

Example Response to Advocacy Form

What road or traffic issue are you advocating for? Please include specifics on where the issue is.

The intersection of West Friendly Ave and Dolley Madison Rd has a crosswalk signal to cross Friendly Ave while allowing drivers from Dolley Madison road to turn left and right.

Why are you advocating for this change?

I have had a number of issues crossing Friendly at the Dolley Madison intersection. The intersection has quite a lot of traffic and drivers are not on the lookout for pedestrians or bicyclists. The crosswalk allows the pedestrian to cross the intersection in about 14-15 seconds, but turning traffic from Dolley Madison Rd to Friendly Ave only allows for 4-6 seconds to walk across Friendly Ave- if motorists take the first opportunity to turn. If the pedestrian is the first to walk across the road, motorists who are turning where the pedestrian is walking are waiting while they also have the green light to turn. Motorists have nearly hit me twice, while I was walking across this intersection. The area is a high traffic area for pedestrians since there are three apartment complexes, a new neighborhood Walmart grocery store, and Quaker Village all near Guilford College. Students from Guilford College are known to live in these three apartment complexes (Madison Woods, Hodgins Retreat, Legacy Apartments) and often frequent Quaker Village. I have also known a student who was biking at that intersection and was hit by a motorist. This person suffered severe brain damage, was sedated under into a medical coma for three months, and had to place his senior year at Guilford College on hold. He has now recovered and finished his degree, but the issue at that intersection remains.

How would you like to see the issue amended?

I would like to see the traffic pattern edited so that if a pedestrian is walking from either side of Friendly to the other side, the turning traffic from Dolley Madison is limited to not turn on the relevant side until the crosswalk countdown is over. For instance, when crossing from the Quaker Village side of Friendly to the Guilford College side on the left, drivers should not be able to turn left when the crosswalk allows a pedestrian to walk on the left side. The same should be true of the right side of the intersection, coming from Dolley Madison Rd: when crossing Friendly to the Guilford College side on the right, drivers should not be able to turn right when the crosswalk allows a pedestrian to walk on the right side.