



## **rRemarks Data for October 19, 2021 Village Council Meeting**

**Agenda Section:** First Reading

**Agenda Item:** B. ORD 2021-9159 An ordinance: West Prairie Avenue corridor plan and neighborhood traffic study #7

**Commenter:** Janet and Charlie Shalda, Downers Grove

**Comment:** We appreciate the time and energy Council and Staff have put towards listening to the neighbors and putting forth the new recommendations. Most important is keeping the parking for our surrounding neighbors. We support the new suggested calming methods as outlined in the latest report, to be presented on 10/19, and understand that if more is needed after this entire Prairie Avenue plan is instituted, there can be additions at that time. It seems reasonable to observe these new changes for some period after they are implemented, as they will surely change the "Prairie Speedway" to something far less desirable to the bypass traffic, and will no doubt slow traffic. There may also be undesirable back ups in various places along Prairie, after the entire plan is implemented, which should be observed and considered before more stop signs are added on the west end of Prairie.

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**Agenda Section:** Active Agenda

**Agenda Item:** B. ORD 2021-9145 An ordinance amending certain traffic control provisions along Prairie Avenue

**Commenter:** Andrew Wood, Downers Grove

**Comment:** Living at the intersection of Prairie and Forest, the first of these calming sites, I am now living with the reality of having 4,000 - 6,000 vehicles now stop at, and accelerate away from, the stop sign recently installed outside my house. Prior to this experiment there were under 2,000 (on the North-South route on Forest, which is currently blocked off). If the North-South block at Prairie Avenue is removed, the volume of vehicles stopping and starting at this intersection will increase to 6,000 - 8,000 per day.

With my living space located less than 50 feet from this new configuration, our indoor and outdoor lives are now lived against a backdrop of the constant engine and braking noise from cars, semis, construction trucks, buses, garbage trucks, village vehicles, emergency vehicles braking for, or accelerating away from, the intersection. This noise is exacerbated by people racing to get to the Main Street lights and any vehicle that has a bad muffler or one that is 'tuned'. Such noise prevents us from engaging in outdoor activities or 'normal' indoor activities such as listening to TV, radio or even family conversations. We have nowhere to go to get relief from the noise as our entire house and yard faces onto Prairie Ave., mere footsteps away from our front door. Being the closest house on Prairie Ave. to any of the planned stop signs, we are feeling more than any other household the very real downside of this 'calming' experiment.

In addition to the elevated noise there is a profound loss of privacy as all of those vehicles stopping can now see into our windows.

To provide relief from this, I implore the council to consider this following amendment to the plans before anything is implemented. Such an amendment would address the very real issue of noise pollution and privacy: Put in place a village-wide ordinance that prevents stop signs being installed on street intersections where the vehicle count is over 3,000/day and the stop sign, or stop line, is less than 60 feet from the nearest exterior wall of any residential property. Permanent Stop signs installed prior to 1/1/2021 would be grandfathered in.

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**Agenda Section:** First Reading

**Agenda Item:** A. ORD 2021-9155 An ordinance establishing video gaming regulations.

**Commenter:** Laura Crawford, Downers Grove

**Comment:** Date: October 18, 2021

To: Mayor Barnett and Village of Downers Grove Commissioners

From: Laura Crawford, Chamber630

Re: ORD 2021-9155 An ordinance establishing video gaming regulations

On behalf of the 745 businesses of Chamber630, specifically, restaurants, brew pubs, clubs and recreational facilities located in Downers Grove, thank you for considering video gaming for establishments with an on-premise consumption liquor license, as a priority action item.

The proposed Ordinance 2021-9155 encompasses the Village's desire to provide exceptional municipal services and addresses the concerns that have been mentioned

at recent meetings on this topic. The staff authored an ordinance that recognizes the desire to maintain a wholesome and conventional culture in Downers Grove while allowing twenty establishments to realize the competitive advantage of video gaming. Over the years, these businesses have greatly contributed to the ambiance of the Village of Downers Grove, provided much, to many a non-profit, quietly accepted increases in the food and beverage tax, and maintained a good standing status with the Village. Your support of this proposed ordinance will be much appreciated.

Surrounding municipalities have long enjoyed their VG revenue stream, some have dedicated proceeds to the police and fire pensions, others have added it to their general fund – these towns have all benefited from revenue generated by video gaming in some form or another. Please support this ordinance and allow the business and residents of Downers Grove to also reap the benefits it will bring.

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**Agenda Section:** Active Agenda

**Agenda Item:** B. ORD 2021-9145 An ordinance amending certain traffic control provisions along Prairie Avenue.

**Commenter:** Nick Klucharik

**Comment:** I just want to thank the Council for collecting and reviewing the data in making your decision to implement a four-way stop at Forest and Prairie. It is the only logical solution for making the entire surrounding area safer.