

AGENDA TSC 6/4/12

ITEM NO. 3: Consider request for a Traffic Calming at 4104 Harvard Road.

Facts:

1. Harvard Road is classified as a 'collector' street in a residential area.
2. The speed limit on Harvard Road is 30 mph.
3. Traffic data collected April 30-May 1 found a daily traffic volume of approximately 2000 and an 85th percentile speed of 35.33 mph; this would meet the criteria for consideration of traffic calming.

MINUTES TSC 6/4/12

ITEM NO. 3:

Consider request for a Traffic Calming Device at 4104 Harvard Road.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report.

Public Comment:

Gina Dahlstrand, 4104 Harvard Road: Harvard is used by a lot of people and this is right at the bend; there are a lot of children in the area; because it is downhill, cars are going faster; because of the bend, my driveway is hidden and when I am backing-out it can make for a scary situation; I recently learned that the people that previously lived in my house had three (3) of their cars totaled while parked in the street; what we're requesting is a speed hump and possibly a sign warning drivers of driveways around the bend.

Necia Silvia, 4108 Harvard Road, suggested a speed bump on each side of 4104; with only one they slow for a second and then they're zooming-up.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Russell: My concern is getting too many devices in too short of a distance; this would be a third one within a two-block area and there was an indication that the existing ones weren't doing the job they were intended to do; I'd be apprehensive to approve this.

Commissioner Rothrock: I think there is somewhat of an equity issue too; this is one of the most speed-controlled sections of roadway we have in the city and we hear from people all the time with no speed controls on their street that are looking for help; I'm a little concerned with number of devices too.

Commissioner Boley: It appears to be the people in the neighborhood that are involved here.

Commissioner Rothrock: Children living on "collector" streets are always going to have to deal with higher traffic volumes and higher speeds.

Commissioner Ziegelmeyer: One of my concerns is that we could approve this, but it would go on the list and we'd be lucky if it got built in five (5) years.

Commissioner Boley suggested that signing may be more appropriate; Woosley advised that the sight distance would be measured to determine if there is an appropriate sign to install.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER RUSSELL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ROTHROCK, TO RECOMMEND DENYING THE REQUEST FOR A TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE AT 4104 HARVARD ROAD, AND THAT CITY STAFF INVESTIGATE THE NEED FOR AN APPROPRIATE WARNING SIGN; THE MOTION CARRIED, 8-0.

David Woosley

From: Gina Dahlstrand [gdahlstrand@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2012 9:00 PM
To: David Woosley
Subject: speed hump request

Dear Traffic Commission,

I would like to request a speed hump in front of our house. We live at 4104 Harvard Road which is right at the bend and on a hill. Our house is well before the roundabouts begin, and cars just whip around this part of the road. I have 3 children under 4 years old, and between our next door neighbors and the two houses across the street, there are 7 more kids. Because of the kids and because our driveway is pretty much at a blind turn, a speed hump would really improve the safety of this particular stretch. Cars just fly by and I've heard that there have been a few cases of parked cars getting slammed in the past.

Thank you for your consideration,
Gina Dahlstrand



TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY

Resolution No. 6602, August 23, 2005

1. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may include but are not limited to Traffic-Calming Circles, Speed Humps and Speed Cushions, Speed Tables, Partial Diverters, Full Diverters, Center Island Narrowing, Chokers, and Road Closures; however, roundabouts are traffic management devices and are not subject to this policy.
2. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may be permitted on "local" streets as designated by the City's Major Thoroughfares Map, and under any one of the following conditions:
 - A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
 - B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 1000, or
 - C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
 - D. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B or C above are satisfied to the extent of 80 percent or more of the stated values.
3. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES (except SPEED HUMPS) may be permitted on "collector" streets as designated by the City's Major Thoroughfares Map, under any one of the following conditions:
 - A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
 - B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 3000, or
 - C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
 - D. More than 50% of the frontage of the roadway consists of residential lots with the houses facing the roadway in question, or
 - E. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B, C or D above are satisfied to the extent of 80 percent or more of the stated values.
4. Traffic data will be collected with city personnel using city equipment only. In the event that a requested location does not meet the minimum requirements as stated in 2 or 3 above, subsequent requests will not be considered for a minimum of one year.
5. The Lawrence-Douglas County Fire & Medical Department, the Police Department, the Public Works Department and the Traffic Safety Commission must review all requests for TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES before being presented to the City Commission.
6. If a project is approved by the City Commission, the City Commission will determine financing of the construction. The City Commission may require 0-100% of the costs to be paid by the group or neighborhood making the request.
7. After a project is approved and funded by the City Commission, TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES will only be constructed at a location if 70% or more of the property owners within 300 feet measured along the centerline of the street in each direction approve of the installation or if directed by the City Commission. The individual, group or neighborhood making the request shall be responsible for obtaining the property owners' and residents' approval in writing and submitting it to the city.
8. Once installed, TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may only be removed at a location if more than 70% of the property owners and residents within 300 feet measured along the centerline of the street in each direction approve of the removal or if directed by the City Commission. The individual, group or neighborhood making the request shall be responsible for obtaining the property owners' and residents' approval in writing and submitting it to the city.
9. TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES may initially be landscaped (if appropriate) by the city, provided that the group or neighborhood making the request agrees in writing to maintain the landscaping or pursuant to the payment of a landscape maintenance fee. No privately installed landscaping is permitted unless approved by the city in writing.



Existing
Speed
Cushion



Requested
Location



Existing
Speed
Cushion

