

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO.D(3)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2009

TITLE: Lorraine Street Traffic Calming Request

DEPARTMENT: Planning	PUBLIC HEARING YES ____ NO <u>X</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Neighborhood request and petition C. Data summary and criteria table D. Notice sent to residents E. Photo rendering of the potential speed table locations ('Photoshoped') F. TAB recommendation	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Adena Messinger – 918-7329 Patricia McGuire – 918-7327

PURPOSE

Residents of Lorraine Street have submitted a petition under the Town's Residential Traffic Management Plan requesting traffic calming between James Street and Hillsborough Rd. The staff recommendation and the Transportation Advisory Board recommendation are provided below. A resolution is provided for consideration by the Board of Aldermen.

INFORMATION

The residents along Lorraine Street submitted a petition for traffic calming on August 24, 2008 (attachment B). Following receipt of the petition, Town staff proceeded with the Residential Traffic Management Plan (RTMP) process as follows:

October 7-8, 2008	Traffic speed and volume data collected for Lorraine Street (Attachment C)
November 19-20; December 3-4, 2008	Bike/pedestrian data collected for Lorraine Street (Attachment C)
January 2009	Data used to complete criteria point table. Total points = 29 (Attachment C)
January 8, 2009	Staff review of data; and staff recommendation
May 4, 2009	Notice of TAB and BoA meetings mailed to residents in the area of influence (Attachment D)
May 21, 2009	TAB review of request and recommendation
June 2, 2009	Board of Aldermen consideration of request

In addition to requesting traffic calming, the residents along Lorraine Street also expressed concern for vehicles not heeding the stop sign at the intersection of Lorraine and Phipps. In an effort to try and gauge this behavior speed data was recorded for Lorraine on either side of Phipps, near the stop bars. Additional enforcement was also requested. The speed data for the locations near the stop sign indicate that, on the days the data was recorded, between 10 – 22 percent of the vehicles were travelling at 20 MPH or higher. At these speeds, it is likely that many of these vehicles either rolled through the stop or did not stop at all. While these speeds were recorded at various times throughout the day, the morning hours between 6 – 8 AM seem to be the primary time of occurrence.

According to data provided by the Police Department, all 17 traffic citations issued for Lorraine Street between July 2007 and April 2009 were for the failure to stop at the Phipps Street stop sign.

As indicated in attachment C, the evaluation of Lorraine Street resulted in a score of 29. According to the RTMP, this qualifies the street for both Stage I and Stage II traffic calming.

Staff Recommendation

On January 8th, the Town's Traffic and Parking Committee (made up of representatives from the Economic Development, Fire, Planning, Public Works, Police, and Recreation and Parks departments) discussed the neighborhood request and due to speeding and volume of pedestrian activity recommends the following:

- To install two (2) speed tables in the approximate locations where the counts were taken (207 Lorraine and 400 Lorraine, see attachment E)
- Increase police enforcement at the stop sign during the time at which higher speeds were recorded (AM peak)
- Following installation of the speed tables, the situation will be re-evaluated: staff will collect new speed data and the Police Department will report on their enforcement efforts. If the speeds at the stop sign are indicative of no stopping or rolling stops, and if citations for running the stop signs are still being issued, then the Town can consider removing the stop signs on Lorraine Street, and installing a third speed table near the intersection with Phipps Street.

TAB Recommendation

On May 21st, the Transportation Advisory Board discussed the traffic calming request and the staff recommendation. Attachment F includes the TAB recommendation. One resident of Lorraine Street attended the TAB meeting and expressed her preference for the stop signs to remain in place.

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACTS

The installation of two speed tables will cost approximately \$5,000. There is currently a balance of \$13,200 in the 2008-2009 funds dedicated for traffic calming.

Implementation of the speed tables will require Public Works staff time to install the devices. Police Department staff will be required for the targeted enforcement. Planning and Public Works staff resources will be needed to collect and assess the follow up speed data.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the attached resolution to install speed tables, increase enforcement and evaluate the conditions after installation.