

Miranda Benson

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**From:** Leah Phillips <lphillips1@lewispalmer.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 11, 2024 4:45 PM  
**To:** PCD Hearings  
**Subject:** Monument Ridge East

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Dear El Paso County Commissioners,

I am writing regarding the proposed "Monument Ridge East" development project and its potential impact on traffic and safety near Palmer Ridge High School.

As a staff member at Palmer Ridge, I am concerned about the plan to close Monument Hill/Frontage Road and redirect traffic through Misty Acres. This change would significantly increase congestion, especially during school hours, creating challenges for students, staff, and families attempting to access the school safely. The additional traffic will also increase risks for those entering the upper parking lot from Misty Acres. It is cumbersome and nonsensical.

Additionally, the traffic study conducted for this project appears incomplete, as it does not account for school-time traffic patterns, which are significant during four times each weekday: in the morning before school starts, at the beginning and end of two different lunch periods, and after school. Hundreds of parents drop off and pick up their children, along with several dozen student drivers. It is ridiculous to not consider this when doing a traffic study.

I urge the commissioners to reject this plan and require a serious solution that addresses these safety and accessibility concerns.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Leah Phillips  
Faculty Member  
Palmer Ridge High School