

UEHOA POSITION ON BUS STOPS/SHELTERS

WHEREAS Ridership from the bus stop at the entrance to the University Estates UE subdivision has increased markedly since the opening of the Kershaw Green Apartments (KG) and will likely further increase with the imminent opening of additional vision and medical facilities in the area; and

WHEREAS the current bus stop at the northeast corner of the entrance to the UE subdivision is in a dangerous location for the following reasons:

- KG residents cross SR682 at the entrance to the UE subdivision to get to and from the current bus stop location,
- The absence of crosswalks and sidewalks and presence of heavy traffic on SR682 makes this a very dangerous place to cross,
- The paved walkways at KG and the driveway for the lift station route riders into the center of the turning box of the intersection, increasing vehicle/pedestrian conflicts and further increasing risks for pedestrians crossing the highway,
- With no hard surfaced waiting area outside of the street traffic lanes, riders avoid wet grass, mud and snow by congregating in the right turn lane of the street, especially in wet or freezing weather when the streets are slippery and cars coming down the hill may have trouble stopping,
- Riders traveling to and from The Falls apartments and the medical and vision clinics do not have access to sidewalks to approach the bus stop and therefore walk up and down the hill on the paved streets, adding further to pedestrian/vehicle conflicts and increasing risks for pedestrians,
- Residents of the UE subdivision have reported several “near misses” with pedestrians waiting at the bus stop or walking in the street right of way in this area; and

WHEREAS the former bus stop location at the second crossing of the central boulevard island was better placed for patients of the clinics to access their trip destinations, avoiding the necessity for mobility- and/or vision-impaired patients to have a lengthy and dangerous uphill walk in the street’s traffic lanes to access the clinics.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Estates Homeowners Association (UEHOA) urges the City of Athens and local transit services to take the following actions:

1. Establish a new bus stop on the west side of SR682, preferably within the parking lots of the KG complex, to eliminate the necessity of a risky crossing of SR682 by KG residents.
2. Return the bus stop on the east side of SR682 to the second turnaround in the UE Boulevard Island where it was previously located.
3. Install a hard-surfaced area and possibly a bus shelter for riders to wait on the central island of the boulevard to prevent riders from congregating on the street where they are at risk from vehicular traffic.

ADOPTED this 25th day of March 2024 by unanimous vote of the UEHOA board of directors.