

Tyler R. Johnson
308 Rainbow Drive
Carrboro, NC 27510

September 22, 2009

Carrboro Board of Aldermen
Carrboro Town Hall
301 West Main Street
Carrboro, NC 27510

Dear Aldermen:

The construction of the proposed Lloyd Square Architecturally Integrated Subdivision at 100 Deer Street poses a very real safety issue for children because it is located directly at an entrance to McDougle Elementary School and McDougle Middle School. I ask that the Board ensure that adequate safety measures are in place to protect the many children that use this route to go to school.


There is an entrance to McDougle school at the corner of Lisa Drive and Quail Roost Drive. This is precisely the location of the proposed development. This entrance is in the rear of the school near the track and serves the nearby community of children that walk to school. This area is in the walk zone, where there is no bus service.

Every morning and afternoon many children, and some adults, can be seen walking, riding bicycles and even skateboarding along this route. The primary safety threat is from construction traffic that may not be sensitive to the presence of children.

I suggest that the Board convene a short-term task force to make a specific recommendation to address this issue before approval is given for construction to commence. This task force could consist of local community members, the developer, someone from the Planning Department, and a representative from McDougle School. It could also include someone from the UNC Highway Safety Research Center, which is currently promoting the Safe Routes to School program, a national effort to promote walking to school safely through public-private partnerships. Some potential recommendations may include:

1. Require a crossing guard.
2. Prohibit construction traffic during to/from school hours.
3. Require a construction privacy fence.
4. Implement a safety awareness program for the developer.

I am available to assist in these efforts if necessary. Thank you for your consideration in keeping our children safe.

Sincerely,

Tyler R. Johnson

enclosure: maps showing pedestrian access routes

