

Bob Mollette

3rd Ward Councilman

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Correspondence#: 07-002

January 22, 2007

Jim Kalb, Mayor
728 Second Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

Re: Reported Safety Concerns with Coles Boulevard, Sherman Road, Forrest Avenue, and Traffic Signal at Gilbert Avenue

I have received various concerns expressed by constituents that require *safe* vehicular access to Coles Boulevard at the intersections with Forrest Avenue, Sherman Road, and Gilbert Avenue. The safety concerns expressed are a result of traffic at increased speeds, increased construction traffic, limited clear vision at Sherman Road, and the traffic signal out-of-service at Gilbert Avenue. I am requesting your support and resources to resolve these safety concerns expressed. The Traffic Committee has requested, in the past, your support and instructions on resolving citizen requests. I have enclosed dated photographs for your use.

The increased speeds by vehicles traveling on Coles Boulevard should be investigated, evaluated, and appropriate actions taken by our Police Department.

Residents with access to Forrest Avenue have expressed concern with the traffic light out-of-service on Gilbert because it does assist their safe access on Coles Boulevard. Some constituents have expressed suggestions since Roosevelt School has been demolished it may be more appropriate if the signal was located at Forrest Avenue instead of Gilbert Avenue. This should be considered and evaluated by the Traffic Committee.

Residents with access at Sherman Road have suggested, when weather permits, painted stripes and lettering (STOP) on the pavement to accent the immediate area at the four-way stop intersection of 28th Street and Sherman Road. The concern was made due to increased traffic and casual stopping. Upon site inspection, the existing pedestrian stripes located at Coles Boulevard and Sherman need repainted. Also, concern was expressed accessing Coles Boulevard from Sherman Road with an obstructed view of westbound traffic from a pine tree located on the west corner of Sherman Road. The drivers must move pass the stop sign to view oncoming traffic (westbound) and becomes more difficult with parked vehicles on Coles Boulevard. A suggestion has been expressed to consider trimming the lower braches to alleviate obstruction. This should be considered and evaluated by the Traffic Committee.

Residents have expressed concerns with the traffic light out-of-service at Gilbert Avenue. Generally, residents travel to Gilbert Avenue to access Coles Boulevard due to the above reasons. I have noted in previous Traffic Committee Meeting minutes by your direction the traffic signal at Gilbert Avenue is not scheduled to be removed. I would appreciate prior notification to any action taken to remove the traffic signal in the future.

Keep in mind Coles Boulevard is a main access for residents in Forrest Heights Subdivision, Hill View Retirement Community, Southern Ohio Medical Center, and a separate route for traffic around the downtown area.

I look forward to resolution of these safety concerns expressed by your constituents living in the 3rd Ward. If you have any questions or comments, contact me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Mollette" with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Bob Mollette, 3rd Ward Council

rwm

cc: w/enclosure

3rd Ward Constituents

Bob Gambill, 3rd Ward Traffic Committee Member
Traffic Committee

Christopher Murphy, Public Service Director

Charles Horner, Police Chief
Council (5)

Jo Ann Aeh (Record)

