



# OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

November 1, 1999

Ms. Tiffany Allison  
224 North Sugar Street  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Dear Ms Allison:

Your letter expressing your concerns over the safety of the traveling public on US 23 in Ross County was referred to us by Chillicothe Mayor Margaret Planton. The section of US 23 that intersects Maple Lane, Trego Creek Road, and Rozelle Creek Road, is within the jurisdiction of District 9 of the Ohio Department of Transportation.

It is our goal at District 9 to provide a safe and efficient highway system for the public. Our District Safety Review Team analyzes our highways yearly to identify problem areas and they determine what safety improvements can be made. The flashing lights, which were installed at Rozelle Creek Road, are one such improvement that our Safety Review Team has recommended. Because the intersection of US 23 and Rozelle Creek Road is located in a horizontal curve, ODOT installed overhead flashing lights to make the intersection more visible to the motorists. The yellow flashing lights facing US 23 indicate the presence of an intersection where traffic may be turning or crossing the highway. The red flashing lights facing Rozelle Creek Road alert motorists approaching the intersection from the side roads that they are required to stop at the intersection.

ODOT installs flashing lights as an added safety measure to delineate unusual highway features, rather than to regulate the speed of traffic flow. Control of motorists' speed is primarily accomplished through the posting of speed regulatory signs, coupled with the Ohio State Highway Patrol's enforcement of the speed limits.

The Safety Review team has studied the intersection of US 23 and Maple Lane in the past. Unlike the Rozelle Creek Road intersection, the intersection in question is located on a straight segment of US 23. In the last investigation the determination was made that no further improvements were required in order to alert the motorists on US 23 of this intersection's presence.

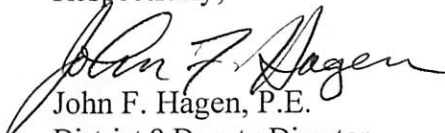
The intersection of Trego Creek Road and US 23 has also been a subject of one of these past studies. It, also, was determined that further safety improvements were not required at that time.

As explained earlier, all highways within ODOT's jurisdiction are continually monitored by the Safety Review Team. These intersections on US 23 will be reexamined through this process.

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 clarify the operation these intersections on US 23.

Respectfully,

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

GLB:glb

Tiffany Allison  
224 North Sugar Street  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601  
(740) 772-5616

October 11, 1999

Dear Sir or Madam:

The many accidents that have occurred lately on U.S. Route 23 are very disturbing to me, because they are hitting so close to home. I am a senior at Chillicothe High School, and have just lost a very dear friend, 17-year old Danielle Butcher, to one of the dangerous intersections off of U.S. Route 23. The sad thing is, on June 17, 1999, I almost lost another one of my best friends, because of an accident at the intersection of Trego Creek Road and U.S. Route 23. Something must be done. Please.

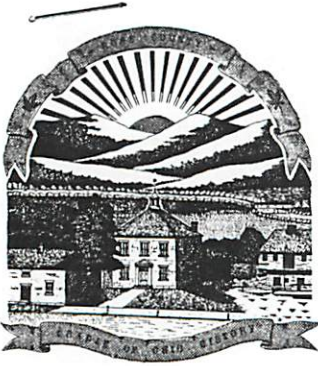
It is distressful that nothing has yet been done. The only attempt was made feebly, and this was the yellow flashing lights at the intersection of Rozelle Creek Road and Route 23. One can sit and watch as none of the traffic slows in the slightest bit upon approaching the flashing lights.

I feel that although the city may think there are better things to spend our money on, these intersections, which just claimed the life of a senior in high school who had everything going for her, must be dealt with. Flashing yellow lights just aren't going to cut it. Please do something about this so that there are no longer these tragic, and uncalled-for deaths of innocent teenagers. Or anyone at all. I am asking from the bottom of my heart, that you see that something is done about this. Thankyou for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tiffany Allison". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Tiffany Allison  
Senior at Chillicothe High School



# Commissioners of Ross County

THE GREAT SEAL COUNTY OF OHIO \* THE STATE'S FIRST CAPITAL

2 NORTH PAINT STREET, SUITE H, COURTHOUSE :: CHILLICOTHE, OHIO 45601  
TELEPHONE 740-773-5115 TDD :: FAX 740-774-1871

**RECEIVED**  
OCT 28 1999

DEPT OF TRANS.  
DIST 9  
DEP DIR. OFFICE  
REFERRED

*C: G. Baird - please forward a copy of your response letter to Mr. Caldwell*

October 25, 1999

FRANK HIRSCH  
12854 State Route 772  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601  
Phone 740-775-7056

