



Aurora Highlands Civic Association

Members of the County Board

Libby Garvey, Chair
Katie Cristol
Christian Dorsey
Jay Fiset
John Vihstadt

County Manager
Mark Schwartz

October 14, 2016

Dear Members of the County Board and County Manager,

At our last two membership meetings, AHCA heard from neighbors living in a small part of the neighborhood west of S. Eads St. and south of 23rd St. S. This area has been subjected to an untenable amount of cut-through traffic on narrow neighborhood streets. Neighbors have documented as many as 277 cars through one intersection during a single hour of the morning commute. Traffic includes not only commuters, but also tour buses, construction trucks from the S. Eads ART facility project, large beer delivery trucks, and much commercial traffic servicing businesses in Pentagon/Crystal City. Neighbors have also documented hit-and-run vehicle accidents, drivers running stop signs, and cars trying to pass stopped school buses. The problem is also severe in the opposite direction during the evening commute.

Ms. Cristol was at our September meeting and spoke with neighbors about this. The neighbors also had a police officer out to witness the traffic issues, and we will be asking the department to conduct a study of traffic at one intersection where cars routinely speed and run the stop sign.

The traffic problems in this part of Aurora Highlands have been exacerbated by the lane reduction along S. Eads and poor signal control along S. 23rd St. at Route 1 and at S. Eads, which backs traffic up for blocks. And although construction along S. Fern and S. Eads may also be aggravating the problem, a significant increase in cut-through traffic long pre-dates those construction projects. We understand that the County is planning a major project to improve the Route 1 and 23rd St. intersection, but that is a long way off.

Therefore, at our October meeting, neighbors voted overwhelmingly to approve a resolution asking that the County erect the following signs immediately:

On northbound S. Eads St., **No Left Turn 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.** at the intersections of 26th Rd. S., 26th St. S., 25th St. S., and 24th Rd St. S.

On southbound S. Fern St. at the intersection of S. 23rd St., **No Thru Traffic**

We look forward to working with County officials and staff to solve this problem before somebody gets hurt.

Sincerely,

Natasha Atkins
President, Aurora Highlands Civic Association