



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – February 23, 2022 Agenda Items 1 and 3

Public Hearing and Work Session

Traffic Calming Requests:

- 7900 block of Glenside Drive
- 6700-6800 blocks of Prince Georges Avenue
- 6400 & 6500 blocks of Fourth Avenue

Recommended Council Action

Hear public comments. A work session is scheduled for later in the meeting to discuss the requests.

Context with Key Issues

The current process for residents to request installation of traffic calming is set forth in the City Code and an administrative regulation (links below). Once the petition is certified as meeting the requirements, and a public meeting has been held, the City Council accepts comments at a public hearing. After the public hearing and consultation with the Public Works Director, the City Council may direct the installation of traffic calming by adoption of a two-reading ordinance.

A. Glenside Drive

Residents of the 7800 and 7900 blocks of Glenside Drive have petitioned for the removal of the existing speed hump located between 7900/7901 and replace it with two speed humps to better slow traffic traveling through the block. The petitioners obtained the necessary signatures and held a community meeting as required for the request to move forward. The Public Works Department has evaluated the request and has identified locations for the two requested speed humps at 7904/7905 Glenside Drive and 7802/7805 Glenside Drive.

B. Prince Georges Avenue

Residents of 6700 and 6800 blocks of Prince Georges Avenue have petitioned for speed humps to slow traffic. The petitioners obtained the necessary signatures and held a community meeting as required for the request to move forward. The Public Works Department has evaluated the request and has identified locations for three speed humps, one in each block of the three blocks of Prince Georges Avenue included in the request. These locations would be mid-block between Elm Avenue and Circle Avenue (6815), Circle Avenue and Belford Place (6800/6801) and Belford Place and New Hampshire Avenue (6706).

C. 4th Avenue

Residents of 6400 and 6500 blocks of Fourth Avenue have petitioned for bump outs to slow traffic. The petitioners obtained the necessary signatures and held a community meeting as required for the request to move forward. The Public Works Department recommends the locations for the bump outs to include one on the north side of 4th Avenue in front of 6430, two on the east side of the intersection of 4th Avenue and Cockerille Avenue in front of 6500 and 6501 4th Avenue, and one on the south side of 4th Avenue in front of 6509 4th Avenue. The bump outs would be approximately 20 to 25 feet long and 3 to 4 feet wide.

Council Priority

A livable Community for All; Engaged, Responsive and Service-Oriented Government

Environmental Considerations

Traffic calming measures can reduce the speed of traffic on a street, thereby providing a safer street for drivers, bicyclists or pedestrians. There is some evidence that when vehicles quickly stop before and rapidly speed up after a speed hump, more exhaust fumes are generated from the vehicle, thereby adding to air pollution.

Fiscal Considerations

The cost for a speed hump is approximately \$3,500 each. The cost of a curb bump out varies size and includes curb and gutter installation, roadway excavation and top soil replacement. The cost per bump out is estimated to be \$5,000 to \$7,000.

Racial Equity Considerations

We do not believe that the installation of these traffic calming requests will disproportionately impact any particular group. However, since the current process to request traffic calming on a block requires collection of signatures from two-thirds of the households on the block and the block on either side, arranging for a community meeting, and coordination with City staff, it can be a barrier for some residents to initiate the process.

Attachments and Links

- [Administrative Regulation – Traffic Calming Devices – Petition Process and Installations](#)
- [Takoma Park Code, Chapter 13.28, Traffic Calming Devices](#)