



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

District Nine, 650 Eastern Avenue, P.O. Box 467, Chillicothe, Ohio 45601-0467

November 19, 1999

Ms. Kathy Tolliver
6782 Egypt Pike
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Dear Ms. Tolliver:

Thank you for your letter expressing your concerns of motorists' safety at the intersection of SR 104 and Pleasant Valley Road.

Recently our Safety Review Team completed a study of this intersection in the summer of 1999. One of the options that they investigated was installing a traffic signal at this intersection. It was determined that installing a traffic signal would not be desirable at this location, because of the close proximity of this intersection to the US 35 westbound ramp-SR 104 intersection. Installing a signal at this site would create further backups of traffic than is already present on this section of highway. The Safety Review team did propose making adjustments to the timing of the signals at the US 35 ramps, and extending the right turn lane at the US 35 westbound Ramp. It was felt that these changes would help the efficiency of these intersections, and help to reduce the backups that extend through the SR 104-Pleasant Valley Road intersection.

Recently, representatives from the Ross County Engineer's Office met with ODOT to discuss improvements to this intersection. They are working on a plan for adding an industrial park in this area. As part of this planned improvement the intersection of SR 104 and Pleasant Valley Road would be modified to restrict all movements except right turns. The left movements would be routed to an intersection further north of this location. A signal could be installed at this new intersection which would not adversely affect the signals located at the US 35 ramps and SR 104. We believe that this proposal will provide a more lasting benefit to the public than installing a signal at the intersection of SR 104-Pleasant Valley Road at this time.

Please contact Greg Baird, District 9 Studies Engineer at 773-2691, extension 208, if you have further questions concerning this matter.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to discuss this intersection with you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John F. Hagen".

John F. Hagen, P.E.
District 9 Deputy Director

October 29, 1999

Dear Mr. Hagen,

I spoke with a Richard Chaffin who recommended that I contact you regarding my concerns. I am very interested in knowing exactly what needs to be done to get a traffic light installed at the intersection of State Route 104 and Pleasant Valley Road.

I travel that section of road daily, as I live on Egypt Pike. Between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. when the VA employees and the RCI and CCI Prison employee change shifts, the traffic is absolutely terrible. Traffic is also extremely bad at this location during fair week, the biker rodeo and the bicycle tour.

In the past few years I have seen several accidents there myself and so many near misses that it is frightening. There are VERY few courteous drivers in this town anymore. That crowd traveling that section of road during those hours coming down 104 certainly does not contain more than one or two courteous drivers.

The intersection is constantly blocked by those headed south on 104 that are backed up by the traffic light further down the road. Traffic gets backed up onto Pleasant Valley Road - I've set in traffic at that point that has been backed clear up to the Mighty Muffler Shop.

Traffic heading north on 104, wanting to turn left onto 35 toward Frankfort gets backed up as far as it possibly can.

My 16 year old son was involved in an accident at this intersection last evening. Fortunately, he was not injured, nor was the other driver. The accident occurred as one of those few courteous drivers stopped in the far south lane to allow traffic to turn left onto Pleasant Valley Road and Pleasant Valley Road traffic to turn out onto 104. In the lane behind her were 6 other cars that were stopped also - because she was stopped. This courteous lady looked in her rearview mirror, saw no traffic, so she waved for my son to go ahead and turn onto 104 from Pleasant Valley Road and let other traffic turn left onto Pleasant Valley Road. In the same lane another car came flying down 104, saw the stopped traffic, knew he could not get stopped in time and whipped out into the other lane and ran into my son. He nearly hit another car turning left. Naturally, my son was sighted. Similar scenes can be observed every day in that same location.

I have even witnessed emergency vehicles needing to turn one way or the other, only to be blocked by 104 traffic, and/or no one coming from that direction yielding or stopping for them to proceed.

Something has to be done before there is a fatal accident there. If you need a petition with a required amount of signatures to initiate some action, I can certainly obtain more than enough signatures.

I can be reached at (740) 773-9551 after 4:00 p.m. M-F or any hours on the weekend, at work at (740) 772-0571, M-F from 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., or by mail at 6782 Egypt Pike, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Kathy Lollar

RECEIVED
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DEPT. OF TRANS.
DIST 9
DEP DIR. OFFICE

REFERRED

C. G. Baird

Please prepare a response

TPP read 11/02/99