

Dustin Anderson

From: Dustin Anderson
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 12:18 PM
To: Paola R. Pescara; Ken Schoon; Lee Ann Mellon; Chuck Gardiner; Steve Tulowitzki; Andy Koultourides (external)
Cc: Randy Neiswonger; Dave Otte; Jill DiTommaso; David W. Westland (dwestland@westlandbennett.com)
Subject: RE: Ridge Road Lane Reduction

Ms. Pescara,

Thank you for taking the time to reach out and share Community Hospital's concerns.

Further study of the corridor is indeed planned. No final cross-section has been approved or adopted. The recommendations regarding removing landscaped medians, installing mountable curbs, and widening the center turn are all good solutions that we will direct our design engineer to consider.

I will work with Council to find a mutually agreeable time to meet and discuss, as requested.

All the best,

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From: Paola R. Pescara <Paola.R.Pescara@comhs.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 11:32 AM
To: Ken Schoon <kschoon@munster.org>; Lee Ann Mellon <lmellon@munster.org>; Chuck Gardiner <cgardiner@munster.org>; Steve Tulowitzki <tulo@munster.org>; Andy Koultourides (external) <drkoul63@gmail.com>
Cc: Randy Neiswonger <Randy.Neiswonger@comhs.org>; Dave Otte <dotte@comhs.org>; Dustin Anderson <danderson@munster.org>
Subject: Ridge Road Lane Reduction

Good morning, Munster Town Council members.

I'm writing to you today with concerns over the proposed reduction of travel lanes on Ridge Road and the harm this will pose to emergency vehicle response. Community Hospital has the busiest emergency room in the region including 30-40 ambulance transports daily. That number continues to grow with the closure of Franciscan Hammond and the frequent bypass status of the remaining hospitals in the area that covers the Illinois and Indiana neighboring communities.

Community Healthcare System recently engaged civil engineering firm Vriesman & Korhorn to consider our concerns and, in summary, their opinion is that "a road diet as restrictive as what is proposed will be detrimental to emergency vehicle throughput and the Town should perform a more thorough corridor analysis." Attached you find their full opinion along with recommendations.

We respectfully request a meeting with the Town Council members and Randy Neiswonger, Community Hospital CEO, Dave Otte, VP of Engineering and Support Services, and me to discuss the attached opinion as well as our concerns for emergency vehicle throughput and the patients in need of timely treatment.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to meeting with you soon.

With Regards,
Paola Pescara



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