

Regular Meeting

Agenda Item #	2
Meeting Date	February 8, 2010
Prepared By	Daryl Braithwaite, Public Works Director Jessie Carpenter City Clerk
Approved By	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

Discussion Item	First Reading Ordinance Authorizing the Installation of Speed Humps
Background	<p>On October 2, 2009, residents of Sherman Avenue submitted a petition requesting the installation of an additional speed bump on the unit block of Sherman Avenue in front of 17 and 18 Sherman Avenue. The petition was certified by the City Clerk as having met the minimum number of signatures required.</p> <p>The request was addressed by the SS Carroll Neighborhood Association on September 24, 2009. The Association expressed its support for the speed hump installation.</p> <p>After notification to residents on the block, a public hearing was held on February 1. The Council discussed the request at a worksession.</p> <p>The existing speed hump on the unit block of Sherman Avenue complies with City Code as it is more than 200 feet from a stop sign. The additional speed hump proposed by the neighbors would not be in compliance with City Code because it would be less than 300 feet from an existing speed hump and less than 200 feet from a stop sign.</p> <p>The City standard speed hump is rated for 5 mph and is best described as a hump on top of a bump. The height of the City standard is 3.5 inches. The County standard speed hump is rated for 20 mph and is a consistent elliptical shaped arch 3 inches high at the center. Both speed hump types are 12 feet wide.</p> <p>After reviewing the request, the Public Works Department recommended that the Council consider an alternative option. If the existing speed hump were removed, two new speed humps could be located equidistant, dividing the block into thirds. Both speed humps would be located about 180 feet from each intersection and approximately 180 feet from each other. The distance between each speed hump and the distance between the speed hump and the stop signs would not be in compliance with the standard in the Code, but would provide for a more even distribution of the speed humps, potentially resulting in a more effective reduction of traffic speed throughout the block.</p> <p>The Council concurred with staff's recommendation. Staff was directed to draft an ordinance providing future flexibility for the City Manager or her designee to establish the number, location and type of speed humps installed on the block.</p>

Policy	<p>Administrative Regulation 96-1 Traffic Calming Devices - Petition Process and Installation: “Residents of one or more blocks of a street can submit a petition to the City Manager indicating that the residents of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the households want one or more traffic calming devices to be installed on that street.”</p> <p>The City Council may authorize the installation of traffic calming devices.</p>
Fiscal Impact	<p>The cost to remove the existing speed hump and install two new speed humps is estimated to be \$2,100, which includes \$750 per hump, \$350 removal and \$250 markings.</p>
Attachments	<p>Draft single reading ordinance</p>
Recommendation	<p>Accept the ordinance at first reading.</p>
Special Consideration	

Introduced by:

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Effective Date:

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

**ORDINANCE 2010-
AUTHORIZING THE INSTALLATION
OF SPEED HUMP(S) ON THE UNIT BLOCK OF SHERMAN AVENUE**

WHEREAS, in accordance with Takoma Park Code, Section 13.28.010, the Director of Public Works is authorized to place, erect, and maintain upon the public highways of the City such traffic calming devices as the Council may direct at locations designated by the Council or as determined by the City Manager or his or her designee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, that one or more speed humps shall be installed on the unit block of Sherman Avenue. The exact number, location, and type of the speed humps on the unit block of Sherman Avenue shall be determined by the City Manager or the City Manager's designee.

Adopted this ____ day of February, 2010 by roll-call vote as follows:

AYE:

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: