



## Takoma Park City Council Meeting – May 13, 2020 Agenda Item 1, 2, and 6

### **Public Hearing and Work Session**

Public Hearing on Request for Traffic Calming on the 7300 Block of Wildwood Drive  
Public Hearing on Request for Traffic Calming on the 7600 Block of Wildwood Drive  
Work Session Discussion of Traffic Calming Requests

### **Recommended Council Action**

Receive public comments and discuss the request.

### **Context with Key Issues**

Residents of the 7300 block of Wildwood Drive petitioned to add a second speed hump on their block. Petition signatures were verified, a neighborhood meeting was held on February 25, 2020, and the public hearing was scheduled for March 18.

Residents of the 7600 block of Wildwood Drive petitioned to have a speed hump on the block. Petition signatures were verified, a neighborhood meeting was held on November 12, 2019, and the public hearing was scheduled for March 18.

Staff mailed notice of the public hearings to residents on Wildwood Drive and neighboring blocks, inviting them to attend the public hearing or send written comments expressing their view on the proposal. Due to the public health situation, the March 18 public hearing was cancelled. It has been rescheduled to May 13. The new hearing date was published in the May edition of the *Takoma Park Newsletter*, but a new mailed notice was not sent. Staff is making every effort to ensure that residents are aware of the new hearing date.

If the Council wishes to authorize the requested traffic calming, a two-reading ordinance can be scheduled.

There are several other streets in the New Hampshire Gardens Neighborhood where residents wish to petition for traffic calming due to the increase in cut through traffic resulting from construction of the Purple Line. Given the inability of residents to go door to door at this time, staff suggests that residents be permitted to submit individual emails in lieu of signing a petition.

### **Council Priority**

Livable Community

### **Environmental Considerations**

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.

Prepared by: Daryl Braithwaite, Public Works Director and Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk

Approved by: Suzanne R. Ludlow, City Manager

Posted 2020-05-06

**Fiscal Considerations**

The cost per speed hump is approximately \$1,500. The cost to install signs for both projects is approximately \$300.

**Racial Equity Considerations**

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**

None