

15 April 2003

Mayor Kevin Foy and  
The Town Council of Chapel Hill  
306 N. Columbia Street  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516-2124

Dear Mayor Foy and Council Members:

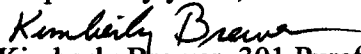
We are writing to inform you that we have met with Engineer Kumar Neppalli in order to apprise him of a dangerous traffic situation on Purefoy Road. It seems the speeding and volume of traffic have increased considerably in the last year. The situation has been exacerbated since the addition of speed humps on Mason Farm Road. Purefoy Road has now become even more popular as a cut through route to and from campus and the stadium.

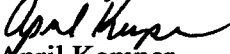
Purefoy Road is a very narrow road with no sidewalks. Many people walk or bicycle to the UNC Hospital or walk to South Columbia to wait for the bus. When cars speed by both ways on Purefoy, there is very little room to walk or bike, and one can easily fall into a ditch. It is particularly dangerous as vehicles speeding downhill from both directions approach the blind curve at the fork of Purefoy and Howell. Drivers ignore the 25 mph speed limit signs as well as the STOP sign on Howell and Purefoy. A neighbor's cat was recently killed at this curve by a speeding car, and we fear more accidents will follow if appropriate action is not taken.

In 1998, Purefoy residents petitioned the town to do a study of the traffic pattern and to consider traffic-calming measures, such as speed humps and STOP signs, because even then the traffic was dangerous. Little came of the 1998 study even though the residents spent a great deal of time preparing the petition and acquiring signatures. We now are returning to the town once again because the situation has become worse. Engineer Neppalli has agreed to do further studies of speed and volume on Purefoy, but he informed us that the town's budget for installing traffic-calming devices is at the disappearing point. We are, therefore, petitioning you to request funds in your Engineering Department budget for the forthcoming fiscal year, so that studies, in June and September 2003, for the installation of speed humps on Purefoy Road can be made with some hope for a timely and successful outcome this time.


We hope that you can act on this request at your meeting on April 28, 2003. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Respectfully yours,

  
Kimberly Brewer 301 Purefoy Road

  
April Kemper 301 Purefoy Road

  
Melissa Crane 309 Purefoy Road

  
Sandy Eisdorfer 303 Purefoy Road

cc: Kumar Neppalli