

January 6, 2023

Douglas City Council
PO Box 757
86 W. Center St.
Douglas, MI 49406-0757

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to share my concern regarding the safety of Water Street. Usage has changed significantly since I moved to 65 Randolph Street in 2006. Traffic has consistently increased, many trucks use it as a cut through to Wiley Street, and drivers often drive significantly over the stated speed limit. It is no longer possible to walk along the side of Water Street to Wiley due to the fact that cars speed around the curves with no care to the health and safety of pedestrians.

Besides the health and safety issues, this traffic has caused significant damage to the road itself. I witnessed firsthand the damage done to the road from attempted construction of a house at 151 Water Street years ago that resulted in the closure and rebuilding of the road. The road was closed for many months. It cost the city (thus the taxpayers) a great deal on money to rebuild the road.

Since this work was done, the east side of the road often needs to be repaired as it collapses and falls down the hill. I have contacted City Hall and submitted photos (see attached) several times (often annually) so road repair can be done. These repairs seem to be temporary as the roadbed is compromised and the safety and integrity of the road is a concern. Perhaps increased traffic, speed, and usage by so many trucks exacerbates the problem.

Please consider repairing the road rather than performing temporary fixes, lowering the speed limit (or even enforcing the existing one), striping the road, and closing the road to trucks utilizing it for cut through purposes.

Thank you for your consideration,

Elizabeth Eckhardt

Elizabeth Eckhardt
65 Randolph St
Douglas MI 49406



