



Ben Kessler <bkessler@bexley.org>

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## Drexel Traffic Calming Project

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**Robert Berkman** <raberkman@gmail.com>

Mon, Feb 7, 2022 at 2:59 PM

To: bkessler@bexley.org

Dear Mayor Kessler,

My wife and I reside at 279 South Drexel. We attentively listened to the meeting concerning the Drexel Avenue alternative traffic calming changes.

I want to go on the record to say that my wife, Linda, and I, are adamantly opposed to the bike lane proposal for Drexel Avenue.

Our neighbors on both sides are similarly opposed (The Howards and the Faheys), as is the Rotenberg family down the block. I am confident that the majority of Drexel homeowners are similarly opposed.

As a retired trauma surgeon, and having lived in Florida, where such lanes in intimate proximity to traffic exist, I have seen the catastrophic interactions between cars and bikes.

The proposed bike lanes, will make pulling in and out of our driveways dangerous for all. Residents attempting to exit their driveways will be faced with two-way bike traffic and car traffic to deal with at the same time. This will make for a recipe for disaster. Years ago, I remember a fatal accident involving a car backing out from a driveway and a car going South on Drexel. Now just imagine bikes going in both directions added to the mix.

The bike lanes should be placed on Columbia or Parkview. Traffic is much less on those streets, and much slower.

You, yourself, heard speakers at the meeting admit that they do not adhere to the speed limit. I see this all the time on Drexel Avenue. I see cars who can not stay in their lanes very often. People do not regularly stop for people crossing at the lighted and flashing beacons. Bike lanes on a main street such as Drexel, are a recipe for disaster.

My family and all the people to whom I have spoken, all are in favor of the use of medians to enhance the look of Drexel and to calm traffic.

This morning, I counted 38 cars parked on Drexel, which I assume were from CSG. All of those families, with whom I have spoken, oppose putting cars on one side of Drexel, due to the proposed bike lanes. Just wait till we have our Police, Fire, and Ambulances racing down Drexel to an emergency, bikes going in opposite directions next to them, and cars with limited visibility attempting to pull out of their driveways.

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Berkman, MD,Ph.D.