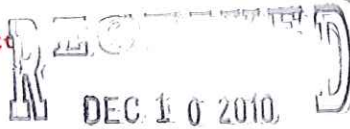




Westbriar Elementary School PTA

1741 Pine Valley Drive
Vienna, Virginia 22182
www.westbriarpta.org



December 4, 2010

The Honorable Catherine Hudgins
North County Governmental Center
12000 Bowman Towne Drive
Reston, VA 20190-3307

Dear Supervisor Hudgins:

On behalf of the membership of the Westbriar Elementary School PTA, we support traffic calming measures on Old Courthouse Road that would protect students walking to and from Westbriar Elementary School. There are two main areas of concern: the intersection of Pine Valley and Old Courthouse Road and the intersection of Pine Valley and Westwood. These are the two designated intersections at which our children cross daily to get to and from school.

In particular, we support:

- A raised crosswalk at the intersection of Old Courthouse Road and Pine Valley. The "raised crosswalk" would be about 3" higher than the current speed humps already in place on Old Courthouse Road. (a current proposed traffic calming measure by Citizens for Traffic Calming on Old Courthouse Road)

In addition we request:

- Two school zone flashing beacons warning drivers of the school crossing. Lights would be on during school hours only. (one on each side of the road – facing southbound and facing northbound)
- A four-way stop sign at the intersection of Pine Valley Road and Westwood Road. (currently, there are stop signs on Westwood only). This is the intersection directly in front of Westbriar Elementary School where children cross to walk home or walk to their parent's cars. There is much confusion surrounding this intersection and it is becoming increasingly dangerous.

We feel that this is an extremely important issue for the community and impacts the safety of children. Data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shows that about one-fifth (20%) of children 14 and under who were killed in traffic incidents in 2008 were pedestrians. Children in this age group have not developed the skills and experience to navigate traffic safely and judge speed and distance. Even when children are accompanied by an adult, speeding drivers create unsafe conditions. Therefore, it is important to put these traffic calming measures in place.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Allie C. Jewsbury
PTA President, Westbriar Elementary School

cc:

M. Jane Seeman, Mayor of Vienna
Gregory M. Hembree, Town of Vienna Planning & Zoning Director
Tom Burnside, President, Cinnamon Creek Home Association
Pam Konde, President, Greater Tysons Green Civic Association
Dean Manson, President, Ashgrove Estates HOA
Scott Mellville, President, Manors at Wolftrap HOA