

Braintree Drive Corridor Improvement Project
Roundabout Alternative at Braintree Drive and Weathersfield Way
Public Comment Record - May 16, 2024

No.	Comments
1	Braintree needs speed controlling measures MORE than efficiency measures. I'd rather slow traffic than make it easier to maintain higher speeds with the stops at intersections.
2	As a homeowner near the intersection I DO NOT agree with the roundabout. There is seldom too much traffic that cannot be addressed properly with stop signs. I believe with a small baseball field on one corner children are more likely to just run across, ride bikes across or just walk across without paying attention. I am not against roundabouts in commercial areas or major intersections. Braintree + Weathersfield is NOT a major intersection.
3	Please consider <u>not</u> branding the "circle" Also, as a "future" project, the corner of Braintree and Schaumburg Rd need dedicated turning lanes/lights etc. for safety.
4	We have lived on Chestnut Court for 54 years and are big supporters of all safety projects. Therefore, we are supportive of the Braintree Project. Another safety issue we would like to address is the inability for residents from Weathersfield Way (southside) to cross over into Campanelli Park. There are two 80 year old residents who live in Chestnut Court and go for a walk every day in the park. There are two sidewalk enterances into the park but we think there needs to be a sign and a crosswalk from the southside of weathersfield by the two park enterances. We would appreciate your assistance with making this a more safe entrance. Thank you
5	I am a resident of Schaumburg since 1975 who lives at 1220 W Weathersfield Way, Schaumburg, IL 60193. I was unable to attend the 5/16 meeting because I was out of town. Because I live 4 doors west of that intersection, I am pretty aware of the traffic at that intersection. I fail to see the need for a roundabout and feel it's a poor use of taxpayer dollars. The village needs to study pedestrian habits in that area. Most of the kids and parents going to the baseball field don't just use the crosswalk and cross closer to Somerset on Braintree. I feel it will be harder for them to judge oncoming traffic coming from the south.
6	Hi Rachel, My name is Verlin Kaiser at 927 S Braintree Drive. I received the letter about Braintree and Weathersfield and the improvements on Braintree between Wise and Weathersfield. Are they/you planning on repaving Braintree? I have lived here over 30 years and have seen the traffic increase so much it is literally unbelievable. The road is really getting in bad shape. It was built, I believe, almost 60 years ago. Will this be addressed? Also, I see absolutely no reason for a rounabout at Weathersfield and Braintree. To my knowledge, there have been no major issues there and it would be a waste of taxpayers money to do that. I'm okay with the "shared use" path on the West side of Braintree too. I'm more concerned with the condition of the road itself. My thoughts. I will not be able to attend the meeting.
7	With the baseball field on the NE corner of that intersection, roundabout traffic will not be required to stop for pedestrians (even if they are supposed to yield to them). At least with stop signs, cars HAVE to stop and let people cross. The intentions of the cars in a roundabout intersection are also less apparent than cars at a 4 way stop since any car can exit at any time. I live near this intersection and my husband's parents live even closer, and I believe a roundabout will be overwhelming and confusing for older residents. If you are thinking about modifying intersections for safety reasons and/or to improve traffic flow, maybe consider a change at Springinsguth and Weathersfield. Thank you!!!
