



Transportation Advisory Board Report

Date: May 17, 2016
To: Transportation Advisory Board
From: Danny Martinez, Senior Traffic Studies Analyst
Subject: Sunnyvale between Broadway Road and Delta Avenue
Speed Cushion Installation

Purpose and Recommendation

This report presents the level of support for the proposed installation of speed cushions on Sunnyvale between Broadway Road and Delta Avenue from immediately affected property owners and from other road users. See Figure 1 for the location map. Under the current Speed Hump Policy (Policy), once a street meets all of the warranting criteria that make it eligible for the installation of speed cushions, the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) must make a decision to approve or not approve the installation.

Staff recommends approval of the installation of speed cushions on Sunnyvale between Broadway Road and Delta Avenue.

Background

Sunnyvale is a collector type street that serves as a connection between the arterial and local neighborhood streets. Under the current Policy, the 85th percentile speed must be at least 8 mph over the posted speed limit, traffic volumes must be less than 5,000 vehicles per day, at least 70% of the affected property owners must support the installation, and the Fire Department and the TAB must approve of the installation.

Discussion

Sunnyvale between Broadway Road and Delta Avenue has met all the warranting criteria that make it eligible for speed cushions.

Sunnyvale between Broadway Road and Delta Avenue has a posted speed limit of 25 mph, 85th percentile speed of 32.6 mph, and a daily traffic volume of 1,174 vehicles. The Fire Department does not object to the installation of speed cushions in this street section. The survey of the 100 affected property owners confirmed at

least 70% approval. Affected properties include all that abut this segment of Sunnyvale, and a minimum of 300 feet on each side of the connecting streets.

Seventy-seven (77) or 77% of the 100 affected property owners approve of the speed cushions. Seven (7) property owners are not in favor and eighteen (18) property owners could not be reached and therefore are considered to not approve.

Comments from other road users were generated through the placement of information signs on Sunnyvale. The signs indicated that speed cushions may be coming, and directed the public to a webpage, or a telephone number, for more information. The signs were up for two weeks in April of 2016.

Twenty-five (25) comments were received from people who live outside the affected area (i.e., the properties included in the neighborhood survey). Seven (7) supported speed cushions saying this is a major thoroughfare where significant speeding happens on a daily basis and high speed traffic on this street endangers residents and degrades the neighborhood. Eighteen (18) were opposed to the installation saying that this is a waste of resources, there have not been any safety issues and speed cushions cause front ends to fall out of alignment.

Comments from another seven (7) people were received; however, these people did not provide their addresses. Three (3) people were in favor and four (4) people were opposed to the speed cushions.

Table 1: Speed Cushion Survey Results

RESPONSES	IN FAVOR	OPPOSED
Within affected area	77 (77%)	23 (23%)
Outside affected area	7 (28%)	18 (72%)
Area not known	3 (43%)	4 (57%)
Total	87 (66%)	45 (34%)

When dealing with potential traffic calming measures on collector streets, staff's experience has been that support for traffic calming largely comes from those who live on the affected streets, while there is little or no support from others who do not live on or adjacent to the affected streets. This is not unexpected since traffic has a larger impact on the quality of life for the adjacent residents than for drivers who use a particular street but live elsewhere. Thus historically more weight has been given to the desires of the residents of a street in implementing traffic calming, while still leaving the street available to all drivers.

Alternatives

One alternative is to not approve the installation of speed cushions; however, this would be one less tool to address traffic speeds on this street.

Fiscal Impact

Three sets of speed cushions on Sunnyvale are estimated to cost \$15,000 (\$5,000 each set on a 40-foot wide road).

