

# Traffic Problem Eased, But Could Be Better

SHIRLEY J. CROSBY

Unrest prevails on South Eton road. Children's lives are being endangered, squealing brakes are punctuating the peace and quiet of the neighborhood. Some houses are for sale as an escape from what is described as a poorly patrolled, truck infested, speeding shortcut.

As early as March 1950, Eton between Lincoln and Fourteen Mile was a matter of neighborhood conversation as well as official debate by city commissioners.

Should it be widened, paved, posted with stop signs? Should speed be limited to 20 mph? Commercial traffic further complicated the debate. All of this was resolved in a paving job with widening limited to 22 feet.

**BUT DID THIS** solve the problem? Here is what some Eton residents say about the problem today.

Donald E. Narry of 1527 sums it up by saying, "The traffic is much too heavy on Eton. Police protection is very inadequate. Before the stop street was put in the speed was over 42 mph.

"After the stop street was established the speed was reduced to 35 mph. At least 50 per cent of the people ran the stop street."

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get lots of commercial trucks that are fast and noisy. The cars and trucks are fast in the evening, too.

"Cars and trucks don't seem to stop at the top on the corner of Sheffield until they are braked at the corner and then the brakes are applied," Mrs. Kwasny says.

Her suggestion is, "There should be more stop signs, especially one at 18th. That might slow down the traffic."

"Traffic has increased in the last few days," says Mrs. Harold B. VanBussum of 1298. "I notice the noise when people stop for the stop sign at Sheffield."

THE HEAVY trucks make so much noise.

Mrs. VanBussum would like to see "Slow" signs posted on Eton. "The traffic bothers me just now as it never did before. It is terrific," she emphasized.

Mrs. Kermit P. Bennett of 1348 believes "Traffic is pretty heavy and fast at times. It is heaviest about 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The stop sign at Sheffield was needed. It needs to be put farther back from the corner as some people don't see it. I don't get my children out in the front yard. It's too dangerous."

"We drove 25 mph and it seems that we were crawling with the faster traffic," Mrs. Bennett stated at Sheffield in the winter.

"I DON'T LIKE the heavy trucks. I would like to have trucks diverted to another street," says Mrs. Frank E. Pero of 1491. "I would like to have less traffic. People don't observe the speed limit and don't stop for the sign until they get right there. Traffic is worse in the morning when people go to the commuter trains."

"I even have seen haulways loaded with cars going by. The police are very good and they have done a lot. About 25 per cent of the cars don't stop for the stop sign. When the trucks stop for the sign, it is especially noisy as the gears often grind."

Mrs. Louis S. Kastely of 1629 would not mind the cars if there were no trucks," Mrs. Pero says.

"Mrs. Louis S. Kastely of 1629 says, "There are a lot of fast autos and the 25 mph signs don't help much. The stop sign does help. I would like to see parking on both sides of the street. A lot of trucks have been taken off the street. Widening has increased the traffic. Stop signs would help."

"TRAFFIC GOES too fast on Eton but it is a lot better than it used to be," said Mrs. Ralph

J. Finmore of 1762. "The widening has increased the danger and with the grass and curbs, people realize that this is a residential section."

"Since we have gotten rid of the regular trucks, the situation has gotten better," says Mrs. Richard G. Post of 1797. "The stop sign at Sheffield is a help and it aids children who are going to school. I would like to have the police check more often. For children who are not protected, the heavy traffic is a terrific thing."

MRS. POST continues that it is hard to back out of her own driveway, especially at train time. She feels that the police should maintain a closer watch when school first begins.

Mrs. Tod L. McFarlane of 1736 says, "There are quite a few trucks on this street. The trucks squeal and the cars go pretty fast. The street is very dangerous for children."

She thinks it would be a good idea to have a stop sign at every block.

Kenneth C. Thom of 1555 says, "Everyone uses the street as a

short cut from Woodward to 16 1/2 Mile and to catch the train. At night there are a lot of cars. People drive much faster than 25 mph, partly because it is a wide open street and easy to travel over."

"It might help slow up traffic if stop signs were put at every corner and thus discouraging traffic. The truck traffic isn't as bad as it was and the trucks don't go over 30 mph. Part of the noise is from the pavement heaving," Thom says.

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