JAMES M. CALDWELL  
306 Fairway Avenue  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601  
Phone 740-775-9141

TERESA J. KNOTT  
376 Cove Run Road  
Bainbridge, Ohio 45612  
Phone 740-634-3884

Mr. John Hagen  
Deputy Director  
District 9  
Ohio Department of Transportation  
650 Eastern Avenue  
Chillicothe, OH 45601

Dear Mr. Hagen:

Please find enclosed a letter received by the City of Chillicothe from Ms. Tiffany Allison, 224 North Sugar Street, Chillicothe, Ohio, a copy of which was forwarded to us by Chillicothe Mayor Margaret Planton.

Ms. Allison expresses concern in her letter about the conditions on U.S. Route 23 at Maple Lane, south of Chillicothe, and speaks to a similar problem at the intersection of U.S. Route 23 and Trego Creek Road. Ms. Allison recommends that something be done to slow the traffic in these areas; however, she points out her observation of the apparent lack of regard motorists seem to have for the yellow caution light at the intersection of U.S. Route 23 and Rozelle Creek Road.

We would appreciate it if you would look into this matter and correspond directly with Ms. Allison.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

*James M. Caldwell*  
James M. Caldwell  
President

*over →*

JMC/td

Enc.

cc: Tiffany Allison  
Chillicothe Mayor Margaret Planton  
Ross County Engineer Don E. Carnes

*TP & P rec'd 10/28/99*



**CHILICOTHE**  
OHIO'S FIRST CAPITAL

*Gray*

MARGARET F. PLANTON  
MAYOR

City Administration  
35 S. Paint St.  
Chillicothe, OH  
45601  
(740) 774-1185  
Fax 773-2072  
Mayor@bright.net

OCT 21 1999  
*MFP*  
*10/21/99*

October 19, 1999

RECEIVED  
OCT 21 1999

Purchasing Agent  
Mayor's Assistant  
(740) 773-1164  
Fax 773-2072

Ms. Tiffany Allison  
224 North Sugar Street  
Chillicothe, OH 45601

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

*C. G. Baird -*  
*Please prepare*  
*a response.*

Safety/Service  
(740) 773-2700  
Nuisance Officer  
(740) 773-8995  
Fax 779-6476

Dear Ms. Allison:

Thank you for your letter of October 11, 1999, in which you share your concerns about dangerous intersections on U. S. Route 23. I was sorry to hear about the loss of your dear friend, Danielle Butcher, and I extend my sincere sympathy to you. This certainly was a tragic loss of someone so young. I have a son who is a senior as well so I can certainly relate to this untimely death of someone so vital with a bright future ahead.

Human Resources  
(740) 773-1211  
Fax 773-8004

Improving safety in Chillicothe and Ross County is always a goal in need of review by all local officials. Although I share your concerns, both intersections to which you refer are outside of my jurisdiction as Mayor of the city of Chillicothe. I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the Ross County Commissioners, Ross County Sheriff, Ross County Engineer, and Ohio Department of Transportation since these concerns fall within their jurisdictions. I trust that these individuals will look into your concerns and do everything within their power to improve safety in these areas.

Economic  
& Community  
Development  
(740) 773-8032  
Fax 773-8004

If I can be of any assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to contact my office. Again, thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

EEO Officer  
(740) 773-8033  
Fax 773-8004

Yours sincerely,

Transit Director  
(740) 773-1569  
Fax 773-2817

*Margaret Planton*  
Margaret F. Planton

Utilities Director  
(740) 773-1932  
Fax 773-1932

City Engineer  
Building Dept.  
(740) 773-8980  
Fax 779-6476

MFP/br  
Xc: Ross County Commissioners  
Ross County Engineer  
Ross County Sheriff  
✓ Ohio Department of Transportation

Parks & Recreation  
(740) 772-5626  
Fax 773-5536

Community Events  
(740) 775-4703  
Fax 773-8004

*over* →

Tiffany Allison  
224 North Sugar Street  
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601  
(740) 772-5616

October 11, 1999

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*Tiffany Allison*

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Senior at Chillicothe High School

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*e: G. Baird - please  
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