



MAYOR'S OFFICE
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December 1, 2020

John Crumm
Director of Planning
Macomb County Department of Roads

Re: Elimination of Mound Road/Arden Avenue Traffic Light

Dear Mr. Crumm:

I recently became aware that the Macomb County Road Commission has under consideration a plan to remove the traffic signal at Mound Road and Arden Street in the city of Warren. I'm writing to you today to register my firm opposition to this plan, and I'm glad to give you my reasons that I oppose this plan.

First, Arden Avenue is the only entrance into the St. Anne subdivision and removing that traffic signal would make entry and egress for the residents of that area, impacting more than 1,000 homes, more difficult and potentially dangerous. Also, St. Anne Church would also be impacted by the removal of that traffic signal. This would not only impact on days when services are held at the church, but every day when the school at St. Anne is in session. Elimination of the traffic signal would also eliminate the crosswalks. This would also make it impossible for students or for citizens to walk or bike to St. Anne's or for citizens to walk or bike to the Warren Community Center which is a short distance west of Mound Road.

Furthermore, St. Anne's elementary school is also at that corner. This means that children who regularly attend that school and live in the Warren Community Center area would have difficulty in safely crossing Arden from the west to attend the school on the east side of Mound. This is unacceptable not to have a safe crosswalk with a light for children to cross. The danger posed by the removal of a traffic light is thus unthinkable and unacceptable for the safety of the children! The speed at which cars travel down Mound road would present the children with crossing an expressway considering the high speed of traffic.

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I understand the important need to improve traffic flow on Mound Road which serves as a major commercial artery both in the city of Warren and Sterling Heights. I believe this proposal can be solved better through the coordination of traffic signals along Mound Road, including the light at Mound and Arden, and not through the elimination of this important traffic signal.

As Mayor of the city of Warren I have a duty to not only look out for the commerce that travels through our busy community, but also to look out for the well-being of the residents who live here, the children who learn here, and the parishioners who worship here. This traffic signal is vital to all of this and must be maintained.

I thank you for your thoughtful consideration of my position and I'm available at any time to discuss it further. I also am planning on attending the public meeting when this issue is considered so I can represent the priorities of the residents of that community that I am so proud to represent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Fouts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J" and a distinct "R".

Mayor James R. Fouts
City of Warren