

10/23/2011

City Residents,

The city of Zumbro Falls has posted traffic signs along Appeldale Drive, from Hwy 60 to the Hills of Zumbro Falls housing development. Residents have reported to the city council that speed, not driving within the proper lane, parking on the street, and not using caution when entering blind intersections are safety issues. This affects both drivers and pedestrians. There have been several close calls that could have resulted in injuries.

The city is providing maintenance for the street along with traffic control devices. Driver choices and behavior have a great influence over street safety. It is a shared responsibility to support a safe street.

Street improvements were implemented to accommodate a higher traffic volume. Appeldale Drive was widened from approximately 16 feet to 24 feet. The intersections have been raised, curbs installed, sidewalk, guard rails and traffic flow considered. The physical features of the area create limits for more improvement. Visibility around the curves, the grade of the street, and vehicles entering the intersections from the hillside streets prove to be a challenge; especially during the winter season. There is No Parking Anytime on either side of the street. The street width does not allow for parking in the traffic lanes.

Appeldale Drive is considered a minor collector street, collecting traffic from the side streets and transporting it to Hwy 60. It is expected that the side streets will yield, however Caution should be used by all traffic due to limited visibility and existing conditions regardless of right of way.

The use of traffic control devices will be determined by actual need, more restrictive traffic signs will be implemented, such as stop signs and yield signs, if necessary to keep safety a priority.

Wabasha County will enforce the city traffic signs.

Thank you for sharing your concerns and for continuing to keep Safety a priority on Appeldale Drive.

The City of Zumbro Falls.