

# TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

## APPROVED

HELD ON JANUARY 20, 2015

### TAB Members Present

Dawn Fortuna, Chairperson  
Bruce Hallsted, Vice Chairperson  
Kay Henry  
Jim LeCheminant  
Troy Peterson  
Ron Wilson  
David Camp

### TAB Members Absent

Ian Bennett (Excused)  
Mike Schmidt (Excused)  
Ian Murray (Excused)  
Jennifer Love (Excused)

### Others Present

Alan Sanderson  
Sabine Ellis  
Renate Ehm  
David Barrier  
Lenny Hulme  
MaryGrace McNear  
Kari Kent

Chairperson Dawn Fortuna called the January 20, 2015 Transportation Advisory Board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Item 1.        Approval of the minutes of the Transportation Advisory Board meeting held on October 21, 2014.

Board Member Jim LeCheminant moved to accept the October 21, 2014 minutes. Board Member David Camp seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2.        Items from citizens present.

None.

Item 3.        Hear from residents and provide direction to staff regarding speed cushions on 96th Street between Baseline Road and Idaho Avenue that were approved by the Transportation Advisory Board at the October, 2014 meeting. (Council District 6)

Alan Sanderson, Deputy Department Director/ Traffic Engineer, re-capped the discussion and decision of the Board made at the October 21 meeting to approve the installation of speed cushions on 96th Street between Baseline Road and Idaho Avenue. Mr. Sanderson explained that the reason this item was before the Board today is that shortly after the October 21 meeting, Don Gerkin contacted various staff with a number of concerns and requests he had stemming from the Board's decision. Staff were not able to respond to Mr. Gerkin in the way he hoped and so Mr. Gerkin was referred back to the Transportation Advisory Board which is a forum for residents to communicate their ideas and concerns with a variety of transportation issues. Mr. Sanderson said that it is up to the Board to decide on what action they wish to take.

Mr. Sanderson explained the criteria for when a street is deemed eligible for speed cushions. One of the criteria is that at least 70% of the affected property owners are in support. At a

minimum, the affected properties include all that abut the street on which the speed cushions are being considered, and a minimum of 300 feet on each side of any cross street. Mr. Sanderson acknowledged that there are many ideas of what constitutes an affected property and noted that the definition of the affected properties has changed since the inception of the Speed Hump Policy to reflect differing visions.

Chairperson Dawn Fortuna noted that the original Policy only considered the properties adjacent to the street as being affected properties but that this definition was broadened after a resident challenged the definition seeking to broaden the area considered affected. Mr. Sanderson confirmed Chairperson Fortuna's account and added that it took several meetings before the Transportation Advisory Board came to agree on a definition of a broader affected area.

Mr. Sanderson went on to explain that for collector streets, such as 96th Street, there is an additional step which is a determination of the level of support from other road users. He noted that there is an inherent conflict on collector streets between people who live on the street and are impacted by the speed of traffic day in and day out, and others who are legitimate users of the street.

Chairperson Fortuna acknowledged the large group of residents in attendance desiring to speak tonight and asked that comments be kept brief. She invited Don Gerkin to speak first.

Resident Don Gerkin spoke to a letter report he had prepared that detailed several changes he wanted the Board to consider. In particular, Mr. Gerkin wanted the Board to consider adding and removing some properties to the list of affected properties and then to revisit their decision based on the opinions of the adjusted affected property owners. Mr. Gerkin also wished the Board to consider removing one of the three sets of speed cushions planned for installation and increasing the length of the speed cushions from 12 feet to 22 feet.

Discussion ensued between Board Members, Mr. Gerkin, and staff regarding the properties that were considered affected properties and therefore were included in the neighborhood survey, why the HOA was included in the neighborhood survey, what factors were considered in determining the location and spacing of the speed cushions planned for 96th Street, the design and operating characteristics of 12-foot long speed cushions versus a 22-foot long speed table, and expanding the list of affected properties to include properties for which the most direct access to/from that property is from 96th Street.

Chairperson Fortuna said that determination of the affected properties requires an interpretation of the Policy and that the Board's objective is to interpret and apply the existing Policy as they understand it. Chairperson Fortuna indicated that she believes that fundamental changes to the Policy such as suggested by Mr. Gerkin, need to come from City Council. She asked if any Board Members felt otherwise to which no objections were raised.

Ms. Ellis indicated that several emails were received from residents who weren't able to attend tonight's Board meeting, but wanted to share their thoughts with the Board. Jeanna Kelley, Valerie Ward, Mr. DJ Vegh, and Todd Cederstrom wrote that they are in favor of the cushions.

Chairperson Fortuna then invited members of the public in attendance to address the Board.

Brooke Jerde, Marcella Christianson, Mr. Christianson, Ross Cohen, Mike Nejedly, Rush Aaron Smith, Mr. Tracy Smith, Sonya Muller, and Lori Matlock spoke in favor of the cushions.

Clark Wilkerson, Karla Zahner, Sean Kay, David Bradshaw, and Fran Ronnau spoke in opposition to the cushions and indicated they believe they should have been considered an affected property and therefore should have been included in the neighborhood survey.

Chairperson Fortuna thanked everyone for taking the opportunity to have their say and invited Board Members to express their thoughts.

Board Member Kay Henry expressed her continued support for the installation of speed cushions on 96th Street saying that she had driven the neighborhood and felt that 96th Street was conducive to speeding.

Board Member Jim LeCheminant said that after listening to the discussion tonight he believes that the decision made October 21 was the correct decision.

Board Member Troy Peterson said that the Board's decision of October 21 was correct and that he felt that the Policy was applied appropriately, acknowledging that it is more of an art than a science. He indicated that 96th Street is a classic case of high speeds in a residential neighborhood for which speed cushions are an effective and appropriate measure to take.

Board Member Ron Wilson said that the Board made the right decision for the community in October.

Vice Chairperson Bruce Hallstead asked about the quality control employed when evaluating the neighborhood survey results and opinions from other road users. Ms. Ellis explained that Dave Barrier, Traffic Studies Analyst, was the lead on this project. Mr. Barrier reviewed the information and took measures to correct discrepancies he found before he wrote the report. Ms. Ellis said she reviewed Mr. Barrier's work and ensured that the data included in the report was correct.

Vice Chairperson Hallstead said that although he was not at the October 21 Board meeting, he would have voted to approve the cushions, and that the Board made the right decision.

Board Member David Camp noted that home owners are passionate about issues that affect their community and urged attendees not to let this be a divisive issue. He voted in favor of the cushions on October 21 and reaffirmed that it was the right decision.

Chairperson Fortuna noted that no motion was required tonight if the Board was satisfied that the decision made at the October 21 meeting should stand. She then invited any Board Member to make a motion if they wished. No motions were heard. Chairperson Fortuna explained that the Boards' decision of October 21 to approve of the installation of speed cushions on 96th Street between Baseline Road and Idaho Avenue stands and that staff can move forward with the installation.

This meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.