

From: Tom Bullock [mailto:thomas.s.bullock@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 2:32 PM
To: PCD <pcd@bainbridgewa.gov>
Subject: Proposed Madrona School North Madison Campus

Attn: Josh Machen

Dear Josh-

I'm writing to provide feedback on the proposed Madrona School Campus to be located on the Lowery property on North Madison Avenue.

My family has lived on North Madison since 1999 and we really enjoy the community and our experience living on Bainbridge Island. Our oldest son, who is now 18, attended the Madrona School and we have nothing but very positive memories of his experience. I fully support schools like Madrona that offer students alternative education and sincerely hope for continued expansion and success for these types of programs. It is truly exciting that the school is in the position to construct a campus and the Lowery property provides a beautiful setting. I'm also pleased to read that there are strict requirements related to parking, open space preservation, and respect for the beautiful trees and native vegetation. In short the plan seems very well thought out with the needs of most parties in mind.

That said, I believe there may be one significant oversight. Since we moved here in 1999, the traffic volumes have increased significantly on North Madison. I believe this can be attributed to increased development, increased mobility, and increased use of the road as an alternative to Route 305. During peak periods (and I believe these will overlap with drop off and pick up at the proposed school) the traffic is backed up above the Grange and it can take 10 minutes to make it through the light. I also find that during odd times of the day there are spontaneous backups which have caused me (and I'm sure others) to be late. Adding an additional 100+ trips (my estimate) per day for Madrona will simply overwhelm the road. I'm also aware that there is other development further north (current development on Torvanger and proposed subdivision adjacent to the Monsaas property on North Madison) and I'm not sure proper consideration has been made to the inadequate road system and its inability to handle the increased traffic volume.

Coincidentally I've considered contacting the city about this issue even before I learned about the proposed school campus. I would like to request that the City of Bainbridge Island conduct a traffic study to more accurately project volumes and also develop contingency plans to alleviate the inevitable traffic problem that this increase traffic will cause. North Madison already handles a huge traffic volume and unfortunately because of the nature of ferry bound commuter traffic combined with the school schedules there is a "perfect storm" of congestion. This combined with limited access to 305 (its either Day Rd. or Madison if heading south) creates bottlenecks so perhaps there are other options to alleviate this problem. What about adding a stoplight to the NE Lovgreen/305 intersection?

I realize this involves the State of Washington since it controls 305 but perhaps there are other alternatives your expert planners can develop? Until then, I have grave concerns about any additional development along the North Madison corridor and am uncertain of my support.

Thank you in advance for your consideration please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Best,

Tom Bullock
13045 North Madison Avenue NE
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
(206) 465-8684