Reverend Heather Rodenborg
Amanda Rodenborg
Ridley Rodenborg
265 W Lincoln Ave
Delaware OH 43015

Subject: Request for All-Way Stop at Park Ave & S Franklin St

Dear Members of the Delaware City Council,

I am writing to formally request the installation of an all-way stop at the intersection of Park Avenue and South Franklin Street. I apologize for not being there in person for this comment due to previous scheduled time out of town.

I want to first start by thanking Councilmember Kevin Rider and Bill Ferrigno for their assistance in this project. When I first reached out to them, I was hoping for a flashing crosswalk. After the monitoring and data collection, I was shocked how bad this intersection was and moved by the recommendation for the all-way stop.

This intersection serves as a critical crossing point for multiple groups, including preschool students at the Early Childhood Education Center, college students and visitors at Ohio Wesleyan University, and university staff. Given the high volume of pedestrian activity in this area, improving traffic control measures is essential for the safety of our community.

Currently, the lack of an all-way stop at this intersection creates significant risks for both pedestrians and drivers. Two weeks ago, there was an accident at this intersection during the 9am drop off for preschool students. Thankfully, no one was seriously hurt during the accident. However, the preschool students who witnessed it continued to talk about it for days and how scary it was. This morning, March 7th, at 8:50am, a person speeding through the intersection was pulled over by the Delaware city police for speeding. Multiple people witnessed this, including my 4-year-old daughter who was scared by the speed of the car and sirens of the police car. We are so very thankful for the Delaware Police Department for being present and enforcing the safety of this area. When my daughter asked why this happened, I shared with her “It’s because that person was going too fast and the police where here to protect us.”

The presence of young children, who may not always be fully aware of traffic dangers, as well as college students navigating between campus buildings, makes this a particularly sensitive area. An all-way stop would help slow down traffic, improve visibility, and create a safer environment for everyone.

During the meeting with parking and safety, we heard stories not just from ECC families, but from Councilmember Frazer as well. During the meeting she shared her own concern on the street and the incident that could have kept her to coming to that meeting. As you can see, this is not just a problem for those around Ohio Wesleyan University, but the public as well. Thank you

to Councilmember Frazer for sharing your experience and voting to move this recommendation on to council for approval.

I also want to thank Ohio Wesleyan University and their concern around this intersection. They have hired people to manage the cross-walk with a stop sign. While they stand there to stop traffic, they are putting their lives in dangers. We have watched as people haven't even followed their attempts to stop and slow traffic. This shows how important this all-way stop is.

I urge the City Council to prioritize this request and request the installation of an all-way stop at this intersection. I appreciate your time and consideration in addressing this matter, and I hope for your support in making our community a safer place for all. Delaware is a great place to live, work, educate, and build the leaders of the future. And as corny as it sounds, the leaders in our city. As our city grows, we will need these kids who understand our city, to become leaders within the city.

Please feel free to contact me if any additional information is needed.

Thank you,

Reverend Heather Rodenborg
Amanda Rodenborg
Ridley Rodenborg