

Office of the Fire/EMS Chief 312 W. Whitewater Street

Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190

www.whitewater-wi.gov Telephone: (262) 473-0116

April 25, 2025

Dear Members of the Common Council,

I am writing to express my concern on behalf of the Fire Department regarding the proposal to make the intersection of W. Walworth Avenue and S. Prince Street a 4-way stop.

While I understand and respect the intentions to improve traffic safety at this intersection, it is important to highlight the operational challenges this change may pose for emergency response vehicles. This intersection lies along one of our primary routes for emergency response to the westside of the city and Lima Township. In the past calendar year, our department has responded through this intersection approximately 160 times.

During peak traffic periods, the limited space available for vehicles to pull to the side restricts the ability of motorists to yield to emergency apparatus safely and efficiently. Adding stop signs on W. Walworth could further impede the flow of traffic and delay emergency response times.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Kelly Freeman Fire/EMS Chief

Whitewater Fire/EMS