

Roxanne Maher

From: John Rich
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2023 3:40 PM
To: Cory Bailey
Cc: Fred Allyn, III; Town Council Group; Kristen Chapman
Subject: Re: Dangerous Traffic Situation on Military Hwy in Gales Ferry

Mr. Bailey,

Thanks for your message and your concern. I share your concern for traffic safety in our community and appreciate you taking the time to write.

Can you elaborate on the time of day this morning when you observed a vehicle run the school bus lights with a cruiser in the area? Also, the approximate location on Military Highway where this violation occurred?

That information would be very helpful. Thanks in advance.

Chief John Rich

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2023, at 11:46 AM, Cory Bailey <cory.bailey@naturalihome.com> wrote:

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cory.bailey@naturalihome.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

My name is Cory Bailey and I am a resident of Military Hwy in Gales Ferry. I am reaching out to both the Mayor's Office and the Police Department to report an extremely dangerous and ongoing traffic issue along Military Hwy. This has been going on for the last decade but has grown increasingly dangerous over the last year. The issue is mostly related to, but not limited to, morning and afternoon traffic to and from the back gate of the subbase.

Every morning, my neighbors and I see dozens of cars running the stop sign on Military Hwy/Hurlbutt Road. That is not an exaggeration by any means. For the cars that do stop, they then accelerate quickly and reach speeds in excess of 60 mph before even starting to go up the hill approaching the intersection with Maple Corners, where the speed limit is no higher than 35 at any point of Military Hwy. This has caused, in multiple instances, pedestrians having to abruptly move out of the way as to not be struck by an oncoming vehicle.

Today was probably the most disturbing part of this saga. As a School Bus was picking up one of my neighbors' children for school and the red lights and sign had been activated by the driver, a car coming from the Rte 12 (opposing direction, presumably going towards the base) did not stop for the bus and continued driving, all while a Ledyard Police Cruiser was behind the bus and did absolutely nothing to correct the situation. This shows a complete lack of respect for human life, the law, and the tax payers and residents of the Town of Ledyard. Even if the Officer wasn't intentionally negligent, it shows to members of the military and other motorists that Ledyard does not take Public Safety seriously.

I genuinely appreciate the work that the Ledyard Police Department does for our community. What we need is an increased police presence and enforcement along Military Hwy and the commercial area of

RTE 12 (Dollar General all the way up to Bestway). The residents of Gales Ferry do not see Ledyard PD or Town Hall taking the traffic safety of our community as seriously as you should be. I'm not saying that I want you stopping every person who drives 1mph over the limit, but just being out in full force showing that someone is in control of law and order in Gales Ferry would have substantial results.

I believe that it is my civic duty to report this ongoing issue and hopefully some sort of intervention can be taken before (god forbid) another unnecessary accident takes someone's life when it could have been prevented. Thank you for time reading this email and for your prompt attention to this extremely serious matter,

Cory James Bailey

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