

Office of the Common Council

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June 6, 2005

Mayor Robb B. Kahl City of Monona 5211 Schluter Road Monona, WI 53716

Dear Mayor Kahl;

I am writing you about the proposed Monona Grove School District compromise for the diverter on Coldspring Avenue.

On May 23, 2005, Larry Nelson, City of Madison Engineer, David Dryer, City of Madison Traffic Engineer, Dane County Supervisor Andy Olsen and I met with residents of the Lake Edge Neighborhood Association to discuss their concerns surrounding the Monona Grove School District proposal. The following issues were identified:

1. Subdivision of District-owned properties at 4217 and 4221 Jerome Street and 4316 Monona Drive is approved.

The residents presume your desire to subdivide this property is to allow for the expansion of the tennis courts. We are agreeable to this on the condition that the properties are returned to owner-occupied residences in the City of Madison when the project is complete.

- 2. The District would receive approval to renovate the existing tennis courts located on the north side of Coldspring Avenue in order to change the layout of the tennis courts from a north-south orientation and to put in one additional court.
 - The residents are generally agreeable to this if the design is substantially similar to the plan submitted previously to the City of Madison.
- 3. Monona and Madison will jointly sponsor the improvement of Coldspring Avenue. Such improvements would occur as soon as practicable.
 - Residents are agreeable to this condition as long as curb and gutter is not required on the north side of Coldspring Avenue from Jerome Street to Bainbridge Avenue.
- 4. Parking would be permitted on the north side of Coldspring Avenue from Monona Drive to Lakeview Avenue.
 - At a previous meeting of the Neighborhood Association, neighbors agreed to a ninety-day (90) test of "No Parking At Any Time," scheduled to begin shortly. This test is to determine if the elimination of parking on the north side of Coldspring Avenue would improve emergency access to the MGHS playing fields. At the end of the test, the City will

solicit feedback from residents to determine if there is desire to continue with the no parking program.

5. Timing of traffic lights would be changed.

The City of Madison is agreeable to discussing changes to the timing of traffic lights for school, special events or nighttime traffic. The only limitation to these changes is the traffic volume continuing on Monona Drive; otherwise, I encourage you to directly communicate with the City of Madison Traffic Engineering Department to arrange for these changes.

- 6. The traffic control device that would be installed on Coldspring Avenue at Jerome Street would have locks that could be controlled by the Monona Grove School District. The neighborhood has concerns about uncontrolled access at the gate. We require that access to this gate be granted only to emergency vehicles responding to an emergency. Immediately after the emergency response, the gate would be closed to control through traffic.
- 7. The traffic control device installed on Coldspring Avenue at Jerome Street would be closed from 6:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. It will be open from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 a.m., Monday through Friday and on weekends and holidays. While students and staff from Monona Grove High School constitute a substantial number of the vehicles that travel through the neighborhood, there is also an increasing amount of cut-through and event traffic that continues to use the neighborhood as an alternative to the designated traffic route. Therefore, the residents attending the neighborhood meeting were opposed to the gates being open at any time except as stated in item six; specifically, emergency response vehicles.
- 8. The traffic control device installed on Coldspring Avenue at Jerome Street will be designed so that, when opened, two cars can pass through, simultaneously going east and west.

The neighborhood residents at the meeting have expressed a desire to reduce through traffic from Coldspring Avenue and request a gate only as wide as an emergency vehicle.

9. In addition, the neighborhood expressed its desire that no additional exits from Monona Grove High School onto Coldspring Avenue be created that would bypass the diverter at Jerome Street.

I am pleased that we have a meeting scheduled for Monday, June 13, 2005, at 5:30pm. I would very much like to talk to you about these concerns and how Monona and Madison can work together.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>district15@cityofmadison.com</u> or 608.266.4071.

Sincerely,

Larry Palm

Alder, Madison District 15

June 6, 2005 Page 3

cc: Mayor Dave Cieslewicz

Gary Schumacher, Superintendent, Monona Grove School District John Kitslaar, President, Monona Grove Schools Board of Education

Members of the Monona Grove Schools Board of Education

Paul Brost, Principal, Monona Grove High School

Members of the Monona City Council Larry Nelson, City of Madison Engineer

David Dryer, City of Madison Traffic Engineer

Chief Debra Amesqua, City of Madison Fire Department

David Berner, Monona City Administrator

Gary Weinert, Director, City of Monona Public Works

Members of the Lake Edge Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

Andy Olsen, Dane County Board of Supervisors