

# Speech To Committee

My name is Mia Persse, and I am 10 years old. Thank you for letting me share my story with you today.

I live in the Willamette neighborhood of West Linn, right by the river. People drive down 9th street where I live WAY too fast to get to the water in the summer. I want there to be more limitations to the river, because it is dangerous for the people that live here.

Last March, a truck, similar to the ones that frequently pull giant boats up and down my street hit my dog Coco. The truck was going about 45 mph. After a few minutes she died in front of my family, on our front lawn. The driver didn't even stop to see if she was okay.

She was one of the sweetest animals to have ever lived. My family and I loved her so much and we were devastated.

What's worse is that she got hit when my brother and sister were riding their bikes around her. It could have easily been them instead. Actually, we have tons of little kids on our street, and they all love to bike, run, ect. There are around 21 children under the age of ten living within three blocks of my house.

Farther up on my hill, there is a small, orange, "Children At Play" sign. The thing is, that was not the first sign placed there. The first one actually got run over by a car that was going fast towards the river.

My street is 18 feet wide, and with the huge boats that are going to the river, it is even more hazardous towards the pedestrians who are walking along the road. Many summer days, trucks and giant boat trailers line up along the sides of our road, causing further safety concerns.

People going down our street to the river don't see homes. They just see a passage, not places where young children and their families live.

The entire neighborhood is holding their breath, waiting for something, yet again, tragic to occur both on the water and/or the surrounding neighborhood streets. Just because you have fun speeding around the river, doesn't mean you should jeopardize the safety of the young pedestrians that live around it. Thank you for your time.