



Residential relief valves & public safety – aka the Olentangy Ridge and Bartholomew Run off ramps

More traffic on Powell Road? Two weeks ago at the council meeting the traffic engineer for this development project testified that Powell Road is already at or beyond capacity at peak times.

Adding more cars from this development will not have a major impact on Powell Road, in his expert opinion.... but it will impact our neighborhoods. Here's what we heard:

- **The fact is: Powell Road** is the only route that really fits the needs of drivers traveling east-west
- Other roads can work as a relief valve for congested routes. Infrequent travellers follow their GPS and stay on the main road. Frustrated locals will look for and find the best traffic path that minimizes traffic and travel time.
- They already do. Olentangy Ridge is a developing into an off ramp for Powell Road drivers. Local drivers are sick of traffic and they've figured out how to cut their commute on our neighborhood streets.
- These are my kids. We live on one of these relief valve streets.
- And as more young families have moved into Olentangy Ridge, this has become a greater concern.
- We thought we moved into a residential neighborhood where our kids would be safe – not a relief valve for frustrated commuters stuck in traffic.
- These drivers frequently are not following the speed limit or stopping at controlled intersections. We've been working with the police for months.
- There's really no solution for us, as we can't block streets that are connected.
- The more cars that detour down our residential street, the more dangerous playing in our yard, crossing the street while walking the dog or biking to a park becomes.

Traffic on Powell Road is more than a line of cars stuck in traffic. This is a public safety issue in our neighborhood.