

From: [Emily Lewis](#)
To: [Tyler, Margaret S.](#)
Subject: Comments for June 6th Public Safety Advisory Committee
Date: Wednesday, May 25, 2022 1:23:05 PM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi Margaret,

It was nice to see you the other day on Chateau. I'm not going to be here for the June 6th Public Safety Advisory Committee meeting, but Ken Waugh said I could email my comments to you to be shared.

Thank you!

Emily Lewis

Dear Girdwood Public Safety Advisory Committee:

Thank you for providing this opportunity to discuss pedestrian safety in our community.

My name is Emily Lewis and I live at 143 Stowe Circle. I've lived in Girdwood for about 9 years, and am the mother of two children under the age of four.

I'm very concerned about the regularity with which I see drivers flying up or down the Alyeska Highway in between Arlberg and Hightower, going what looks to me to be about 45 or 50mph. This greatly concerns me because of the two pedestrian crossings in this section. A couple of weeks ago, while I was on a walk with my kids, I witnessed a very close call when a driver flew through the intersection of the Alyeska Highway and Hightower even though the pedestrian lights were flashing and a pedestrian was midway through the crosswalk. I've had a handful of similar personal experiences over the years. A friend of mine who works at Little Bears, where one of my children attends, has shared her apprehension around crossing the street with the kids, and concern about drivers' unwillingness to stop.

I'm grateful to the Whittier Police Department for doing speed limit enforcement on this stretch of highway, however I know there are limitations on how often they can be present there. I see drivers going well over the speed limit almost every time I'm on the bike path alongside this stretch of highway, which makes me think the signage that's currently there is not adequately communicating to drivers the appropriate speed.

One of the reasons we chose to raise our kids here in Girdwood is because of how safe the community is, and the autonomy that affords kids as they grow up. My kids are still some years from being old enough to venture out on their own, but one of my biggest concerns about allowing them to do so in the future is the fact that they need to cross the Alyeska Highway twice in order to get from our home to the playground and skatepark.

It's easy to see why so many drivers go so fast on this long, straight stretch of highway. If you're taking in our spectacular scenery and you don't know otherwise, it drives like a road that you should be able to go faster on. I would love to see some additional measures taken to

slow drivers down such as radar speed signs or speed bumps in order to help keep the smallest pedestrians in our community safe.

Thank you.

Emily Lewis