

Persuasive Writing Sample

From the RTC:Rural *How-To Guide: Writing Effective Letters to Decision Makers.*

September 1, 2017

Mayor Anyperson
123 Main Street
West City, NH, 12345

Honorable Mayor Sheila Anyperson,

My name is Anyperson Jones and I have lived in the city of West Valley all my life. I use a walker and I have always felt safe getting around town on foot, but as our city has grown, traffic has increased and little has been done to improve pedestrian safety.

Today I am writing to express my concern and frustration about the pedestrian crossing on Main Street near the social service offices who serve many people with disabilities. Over the last year, three people with mobility impairments have been struck by cars at this intersection and, when crossing the street to access the service providers, I have also come close to being hit.

These are the problems as I see them: there is no light, the intersection is poorly marked, and traffic flow is exceptionally heavy because Main Street is a major east/west artery linking the downtown business area with the interstate and developments on the edge of town. In addition to these problems of access during the day, at night the intersection becomes even more dangerous because it is poorly lit.

Because this intersection is such a hazard, to people with disabilities as well as to people without disabilities, I would like to request that a traffic light be installed with a signal that provides enough time for an individual with a mobility impairment to cross safely. I would also like to request that the crossing be clearly marked with reflectors so that oncoming traffic is prepared to look for pedestrians, and well lit at night so that pedestrians can be seen.

These changes would make me feel safer as a person with a disability and would make our community safer for everyone.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I am happy to answer any questions you may have. I would also be willing to provide testimony at a public meeting.

Sincerely,

Anyperson Jones
1234 E Street
West Valley, NH, 12345

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