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ITEM#2
9-6-12 CIC

MEMORANDUM

August 21, 2012

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Eric Stuckey, City Administrator
David Parker, City Engineer/CIP Executive
Paul Holzen, Director of Engineering
Carl Baughman, Traffic Engineer

SUBJECT: Discussion Concerning Speeding Issues on Jordan Road between Murfreesboro Road (SR 96) and Liberty Pike

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to report on studies and options to address speeding issues on Jordan Road between Murfreesboro Road (SR 96) and Liberty Pike.

Background

Mrs. Murdock first contacted our Traffic Engineer, Carl Baughman, seeking speed relief in November 2011, at which time speed samples were collected. The data showed a significant pattern of speeds in excess of the 30 miles per hour speed limit. In fact, the prevailing speeds indicate that drivers are treating Jordan Road as if it were a 40 mph road. This data was sent onto our Police Department in an effort to step up speed enforcement. In June of 2012 Mrs. Murdock requested the City to install speed humps as an option to reduce the speed along this section of Jordan Road. This option would require a neighborhood petition and a special appropriation by BOMA. At the same time Alderman Burger requested our Traffic Engineer to investigate an all-way STOP at some nearby street intersection on Jordan Road. The most likely candidate was the through street of Churchill Place, but the volume distribution was heavily oriented toward Jordan Road (80% of intersection traffic) falling well outside of warrant conditions. In addition the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (Section 2B.04 Right-of-way at Intersections) specifically states the following: "*YIELD or STOP signs should not be used for speed control*".

Data

The speed and volume data (Average Daily Traffic = 1500 vpd) on Jordan Road both meet the criteria to qualify Jordan Road for speed hump installation. A neighborhood petition would, however, face a challenge in the Royal Oaks and Heritage Manor subdivisions, as Jordan Road is largely external to its street network

In addition to the speed and volume data presented above, Mack Hatcher Parkway has been under construction since December 2011. The impact of Mack Hatcher construction on Jordan Road traffic flow is unclear, but pending lane closures at the Murfreesboro Road and Liberty Pike intersections are likely to adversely impact Jordan Road during their term.



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Options

- Option 1 - Encourage the residents to work through the Royal Oaks and Heritage Manor subdivision neighborhood contacts to initiate the traffic calming process outlined in the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program. A successful petition could result in the prompt installation of a temporary speed hump at the optimal location.
- Option 2 - Step up the enforcement of speeding on Jordan Road, until it generates at least an interim impact on prevailing speeds.

Financial Impact

As this portion of Jordan Road is 4400 feet long and the effective influence zone of a speed hump is about 400 feet, perhaps 5-6 speed humps on the street would be mostly effective. This would cost about \$10,000-\$12,000 for permanent installation.

Recommendation

Staff would recommend pursuing Option 1 and encourage the residents to work through the Royal Oaks and Heritage Manor subdivision contacts to initiate the traffic calming process.

Jordan Road Neighborhood Petition

Royal Oaks Subdivision

