

## **Allen, Jane (Project Management)**

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**From:** Lazarus, Howard  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 12, 2018 1:02 PM  
**To:** Higgins, Sara  
**Cc:** Hupy, Craig; Hutchinson, Nicholas; Allen, Jane (Project Management); Fournier, John  
**Subject:** Responses to MS. Bannister's Questions

Sara:

Please use the following responses:

**Q: The residents have requested that engineering prepare an alternative plan and cost estimates with sidewalks on just one side of Traver. It's likely the grant program can't be used for that solution, but it could be a good solution that costs less than the other proposals.**

A: Staff will not prepare an additional set of drawings at this time, as the focus is on the current Safe Routes to School grant project. If City Council wishes to pursue this project with locally originated funds only and forgo the grant, then they should vote down the current proposal and give staff clear guidance to move in this direction with the understanding that the loss of the grant will most likely adversely impact the property owners to a greater extent.

**Q: There's concern that the risk to future grants has been overstated, and the residents are communicating with Colleen and Katie to pin down a tighter answer on the risks.**

A: The most recent communication from the State on this issue indicated that failure to proceed with the current grant *may* affect the City's competitiveness on future grant applications. City staff does not currently have any clearer guidance on what that means precisely.

**Q: They are concerned about safety at both intersections at the ends of the 1600 block. The encouragement of pick up and drop off on Traver is troubling as it creates hazardous situations, and commuters should be encouraged to go elsewhere such as the AME church lot.**

The school district already has designated pick and drop off areas for students. However, the city's responsibility is to ensure that the public infrastructure is safe for a multitude of uses, and the current design achieves this goal. The current staff recommendation provides a very high degree of safety and is consistent with best practices and standards, and requires the seal of a professional engineer.

**Q: Residents are also concerned about the disproportionate assessment as compared to the benefit to the homeowners, and think the notes from city staff on measuring the benefits were not conclusive, and may not be in conformance with the ordinance.**

A: The actual amount to be assessed won't be known until we get actual pricing and Council considers the fourth resolution in the process. Council may also address the length of the repayment period at that time. Staff will comply with the requirements of the relevant ordinances when preparing the actual assessments for Council's consideration.

**Howard S. Lazarus**

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