

Rich LaBombard

From: Jerry Donovan
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 7:22 PM
To: Rich LaBombard
Cc: Ricky Zoet
Subject: Fw: For City Council: Chestnut St & Blue Star Hwy Traffic Signage

From: Joan Leonard <jcleonard@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, June 25, 2023 8:19 AM
To: Jerry Donovan <jdonovan@DouglasMI.gov>
Subject: For City Council: Chestnut St & Blue Star Hwy Traffic Signage

Please read this email at a City Council Meeting.

Dear Douglas City Council Members,

Let me relate to you the many death-defying maneuvers I have seen at the Y intersection on Chestnut Street where it meets Blue Star Highway. I think that signage could solve many of the problems.

Current Situation:

1. Turning from Chestnut onto Blue Star to head north (right turn) is marked with a right arrow sign that says "only." This works well.
2. Turning from Chestnut onto Blue Star to head south is an illegal turn because this road is reserved for traffic turning *onto* Chestnut *from* Blue Star! Nonetheless, I *regularly* watch locals and visitors risk their lives by waiting to make a left turn onto Blue Star from Chestnut before a vehicle veers to the right from Blue Star onto Chestnut and hits it head-on. This is crazy!
3. A "No Turn" sign on south-bound Blue Star rightly forbids left turns onto Chestnut Street because the first potential left would be into on-coming traffic from Chestnut. The second potential left is also dangerous because it requires passing the turn to make an obtuse-angled turn into Chestnut St. This illegal turn requires additional time to make which holds up traffic behind it and results the vehicles behind the one trying to make the turn to "come back" at that traffic as it tries to pass the turning vehicle. I also see this illegal maneuver made by vehicles trying to make a U-turn to head north on Blue Star, including the red Douglas city pick-up truck.

Suggested Actions:

I believe signage could be improved. The "No turns" sign on Blue Star should be better placed, nearer to the intersection as opposed to where it now stands (too far from the intersection). A "Wrong Way" sign, placed in the median at the intersection of Chestnut and Blue Star, might help drivers realize the left lane is reserved for on-coming traffic. Finally, city vehicles should set an example for residents by not making illegal turns at the intersection and police enforcement of the traffic flow would be valuable as well.

Please appreciate that I am sending this letter in the hopes of preventing a crash, let alone a life-changing head-on crash. Thanks for examining this issue.

Caring full-time resident,
Joan Leonard
PO Box 315