8	We have resided in Schaumburg since 1999. We do not believe the roundabout idea is a good one. Our concerns are first & foremost safety. Safety for the many people that walk in this area including Mom's with strollers, dog walkers, senior citizens that walk around the park, children playing at the park, etc. We went to the presentation to ask why the Village believes this is necessary? We were told to manage traffic flow to prevent back ups. Really? Live on this street for 24 hours & you will experience people consistently speeding down this street, passing other cars & being reckless. I volunteer to sit in my driveway with a radar gun & I will give you the exact traffic study necessary to understand no roundabout is necessary. The stop sign is needed since the one at Braintree & Cambridge (Y) intersection isn't adhered to most of the time. We don't need traffic to move faster, we need it to slow down. Understand this street is the off/on ramp to 390 & that's no joke. Add the truck stop traffic to the mix & this will not be a street we want to live on much longer. It will also lower the value of the houses on this street. Think about it, would you want to live on this street? Highly doubt it, so don't make decisions about it when the only people at the presentation were people that live on this street like our neighbors. The rest of the Village doesn't care! If the Village is looking to improve safety, a fast moving roundabout is not it. People don't even know how to yield at the 4 way stop let alone a roundabout. Maybe think about investing in a bridge over Schaumburg Rd so the high school students don't have to cross Schaumburg Rd. I see people blowing thru red lights every day at either Braintree or Salem while kids are walking to school. Another reason we heard repeated over & over is the COST! The Village just redid this area with new sidewalks & of course the sewer improvements. The people living on the east side of Braintree & back to the creek have concerns about the increased erosion to our properties. Our back yards are becoming part of the creek & we used to sit right next to the creek & have bonfires when we first moved in. All the trees are flooded to the point where they are now falling in the creek or blocking the flow of water. Maybe invest in improving this area. It's only been 25 years. We also pay property taxes into the middle of the creek. Rediculous. Bottom line, we vote a big NO! to this idea. If you want to put a roundabout somewhere, maybe you can put it in the TIF for the Centex Improvement Idea. Or by the TIF project at 90 North. Not in Weathersfield neighborhood.

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9	<p>I live at the corner of the proposed Braintree Dr Improvement Area and have been there since 1992. This proposed idea is wasteful, dangerous, unneeded, and most ridiculous plan yet conceived by Schaumburg planners. Your reps at yesterday's meeting stated that the purpose was to increase safety?? This is absolutely NOT TRUE and will actually cause the opposite to happen by decreasing safety and increasing traffic issues. This is a typical residential area, like any other intersection in Schaumburg. Many other intersections are way more busy. One of your reps actually laughingly attempted to compare this intersection with a major artery like Golf Road, which has a roundabout!</p> <p>Braintree Dr and Weathersfield Way adjoins a park with baseball fields and frequently used by children, bikers, and pedestrians. Schaumburg's plan will actually decrease safety and will cause dangerous incidents to happen. This intersection is currently no more or less dangerous than any other residential intersection in Schaumburg. In addition to the threat of safety to our residents/children, the Schaumburg planners are also willingly inviting additional traffic which will cause more accidents, speeders, and will again be a direct threat to children, bikers, and pedestrians. In all my years of living at this intersection, incidents have at most been extremely minimal. Again I know this is because I live there. Schaumburg has also recently spent a good sum of money to repair that intersection. It is currently in great condition and DOES NOT NEED TO BE CHANGED OR REPAIRED. If Schaumburg proceeds with this horrific plan, it is without the approval of its residents. It is 100% wasteful, unneeded, and also dangerous to residents. Also every resident which I have spoken with is also opposed to this plan. Nobody wants this! I strongly urge that Schaumburg immediately drops this plan altogether or invite resident input via a special vote/election.</p>
10	<p>This is a terrible idea for this intersection in my opinion. People do not know how or care to yield as it is. Putting a roundabout will not be beneficial. It is a complete waste of money. Spend your time and our money fixing the intersection of Weathersfield and Springinsguth. That is a dangerous intersection!</p>
11	<p>Rachel Benson, I am the owner of 412 S. Braintree Drive, two houses south of the intersection that is the subject of these improvements. I welcome improvements to the intersection, but I am <u>extremely against</u> the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Braintree and Weathersfield. This intersection is already the subject of much dangerous motorist behavior, with motorists both East/Westbound on Weathersfield or North/Southbound on Braintree frequently speeding. I can attest from my experience with police officer Wagner of the Schaumburg Police Department that he makes frequent traffic stops around the intersection. I frequently drive through the roundabouts in the industrial parks by the intersection of Tower Ave and Meacham Road, and I've personally observed the behaviors of drivers in these roundabouts on State Parkway on a daily basis, which would be horrifying