

Arabi (g) 11/24/02

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 24, 2003

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER

FROM: RICHARD J. BAIER, P.E., DIRECTOR, TRANSPORTATION & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: CENTRAL CITY TRAFFIC CALMING



Residents in the central part of the City have expressed concerns about prevailing traffic speeds on Quaker Lane, Seminary Road, Janney's Lane, Braddock Road and King Street. Councilman Speck raised this issue at the November 26, 2002 City Council meeting. These streets pose traffic calming challenges because half of them are arterial streets carrying high traffic volumes and all are primary emergency response routes.

Since this issue was raised, staff has met twice with leaders from the Clover-College Park, Seminary Hill, Seminary Ridge and Taylor Run neighborhoods to discuss the traffic issues affecting their communities and develop traffic calming strategies to address their concerns. As these streets are all "Code Red" routes based on the traffic calming appropriateness map developed by T&ES and Fire/EMS staff, speed cushions cannot be used to slow traffic. However, other measures have been identified which can reduce traffic speed and improve bicycle and pedestrian safety. Traffic calming measures currently being considered include:

- Reducing the number of lanes and/or lane width on Seminary and installing a median and bike lanes;
- Implementing pedestrian improvements at the King/Quaker/Braddock intersection;
- Installing dynamic speed display signs on Quaker, Seminary and Janney's;
- Installing physical median of some kind between E. & W. Taylor Run Parkways on Janney's Lane; and
- Installing physical median of some kind at the Quaker/Seminary/Janney's intersection.

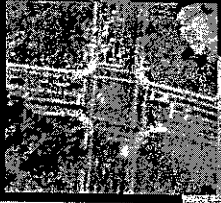
The next meeting with neighborhood leaders has not been scheduled; however, we expect it will be in late March or early April. At that time, staff will present the recommended traffic calming measures, implementation phasing plan and estimated costs.

Funding is not available in the Manager's Proposed FY 2004 Operating Budget or the Proposed FY 2004 -FY 2009 CIP for any of these traffic calming measures. Thus, staff will not be in a position to implement these measures unless and until funding is provided sometime in the future.

cc: Michele Evans, Assistant City Manager for Council Relations and Administration
Tom Culpepper, Deputy Director, Transportation and Transit, T&ES
Bob Garbacz, Division Chief, Transportation, T&ES
Paul DeMaio, Traffic Calming Coordinator, T&ES

Traffic Calming

**Seminary Road,
Janney's Lane,
& Quaker Lane**



Transportation & Environmental Services 1/28

What is "traffic calming"?

- "Traffic calming is the combination of mainly physical measures that reduce the negative effects of motor vehicle use, alter driver behavior and improve conditions for non-motorized street users."
 - Institute of Transportation Engineers
- Speed control is the objective at this intersection.
- Engineering is but one leg of the engineering/education/enforcement effort.

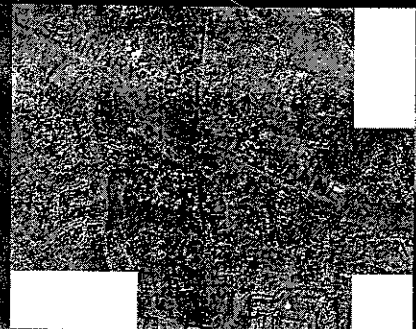
Special considerations:

Speed & Volume Data

- Seminary between Quaker & Fort Williams Pkwy:
85th% = 34 mph (sample size)
estimated ADT = 14,300 vehicles
- Janney's between Yale & W. Taylor:
85th% = 34 mph (sample size)
estimated ADT = 11,900 vehicles
- Quaker between Duke & Trinity:
85th% = 38 mph (sample size)
estimated ADT = 21,500 vehicles

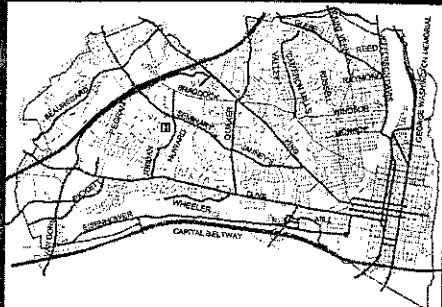
Special considerations:

Data Collection Locations



Special considerations:

"Appropriateness Map"



Special considerations:

"Appropriateness Map"

- The Traffic Calming Appropriateness Map was created based on the City's street classification with Fire/EMS input.
- Each street has been designated one of four color codes, showing which measures are appropriate for the street of concern.
- Color codes: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green

Special considerations:

Available Measures

- Red - paver crosswalk, bulb-out, pedestrian refuge island, bike lanes and median.
- Orange - mid-block crosswalk, speed cushions, gateway, and all of the measures listed in Code Red.
- Yellow - slotted speed table, chicane, street narrowing and all of the measures listed in Codes Orange and Red.
- Green - street closure, diverter and all of the measures listed in Codes Yellow, Orange and Red.

Special considerations:

Transit Routes

- Seminary routes: Dash AT2, and Metrobus 8X, 8W, 16L, 25B, 28B, 28C, and 28F
- Janney's routes: Dash AT2, and Metrobus 28B
- Quaker routes: Metrobus 8S, 8X, and 8Z



Special considerations:

Schools

- Seminary: Hammond, NOVA (nearby), Episcopal (nearby)
- Janney's: MacArthur, Bishop Ireton (nearby)
- Quaker: T.C. Williams (nearby)

What Can Be Done?

- Engineering
- Education
- Enforcement

Potential Measures

Pedestrian paddles



Paver Crosswalk



Potential Measures (cont.)

Bulb-out



Pedestrian Refuge Island



