



June 24, 2009

To: ~~Mayor Merkes~~, Director Radtke, Alderman Taylor, Alderman Zelinski
From: Addis Hilliker

I am President of Headwaters Owners Association, representing twelve (12) family units in the 500 block of Broad Street. The members of the association have met to discuss the conversion of Broad Street to a two way street and are unanimous in encouraging the city to eliminate the current one-way traffic restriction.

With these two blocks being the only one way blocks in the city, hardly a day goes by that we don't see at least one car traveling the wrong way on Broad Street creating significant safety issues. Additionally, with the Headwaters creating twelve new family units in the 500 block of Broad Street, the traffic on Broad, Appleton and then on First Street has increased as the residents travel from their homes to Racine Street.

Specifically, we agree with all of the recommendations contained in the May 20, 1996 report from Mark Radtke, with one exception.

We agree that traffic approaching Racine St. from the west should be directed to a right turn only. The visibility to the south from that direction is inadequate to allow traffic to safely cross Racine Street.

Cars approaching the intersection from the east, however have virtually unlimited visibility and there is no reason to restrict that traffic to a right turn only. The building on the south-east corner of that intersection has been removed since the study was conducted and there are now no unusual building setbacks limiting visibility from either direction. Additionally, with vehicles approaching from the west being required to turn south only, potential conflicts for vehicles approaching from the east will actually be less than that of a typical intersection with no directional restrictions. With unlimited visibility and reduced conflict possibilities, traffic from the east should have the discretion to go straight or turn left.

As a matter of public safety as well as facilitating optimal traffic movement, we strongly recommend that all of the recommendations in the 1996 report be implemented with the exception of the right turn restriction on Broad Street from the east.

Respectfully submitted,

Addis T. Hilliker