in the presence of young children and families. I have a 2 year old son, with my daughter due in October. My next door neighbor has a young son as well. We cross the intersection frequently to access Campanelli Park, as do many other neighbors, and the baseball field at the northeast corner of this intersection is often packed in the spring and summer, with many players' having younger siblings who are with their parents. As you need only yield upon entering a roundabout, I can envision a situation in which a motorist, focused on assessing whether the entrance on his left is clear, would fail to observe a pedestrian (esp. a young child) entering the intersection. This is especially possible given motorists frequently drive in excess of 35 MPH on Weathersfield. I am sure there is much research published by the Department of Transportation, but roundabouts are unfamiliar structures to most Americans (as I mentioned before, I frequently observe behavior that indicates most don't understand how to properly use them), and we live in an area where many motorists come from foreign countries and only learned to drive as an adult. My wife is an example of such a person. I sincerely appreciate the Village's commitment to accepting feedback from its residents. I felt so strongly about this that I dropped everything to write this email.</p>
12	<p>Rachel, I was sent a letter requesting my thoughts on the Braintree and Weathersfield intersection proposed improvements (including roundabout). They are as follows: 1. The online website shows three accidents over a five-year period (2017-2021) with one of the three accidents occurring in snowy conditions. This does not merit any concern or danger in my opinion. 2. Springinsguth and Weathersfield intersection, however, is a nightmare (most especially during AM and PM rush hour times). Frequently, cars do not even wait their receptive "turns" due to their apparent frustration of having waited in line at a four-way stop. I intentionally avoid this intersection as often as possible for fear of my safety and damage to my property. 3. For ideal use of resources, and in light of public safety, perhaps a roundabout alternative should be considered at the Springinsguth and Weathersfield intersection instead? I can only assume the traffic numbers and accidents are several TIMES those of Braintree and Weathersfield. 4. Finally, I wanted to note my personal displeasure with any outsourcing of these projects to be handled by Baxter & Woodman Consulting Engineers. In 2022 they assisted our Village with the Weathersfield Way Resurfacing Project, which ran adjacent to my property. Personally, as a resident, I was displeased with aspects related to their performance. I called the RE on the job more than once, and also called our own VoS to express my thoughts, all resulting in assurances of satisfaction. But in the end, when the job was completed, nothing came of my pleas. I would hope they are no longer partnering with the VoS on these types of projects. I thank you for your notice of this situation and look forward to your response. Thank you!</p>

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13	<p>I would like to express my concerns regarding the proposed "improvements" to the intersection of Braintree Drive and Weathersfield Way. There are many pedestrians and children both on foot and bicycle that cross that intersection. Putting a roundabout at that intersection seems very dangerous as cars will not be stopping at that corner with only a YIELD sign. If for some reason people think that cars do not stop at the stop signs, then how do they think those drivers are actually going to yield and look vs. just driving right on through the roundabout? At least with the stop signs, cars that are then going through the intersection are not traveling at a fast speed. I also don't think making a wider sidewalk for both pedestrians and bicyclists is safer than the bike paths in the street. You have people and strollers on the sidewalks and adding bicycles often times frightens a person when the bicyclist comes from behind and passes without any warning. If you are going to widen the sidewalk on one side of Braintree why wouldn't you do that on the side where the ballfields are so that those kids and pedestrians don't have to cross the street to use that pathway?</p>
14	<p>Hi Rachel - Please add this to the May 16th meeting comments. I live at this corner and do not think this project is a good idea at all. There are so many kids at this corner - walking back and forth to school, playing, on bikes, on scooters. There are so many people walking, walking their children, walking their dogs, jogging, there are quite a few people that take walks every day with canes (including me). There's people in wheel chairs. There is baseball every evening in spring and fall. Families walking across the street to get to baseball field. Not having stop signs and only yield signs would be so dangerous. Cars do not stop for the stop signs, so giving them yield signs would only make things worse. They would never stop. This would not be safe for anybody. Someone is going to get hurt. Finally, there have been so much construction at this corner over the years. It's finally working. No more flooding. Why tear it apart AGAIN? Also, this would probably make it hard for me and my neighbors to get out of our driveways.</p>
15	<p>Hi Rachel, I live at 1007 S. Braintree. My husband and I just reviewed the PDF with the proposed improvements. We are wondering what side of the street (East or West) will be the side with the 10' shared path. We are just trying to get an idea of how our property would be affected.</p>

