

## Treasure Comments

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**From:** Annie Lewis Garda <annielewisgarda@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 15, 2017 4:21 PM  
**To:** Treasure Comments  
**Subject:** regarding traffic

I am in favor of the city commissioning a study of the capacity of Empire and Lowell to handle Treasure traffic safely. The engineers who have given the (theoretical) capacity seem to have come up with their numbers in their offices while looking at maps of the streets. The engineers performing the traffic studies count cars at intersections, but they fail to count bicycles and pedestrians and ignore the vehicles parked all along both sides of these streets (16 on Empire last Thursday afternoon). I would hope any new study would take account of pedestrians, bikers, and parked vehicles.

One recommendation for handling pedestrians has been to install sidewalks on the east (lower) side of Empire and the west (upper) side of Lowell. Before this recommendation can be taken seriously, an engineer needs to walk these streets and determine the feasibility of it. For example, a four foot wide sidewalk would mean completely realigning Northstar Drive. Is this possible? And who would pay for it? The road marked "Northstar Road" on maps enters Lowell so steeply that entry would be impossible if a sidewalk were installed. On the east side of Empire, there are three sections (between 1104 and 1120, between 1212 and 1260, and between 1268 and 1302) where cars park vertically in narrow lots. These lots hold about 50 cars. If a sidewalk is installed, these cars will cover it even in summer. One has to walk the streets to understand these issues.

Annie Lewis Garda