

Written Public Testimony Synopsis for Petition for All-Way STOP Signs at Berkshire St and Grove Ave

Name	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9
James and Suzy Chan, 941 N Grove								X	1
Anonymous								X	1
Karen Lareau & Sanjay Patel, 1034 N Grove		X	X	X		X	X	X	8
Rachel Caskey & Erick Krumrei	X								1
Candace & John French, 1014 N Grove	X						X		2
Jennifer Stratman		X	X	X		X	X	X	8
Michele & Jochen Silveti-Schmitt, 1011 N Grove								X	2
Bill & Laurie Bunkers, 1017 N Grove		X	X	X		X	X	X	8
Jessica Malmquist, 1015 N Grove								X	2
Pasquale & Patricia Di Rico, 1026 N Grove	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Nicole Turley, 1042 N Grove	X	X	X	X					10
Jim White	S	D	S	S	S	S	S	S	9
	S	O	S	S	S	S	S	S	0

10 letters in support, 1 letter unsure, 1 opposed

Juliano, Jill

From: Chan, James L. <jimchan@uic.edu>
Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2016 3:17 PM
To: Juliano, Jill
Subject: stop sign at Grove/Berkshire

Dear Ms. Juliano,

I support making the Grove/Berkshire intersection "all-way stop" primarily because of the pedestrian traffic to/from Mann School one block away. Thank you for the consideration.

James and Susy Chan
941 North Grove Avenue
Oak Park, IL

Juliano, Jill

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2016 5:31 PM
To: Juliano, Jill
Subject: Re: Petition for 4-way stop signs at Berkshire and Grove

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hello,

Thank you for sending the letter regarding the upcoming meeting to discuss this petition. I cannot attend but would like to provide my comments. [REDACTED]

While I agree that something needs to change at this intersection, I am concerned about the false sense of security provided by a 4 way stop, especially with Mann School and Field Park only one block away where many young children and distracted families on foot and bicycle frequent. I have lived very close to this intersection for more than a decade and am home during the day, so have had concerns and observed what happens there. It seems to be an issue of behavior more than signage; namely:

- Failure to yield, let alone stop, at the eastbound stop sign on Berkshire. This happens regularly but particularly around 8am during school days, suggesting the offenders are parents who just dropped their children at Mann School and are hurrying elsewhere, and/or local residents trying to quickly get through the increased volume of traffic. This is a behavior issue, not a signage one - local parents and residents should be well aware that this stop sign exists.
- 'Peeling out' from the (mostly) eastbound stop sign, presumably from frustration that nearly every preceding block on Berkshire has a stop sign despite relatively little vehicular, bicycle and foot traffic at each of those intersections. While it is crucial that drivers stop for others at intersections, I can understand the frustration with stopping every few hundred yards when it does not seem warranted - and my own experience as a local driver is that there seldom is traffic at most of these except for when school is starting and ending. This is also a behavior issue that signage is unlikely to change.
- Numerous screeches, honks and close calls when east/westbound vehicles fail to remain stopped until north/southbound cars pass, suggesting the drivers are ignoring the 'Cross Traffic Does Not Stop' signs on Berkshire. Again, a driver behavior issue, since the signage is already there but ignored.
- Honks and close calls when north/southbound drivers imagine there is a stop sign, or yield to stopped vehicles, which leads to confusion as to who then takes the right of way. Driver issue again, not signage.
- Speeding north and southbound on Grove Ave. Our family has witnessed several accidents related to this over the years. Stop signs would reduce the speeding issue, presumably - though I would not be surprised to see some of the above issues persist or increase going north/south based on what already occurs with the east-west stop sign.

The behavior I observe and mention above suggests that a four way stop is not a panacea - the issue often is driver behavior that includes a failure to observe the signage that is (or is not) already there. The only issue above that might change is the north/southbound speeding. My own experience at the 4 way stop at

Kenilworth and Division shows that drivers don't always respect a four way stop either. Kids and adults can easily presume that drivers will obey all signs and become lax about looking at the situation. A 4 way stop gives this sense of trust but I am skeptical that drivers will actually change much, which is a concern. Pedestrians currently are quite careful at this intersection, which they need to be - and should continue to be even if stop signs are added.

