



## **Takoma Park City Council Meeting – March 21, 2018 Agenda Item 1**

### **Public Hearing**

Public Hearing on Request for Traffic Calming on Fifth Avenue, between Orchard Avenue and Eastern Avenue

### **Recommended Council Action**

Hold the public hearing.

### **Context with Key Issues**

Residents of Fifth Avenue have petitioned to have traffic calming installed on the 6400 block of Fifth Avenue (between Orchard Avenue and Eastern Avenue). The petition was found to have a sufficient number of signatures for the residents to move forward with a community meeting.

An initial meeting was held on October 25, 2017 attended by Public Works staff to discuss options for traffic calming on 5th Avenue. Based on that discussion, Public Works staff developed a proposal that included three speed humps and two bump outs on either side of 5th Avenue at the intersection with Westmoreland Avenue. Those locations were marked on the street for public review and a second meeting was held on December 14, 2017 to discuss the proposal.

In the event the Council wishes to move forward, first and second reading of an ordinance approving the traffic calming are tentatively scheduled in April.

### **Council Priority**

Livable Community

### **Environmental Impact of Action**

Traffic calming measures can reduce the speed of traffic on a street, thereby providing a safer street for other 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 their vehicle, thereby adding to air pollution.

### **Fiscal Impact of Action**

The cost per speed hump is approximately \$1,500. The cost to extend the curb is \$21 per linear foot. The estimated cost for three speed humps and the two bump outs is \$8,000.

### **Racial Equity Impact of Action**

We do not believe that the installation of this traffic calming 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. For neighborhoods with apartment buildings, it may not be practical for residents to obtain signatures of two-thirds of the household units, potentially resulting in fewer traffic calming installations in neighborhoods with a large number of tenants, who are more likely to be people of color.

### **Attachments and Links**

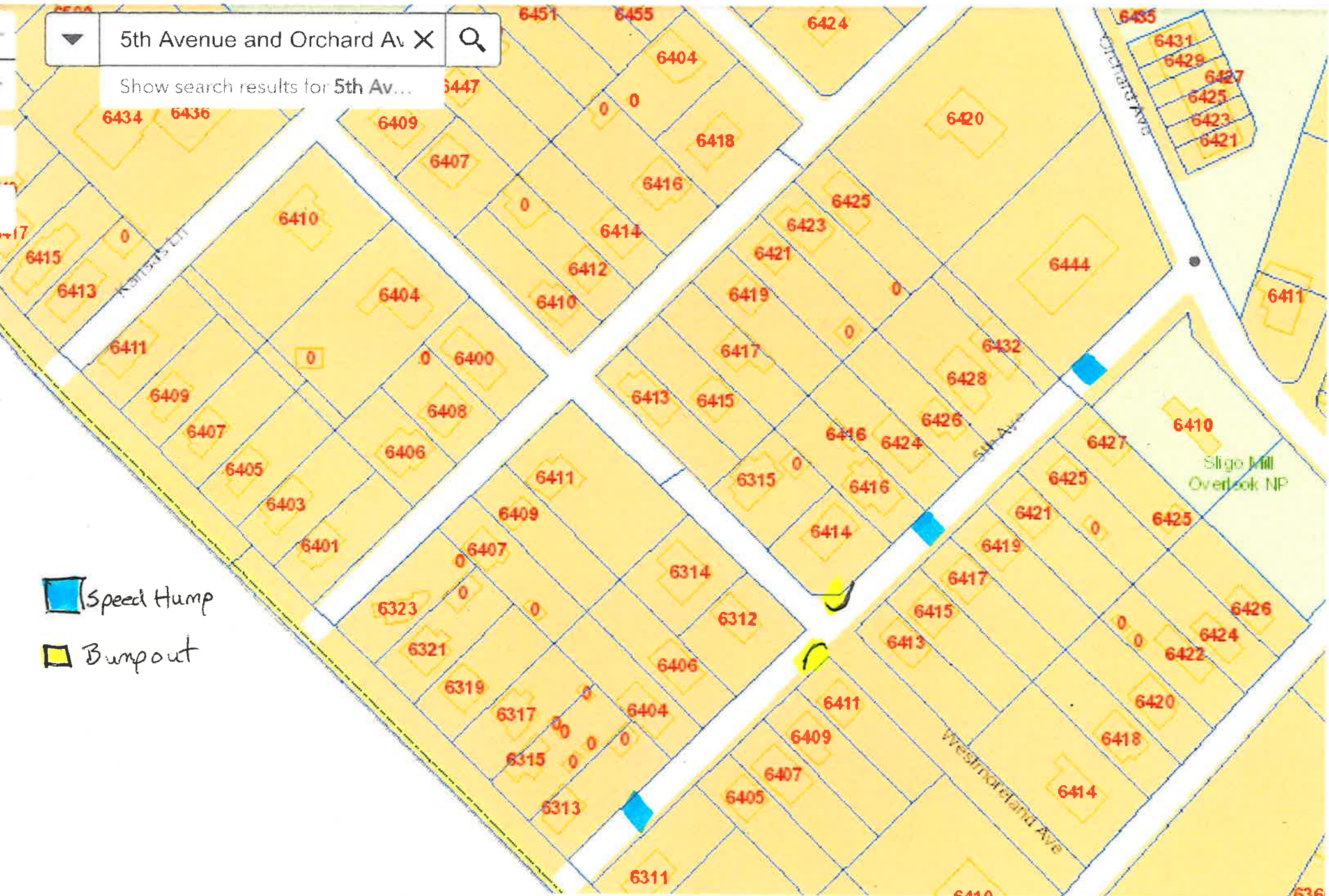
- Map showing proposed traffic calming measures



# Montgomery County Map

5th Avenue and Orchard Av X

Show search results for 5th Av...



Speed Hump

Bumpout