

Homan, Kim

From: Walton, Mariah
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 11:48 AM
To: Homan, Kim
Subject: FW: Please read at the public hearing on Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Mariah Walton

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From: KRENZER, MATTHIAS <MATTHIAS.KRENZER@UticaK12.org>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 9:29 PM
To: Walton, Mariah <mw Walton@eastpointecity.org>
Subject: Please read at the public hearing on Tuesday, February 6, 2024

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Please read this at the public hearing on Tuesday, February 6, 2024: (I used a stopwatch to make sure this was under 3 minutes, and it actually clocks in at the 2 minute mark.)

I want to speak in favor of the proposed road diet on 9 mile road.

I have been a resident of Eastpointe for almost 50 years. I grew up here, and I bought a home here as an adult. For most of my life, I hated driving down 9 mile. It's always been ugly to me. The trees that were cut down over the years were never replaced. Now most of 9 mile is lined with dead tree trunks that hold up electrical wires and street lights.

When the Gratiot and 9 mile downtown area was refurbished with brick pavers and new lamp posts a number of years ago, I thought that was a major improvement and a step in the right direction. We now have the golden opportunity to continue that upgrade all the way down to Kelly and beyond. I want to see wider sidewalks. I want to see park benches. I want to see beautiful trees and plantings. I want to see better parking opportunities for businesses.

I know that many of you are angry about the thought of going from 5 lanes to 3 lanes. Why? Because you won't get where you're going as fast as before? 9 mile is almost as dangerous as driving Gratiot. The current speed limit is 35, but we all know that many drivers are going 45 or more.

Think about it...with all the construction that's been going on, we have already been conditioned to driving in only one lane, and it's been FINE. I can still get to English Gardens or Aldi or Plaza Mexico in almost the same amount of time.

As far as the argument that police and fire response times would be greatly diminished, I really don't understand where that opinion is coming from. Because RESEARCH from the US Department of Transportation shows that a road diet will NOT worsen response times. Fire chiefs in other metro Detroit communities that have reduced their lanes from 5 to 3 lanes have also confirmed that this is not an issue.

So let's go into this with an open mind and think about how we can beautify this road and make it safer.

Thank you,
Matthias Krenzer