As transportation professionals, you may have other suggestions based on similar situations - painted crosswalks? Other speed control measures on Grove? All this said, I have no issue with the 4 way stop if you believe it is the best option to actually change driver behavior for the better.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Juliano, Jill

From: Karen Lareau Patel <karen_lareau@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 21, 2016 3:48 PM
To: Juliano, Jill
Cc: Sanjay Yahoo Patel
Subject: Support for all-way stop sign at Grove and Berkshire

Hi Jill - We'd like to thank the village for its consideration of the petition to upgrade to all way stop signs at the intersection of Berkshire Street and Grove Avenue. We strongly support this petition but, unfortunately are unable to attend the hearing in person. We would like the village to consider the following points in its consideration:

1. We have overwhelming support by the owners of the applicable blocks. In fact, we had 100% agreement/support from those we were able to connect with in person. We're sure we'd be able to find additional support if that's a factor in the decision.
2. The homes on the impacted blocks have had a significant increase in the number of small children over the past five years. It is becoming increasingly dangerous given the speeds at which people are driving on Grove. We have witnessed significant high speeds during times when children are present on the block. The main issue, in our opinion, is that drivers are using Grove to speed up to North Avenue since Grove has less traffic than Oak Park Avenue. We've personally witnessed drivers driving over 50 miles per hour.
3. This intersection is very close to both Mann school and the Julian bus stop at that corner. We need as much help as we can keeping driving speeds to safe limits with the amount of children walking across that intersection.

We're sure the village has many factors in its decision, but we think this is a serious safety issue for our children. We would encourage the decision makers to consider our input above and the ones submitted in our application -- and move forward with the all-way stop signs at the intersection of Grove and Berkshire to improve safety!

Karen Lareau and Sanjay Patel
homeowners, 1034 N. Grove Ave.

Juliano, Jill

From: Rachel Caskey <rcaskey@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, August 21, 2016 4:23 PM
To: Juliano, Jill
Cc: Erich Krumrei
Subject: stop sign petition

Jill

My husband, Erich Krumrei, and I would like to thank the village for its consideration of the petition to upgrade to all-way stop signs at the intersection of Berkshire Street and N. Grove Avenue. We strongly support this petition but, unfortunately, we are unable to attend the hearing in person as we are out of town. We would like the village to consider the following points in its consideration:

1. We have overwhelming support by the owners of the applicable blocks. In fact, we had 100% agreement/support from those we were able to connect with in person. We're sure we'd be able to find additional support if that's a factor in the decision.
2. The homes on the impacted blocks have had a significant increase in the number of small children over the past five years. It is becoming increasingly dangerous given the speeds at which people are driving on Grove. We have witnessed driving speeds in excess of 65 miles per hour during times when children are present on the block. The main issue, in our opinion, is that drivers are using Grove to speed up to North Avenue because Grove has less traffic than Oak Park Avenue.
3. This intersection is very close to both Horace Mann school and a Julian Middle school bus stop at the corner of Grove and Berkshire. We need as much help as we can keeping driving speeds to safe limits with the amount of children walking across that intersection.

The village has to manage a number of factors when deciding to install a stop sign but we feel the safety of our children should be paramount. We would encourage the decision makers to consider our input and move forward with the all-way stop signs at the intersection of Grove and Berkshire to improve safety!

Sincerely,

Rachel Caskey and Erick Krumrei

Juliano, Jill

From: rdkcj@aol.com
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 9:17 AM
To: Juliano, Jill; jack.french@usafp.us
Subject: Stop Sign at Berkshire and Grove

Hi Jill - We'd like to thank the village for its consideration of the petition to upgrade to all way stop signs at the intersection of Berkshire Street and Grove Avenue. We strongly support this petition but, unfortunately are unable to attend the hearing in person. We would like the village to consider the following points in its consideration:

1. We have overwhelming support by the owners of the applicable blocks. In fact, we had 100% agreement/support from those we were able to connect with in person. We're sure we'd be able to find additional support if that's a factor in the decision.
2. The homes on the impacted blocks have had a significant increase in the number of small children over the past five years. It is becoming increasingly dangerous given the speeds at which people are driving on Grove. We have witnessed significant high speeds during times when children are present on the block. The main issue, in our opinion, is that drivers are using Grove to speed up to North Avenue since Grove has less traffic than Oak Park Avenue. We've personally witnessed drivers driving over 50 miles per hour.
3. This intersection is very close to both Mann school and the Julian bus stop at that corner. We need as much help as we can keeping driving speeds to safe limits with the amount of children walking across that intersection.

We're sure the village has many factors in its decision, but we think this is a serious safety issue for our children. We would encourage the decision makers to consider our input above and the ones submitted in our application -- and move forward with the all-way stop signs at the intersection of Grove and Berkshire to improve safety!