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16	<p>Hello Rachel, I'm looking for some information on the impacts I can expect at my location due to the Braintree Drive Corridor Improvements project. I was unable to attend the first meeting that occurred since I was out of town, and it is my understanding that the recent meeting this month was specifically to address the proposed roundabout, which I'm neutral about at present. I understand that as part of the proposed improvements, the island at Braintree Dr. and Cambridge Dr. would be done away with. I'm very much opposed to that. That island really adds to the beauty of the neighborhood and creates curb appeal. It gives this area character and is a distinctive part of the street. What difficulties or issues does it pose? I've been a resident at 600 S. Braintree Dr. for over 23 years. During that time, the island area has been very safe, not a source of hazards or accidents. It truly is not where the village needs to put improvement focus. On the other hand, the selection of Braintree Dr. right in front of my home (where it intersects with Falmouth) has proven to be the most hazardous during my time here. I'm sure police calls and accident reports will back that up. If you come and view the area, the reason will quickly become apparent. The road is pinched at the base of the hill where there is a turn. Vehicles typically move well into the oncoming lane of traffic when coming down the hill and making the turn since the lane is nowhere close to standard width. I've lost count of the number of accidents and mishaps that have occurred at or near this intersection over the years. I always feared for my kids' safety when they were younger. This fear was somewhat alleviated by the three trees in front of our home and the boulders (which have been runover by vehicles on numerous occasions) I have at the edge of our driveway and along the edge of the median to offer some modicum of deterrence and protection. Furthermore, every one of the large, yellow reflective sharp turn warning signs in front of our home has been knocked down over the years at least once, many multiple times. There is more I would like to say about this; however, I'll have to save it for our phone conversation or meeting since I'm limited on time. Some other questions/thoughts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It seems the current plan calls for a double wide sidewalk to be installed on our side of the street. Why? What data backs this up? If the thought is that this will drive bicycle traffic to the sidewalk, I think that would clearly not be the case. One only needs to look as far as the double wide sidewalk already in place on Weathersfield Rd. to confirm that. Bicyclists by and large stick to the street and will continue to do so. I speak as an avid bicyclist myself who travels up and down Braintree and Weathersfield on my bike all the time. I'm always riding on the street, and it is my observation that this is true of other cyclists, as well. During my 23 years here, I'm aware of no vehicular accidents on Braintree Dr. between Weathersfield and Wise roads involving bicylists or pedestrians. At the very least, I'm quite confident police records will show any such thing is extremely rare on this stretch of road. This sounds like a solution in need of a problem. 2. In addition to the double wide sidewalk, would the road be widened, as well? 3. How much of the median in front of my house would be lost based on the current proposal? 4. How much green space on my side of the sidewalk would be lost based on the current proposal since my property line is well away from the sidewalk? 5. How much driveway space would I lose based on the current proposal? This impacts parking convenience when I have guests. 6. Would this proposal impact the three mature trees in the median space in front of our home? 7. What aspects of these improvements are being driven by the large construction project at Irving Park and Rodenburg Road? I think there is a freight company or something of that sort moving in there. For example, will those trucks be allowed travel on Braintree Dr.? I'm presuming not, as this is a residential area with a lot of kids around. 8. Will you please send me details about the broader improvements planned as part of the project, as well as the Draft Project Report mentioned in the exhibit currently on the Village's website? 9. I would be much more in favor a plan that calls for widening of the street, keeping the bik lanes in the street, and not having a double wide sidewalk. This would eliminate the very real road hazard in front of our home while also creating an equitable impact to residents on both sides of the street. Right now, it seems the impacts are completely lopsided, meaning everyone on my side of the street has adverse impacts and residents on the other side of the street have none. Can we arrange a time to meet on either a Monday or Friday? I work from home on those days, and it would be easier for me to come by the municipal center to talk. I have more questions and concerns, like the impact to my property value. A prompt response would be very much appreciated. Thank you.
17	<p>I live on the west side of Braintree. The idea of a shared parth in front of my house is a big concern to me! The other day, I was walking down my driveway and 2 boys on motorized skooters came shooting past me & almost ran into me. There are so many turns in my section and if I look south, I can't see more than 1 house down. I can forsee many potential accidents. Also, the apron at the bottom of the driveway will be shorter so some of my neighbors having multiple cars won't have any place to park! The roundabout is another bad idea. I think it would make it harder for people to cross, especially children because of the park nearby. Spend our money at Braintree & Schaumburg Rd corner. I would like to see a turn left light + lane. 2 cars are trying to go down the street fighting who goes first.</p>