

11/5/1024

To the Honorable Council of the City of Boardman,

I am writing to encourage you to place actual stop lights up at the intersection of Boardman Avenue and Main Street instead of the HAWK lighting system. As you know from personal experiences the traffic load is so heavy. The near misses of collisions between vehicles as well as vehicles to pedestrians is not reported as statistic. I am curious to know how well the videos show some real statistics. I started keeping my own stats since the last council meeting I attended. Between South Front Street and Boardman Avenue I have been in four near misses and have seen three other near misses. Mind you, I have been gone for the past two weeks for a conference and hunting season.

With the issue of the fencing on the overpass, I would like to remind the Council, when I was a patrolman for the City of Boardman, my patrol car was t-boned by a vehicle coming off the interstate. The out-of-state driver said she did not realize there was a stop sign there and she did not see my vehicle. I am lucky my patrol vehicle saved my life.

I can think of three other crashes which I assisted in that zone.

On mid-block left hand turns into Sinclair, Chevron/C&D, I would like to say that has caused more problems for drivers due to there not being enough space/ time to safely turn, whether turning out of Sinclair to head south or driving south and turning into Chevron/C&D, both have major safety concerns.

The idea of changing back to lined crosswalks on the north and south sides of Boardman Avenue on Main Street without a true stop light is not a good change. I would encourage the Council to not put in lined crosswalks with the Hawk Light System. The reason is again to keep people safe when crossing the road. I see plenty of people who choose to not walk around to use the crosswalks, and I also see those who cross in the middle of the street south of Boardman Avenue; traditional jay walking. Bad on their part for making a bad choice.

I am not a big fan of the Right-in/right out only option due to how congested Boardman Avenue is already but if this option helps to prevent a loss of life or helps the flow of traffic, then so be it, at least give it a try.

Thank you for your time and community service,

~George Shimer, 316 Boardman Ave NW, Boardman Or 97818