Kind Regards,
Candace and John French
1014 N. Grove Ave.
708-383-7293

Juliano, Jill

From: Jennifer Stratman <jennifer@stratmanpartners.com>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 10:47 AM
To: Juliano, Jill
Subject: Intersection of Berkshire and Grove

Hi Ms. Juliano,

I cannot attend the meeting tonight, but I want to throw my support behind creating an all-way stop at Grove and Berkshire. This intersection is a well-worn path to Mann School and a bus stop for Julian Middle School. I believe there should be a three block radius of all-way stops around schools and bus stops.

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Best regards,

Jennifer W. Stratman



141 W Jackson Boulevard
Suite 4010
Chicago, IL 60604
Office (312) 658-1377
Mobile (708) 870-4785

E-mail: jennifer@stratmanpartners.com
Web : <http://www.stratmanpartners.com>



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Juliano, Jill

From: Michele Silveti-Schmitt <MSilveti-Schmitt@HBRA-ARCH.com>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 1:32 PM
To: Juliano, Jill
Cc: Family Silveti-Schmitt
Subject: Stop Sign Request for Grove and Berkshire intersection

Importance: High

Dear Jill –

Unfortunately we are unable to attend this evening's meeting, as we have conflicting parent meetings at both Julian and OPRFHS.

We would however like to show our support for the stop-sign petition at our street corner. We'd like to thank the village for its consideration of the petition to upgrade to all way stop signs at the intersection of Berkshire Street and Grove Avenue. We strongly support this petition but, unfortunately are unable to attend the hearing in person. We would like the village to consider the following points in its consideration:

1. We have overwhelming support by the owners of the applicable blocks. In fact, we had 100% agreement/support from those we were able to connect with in person. We're sure we'd be able to find additional support if that's a factor in the decision.
2. The homes on the impacted blocks have had a significant increase in the number of small children over the past five years. It is becoming increasingly dangerous given the speeds at which people are driving on Grove. We have witnessed significant high speeds during times when children are present on the block. The main issue, in our opinion, is that drivers are using Grove to speed up to North Avenue since Grove has less traffic than Oak Park Avenue. We've personally witnessed drivers driving over 50 miles per hour.
3. This intersection is very close to both Mann school and the Julian bus stop at that corner. We need as much help as we can keeping driving speeds to safe limits with the amount of children walking across that intersection.

We're sure the village has many factors in its decision, but we think this is a serious safety issue for our children. We would encourage the decision makers to consider our input above and the ones submitted in our application -- and move forward with the all-way stop signs at the intersection of Grove and Berkshire to improve safety!

**Michele and Jochen Silveti-Schmitt
with children
Antony and Aubrey Silveti-Schmitt**

1011 N. Grove Ave,
Oak Park, IL 60302

e-mail: family@silvettischmitt.net

Juliano, Jill

From: Laurie Bunkers <lbunks@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 3:02 PM
To: Juliano, Jill
Subject: Berkshire & Grove Stop sign

Hi Jill - We'd like to thank the village for its consideration of the petition to upgrade to all way stop signs at the intersection of Berkshire Street and Grove Avenue. We strongly support this petition but, unfortunately are unable to attend the hearing in person. We would like the village to consider the following points in its consideration:

1. We have overwhelming support by the owners of the applicable blocks. In fact, we had 100% agreement/support from those we were able to connect with in person. We're sure we'd be able to find additional support if that's a factor in the decision.
2. The homes on the impacted blocks have had a significant increase in the number of small children over the past five years. It is becoming increasingly dangerous given the speeds at which people are driving on Grove. We have witnessed significant high speeds during times when children are present on the block. The main issue, in our opinion, is that drivers are using Grove to speed up to North Avenue since Grove has less traffic than Oak Park Avenue. We've personally witnessed drivers driving over 50 miles per hour.
3. This intersection is very close to both Mann school and the Julian bus stop at that corner. We need as much help as we can keeping driving speeds to safe limits with the amount of children walking across that intersection.

We're sure the village has many factors in its decision, but we think this is a serious safety issue for our children. We would encourage the decision makers to consider our input above and the ones submitted in our application -- and move forward with the all-way stop signs at the intersection of Grove and Berkshire to improve safety!

