

Mayor Davis and Members of the Saratoga Town Council,

For years, Saratoga has slowly grown as a tourist destination. That growth seems to have increased in the past five years leading to nearly year-round traffic on WYO-130/1st Street. The intersection at 1st Street and Bridge Avenue is beginning to become a risk to health and safety. While the crosswalks and the limited parking on either side of 1st Street is a start, it's only a start. During the winter, trucks with enclosed trailers parking alongside 1st Street create a line-of-sight issue when entering from East Bridge Avenue, specifically. Lifted trucks also contribute to this line-of-sight issue throughout the year.

While the crosswalks at this intersection are an improvement, I will often find myself waiting for traffic to either come to a stop or for there to be no traffic at all before I cross. Even then, an occupied crosswalk doesn't necessarily stop traffic as there have been drivers who go through if one side of the crosswalk isn't occupied while the other is. Further, I have seen on more than one instance drivers using an occupied crosswalk as an opportunity to merge onto 1st Street. This is inviting a vehicle-on-pedestrian incident.

Vehicle-on-vehicle incidents are also a concern. More than once, I've crossed my fingers and hit the gas to merge onto 1st Street when I couldn't see oncoming traffic due to large trucks or trailers parked along the highway.

I would like to make the following suggestions to the Saratoga Town Council:

1. Contact the Wyoming Department of Transportation for a traffic study at the intersection of 1st Street and Bridge Avenue to determine if there is a need for traffic lights.
  - a. Even if traffic lights aren't viable, consider dynamic pedestrian crossing signs.
2. Consider signage encouraging recreational vehicles and enclosed trailers to park in the municipal parking lot or at the Platte Valley Community Center.

I understand that the Town of Saratoga has many other issues it is dealing with on a daily basis. However, the safety of both residents and tourists is paramount. It would be better for our town to be proactive on an issue like this instead of waiting for loss of life and reacting to it.

Thank you,

Joshua Wood