

I am writing to you as a concerned parent, citizen & school board member of the Oakes district. I know that Oakes is slated to lose it's traffic light on Highway 1.

This is of great concern to me. I have witnessed many semi trucks as well as automobiles going through town at an excessive rate of speed. Yes, I realize it is our city polices responsibility to try to stop that from happening but unfortunately they cannot just patrol the highway. With the traffic light, traffic traveling along Hwy 1 can see that from quite a distance and will begin slowing down. The traffic light can help slow some of the traffic down.

The traffic light crossing is the safest crossing for everyone in Oakes but especially our children. The traffic light is at the corner of our school & downtown. We have two daycare centers on main also. Many parents work in downtown Oakes and have their children walk to their place if work after school. With the crosswalk at the traffic light they are able to do this safely. I have witnessed many kids walking to school in the mornings and trying to cross the highway a block south of the traffic light. Traffic does not stop for them. After school we have a crossing guard but not in the mornings. I am amazed there has not been an accident involving a child. I am afraid that if the traffic light us removed and traffic is not forced to slow down, we will have one.

I don't believe any of us want a fatality of a child or anyone for that matter because tge state decided to remove a traffic light right by a school instead of spending money to maintain it.

Thank you for your time and I trust that you will do what us best for Oakes.

Sheila Nagel