Bill and Laurie Bunkers

1017 N Grove Ave
Oak Park IL 60302

Sent from my iPhone

Juliano, Jill

From: Jessica L. Malmquist <jlmalmquist@goddardlaw.com>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 3:26 PM
To: Juliano, Jill
Subject: Stop Sign at Grove & Berkshire

Dear Jill,

I would like to thank the Village for its consideration of the petition to upgrade to all way stop signs at the intersection of Berkshire Street and Grove Avenue. We strongly support this petition but, unfortunately are unable to attend the hearing in person due to the late nature of the notice. I cannot tell you strongly enough how much we need four-way stop at the intersection of Grove and Berkshire. Please consider:

1. The homes on the impacted blocks have had a significant increase in the number of small children over the past five years. We have two four-year old's and it has become increasingly dangerous and increasingly common to have people drive down Grove, presumably to avoid the traffic on Oak Park, at extremely high speeds. Not only are high speeds more common than not, there is often no more than a cursory slow-down at the no existing stop sign. I have personally witnesses speeds in excess of 50 mph and almost been clipped by speeding cars more than once. It is difficult to even contemplate allowing out children play out front with the other many, many children on the block with the current speeding situation.
2. This intersection of Grove and Berkshire is half a block from Horace Mann school and the location of the Julian bus stop.

Please help us keep the driving speeds to safe limits with the amount of children walking across this intersection and living on the adjacent blocks.

Although I am sure the Village has many factors in its decision, but we think this is a serious safety issue for my children and all the children in the area, attending Horace Mann, and using the Julien bus stop. I would encourage the Village to consider my input, and those of the many other family who support this petition, and move forward with the all-way stop signs at the intersection of Grove and Berkshire to improve safety!

Jessica L. Malmquist
1015 N Grove Ave
Oak Park, IL 60302

Jessica L. Malmquist
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Juliano, Jill

From: Pasquale Di Rico <prdirico@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 3:52 PM
To: Juliano, Jill
Subject: Petition Stop Sign - Bershire St Grove Ave

Mrs. Juliano,

In regards to petition for all way stop signs at the intersection of Berkshire Street and Grove Avenue, we support this petition. Unfortunately we are unable to attend the hearing in person. We would like the village to consider the following points in its consideration:

1. We have overwhelming support by the owners of the applicable blocks. In fact, we had 100% agreement/support from those we were able to connect with in person. We're sure we'd be able to find additional support if that's a factor in the decision.
2. The homes on the impacted blocks have had a significant increase in the number of small children over the past five years. It is becoming increasingly dangerous given the speeds at which people are driving on Grove. We have witnessed significant high speeds during times when children are present on the block. The main issue, in our opinion, is that drivers are using Grove to speed up to North Avenue since Grove has less traffic than Oak Park Avenue. We've personally witnessed drivers driving over 50 miles per hour.
3. This intersection is very close to both Mann school and the Julian bus stop at that corner. We need as much help as we can keeping driving speeds to safe limits with the amount of children walking across that intersection.

Thank you for watching for our children's safety. We would encourage the decision makers to consider our input above and the ones submitted in our application -- and move forward with the all-way stop signs at the intersection of Grove and Berkshire.

Best regards,

Pasquale & Patricia Di Rico
1026 N. Grove Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60302

From: SBC <n_turley@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, August 22, 2016 4:37 PM
To: Juliano, Jill
Subject: Stop sign support

Hi Jill - We'd like to thank the village for its consideration of the petition to upgrade to all way stop signs at the intersection of Berkshire Street and Grove Avenue. We strongly support this petition but, unfortunately are unable to attend the hearing in person. We would like the village to consider the following points in its consideration:

1. We have overwhelming support by the owners of the applicable blocks. In fact, we had 100% agreement/support from those we were able to connect with in person. We're sure we'd be able to find additional support if that's a factor in the decision.
2. The homes on the impacted blocks have had a significant increase in the number of small children over the past five years. It is becoming increasingly dangerous given the speeds at which people are driving on Grove. We have witnessed significant high speeds during times when children are present on the block. The main issue, in our opinion, is that drivers are using Grove to speed up to North Avenue since Grove has less traffic than Oak Park Avenue. We've personally witnessed drivers driving over 50 miles per hour.
3. This intersection is very close to both Mann school and the Julian bus stop at that corner. We need as much help as we can keeping driving speeds to safe limits with the amount of children walking across that intersection.

We're sure the village has many factors in its decision, but we think this is a serious safety issue for our children. We would encourage the decision makers to consider our input above and the ones submitted in our application -- and move forward with the all-way stop signs at the intersection of Grove and Berkshire to improve safety!

Nicole Turley
1042 N. Grove Ave

Juliano, Jill

From: jimwhite25@sbcglobal.net
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 8:12 AM
To: Juliano, Jill
Subject: Stop Sign at Berkshire and Grove

From: jimwhite25@sbcglobal.net
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2016 7:46 AM
To: jjuliano@aok-park.us
Subject: Stop Sign at Berkshire and Grove

Hello,

If not too late, want to provide comment. Please DO NOT upgrade to all-way stop. What is not in place is sufficient for any safety concerns. Oak Park already has too many stop signs. This upgrade is unnecessary expense.

Thanks,
Jim White