic Associations that the County use an estimated \$60,500 of the remaining \$175,000 in developer funds from the Potomac Yard development, site plan #346, that were set aside to address traffic problems on So. Arlington Ridge Road and So. 23rd Street.¹ Specific projects requested are:

(1) Ridge Road:

(a) Two additional permanent speed indicators. One should be placed on an electric pole northbound in the vicinity of 19th Street and one southbound in the vicinity of 24th Street. With the southbound display, a sign should also be posted indicating that a school/pedestrian crossing is ahead.

(b) Two new pedestrian bollards (such as those at the 19th and 20th Street intersections) to replace the current ones at S. Lang and 28th Streets.

(2) S. 23rd Street:

(a) Two new permanent speed indicators, one eastbound (downhill) just past 26th St. (opposite Kent) on an extension arm of an existing pole, and the second across the street (uphill) at the Kent intersection (opposite 26th St), also with an extension arm for driver visibility.

(b) Three pedestrian crosswalks with bollards at Grant, Hayes, and Ives Streets. The bollards should have the same pedestrian crossing signs as those in the roadway on Ridge at 19th and 20th Streets.

¹ A separate request will be made for the estimated \$95,000 in developer funds from the Pentagon Row development, site plan #105, for community improvements in the Pentagon city area.

In addition, the Associations strongly support two major traffic safety improvements that could be funded with the remaining site plan #346 funds: a traffic signal at Ridge Road and Lang; and proper pedestrian space at Ridge and 23rd, southwest corner.

Traffic signal at Ridge & S. Lang: While the County's traffic count did not include enough children to support the traffic signal at S. Lang, many of our neighbors indicate they do not allow their children to cross at this intersection because it is so dangerous. Instead they drive their children one block to school, creating a "catch-22" situation where the traffic count will remain low because the intersection is too dangerous for children to cross safely.

Pedestrian space at Ridge and 23rd St, Southwest Corner: Use the funds remaining after installing the light at Lang to reconfigure the intersection of Ridge Road/23rd Street. Specifically, at the southwest corner of Ridge and 23rd St, install 4' sidewalks and remove telephone poles and other obstructions from the middle of sidewalks. We understand that the County is already conducting an informal feasibility study of this intersection.

Thank you for your attention. We look forward to these further safety improvements to the streets and sidewalks in our area, making them friendlier to pedestrians, public transit users and children walking to school.

Sincerely,



Charles Walter
President,
Arlington Ridge Civic Association



Bruce Cameron
President,
Aurora Highlands Civic Association

cc:

Wayne Wentz
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www.arcaonline.org
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