



# Takoma Park City Council Meeting – February 24, 2021

## Agenda Item 1

### Public Hearing

Traffic Calming Requests:

- A. 8000 Block of Wildwood Drive
- B. Darwin Avenue

### Recommended Council Action

Hear public comments. A work session is scheduled for early March to discuss the requests.

### Context with Key Issues

#### A. 8000 Block of Wildwood Drive

Residents of the 8000 block of Wildwood Drive have petitioned for a speed hump and bump outs to slow traffic. The petitioners obtained the necessary signatures for the request to move forward.

#### B. Darwin Avenue

Residents of Darwin Avenue have petitioned to have two speed humps placed on Darwin Avenue to slow traffic on the street. The petitioners obtained the necessary signatures for the request to move forward.

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.

### Council Priority

A Livable Community for All; Engaged, Responsive & 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

If approved, the cost for installation of two speed humps on Darwin Avenue would be \$7,000. The treatment of the 8000 block of Wildwood Drive is expected to cost approximately \$3,000 if only a speed hump is installed. If bump outs are included, the estimate for two bump outs would be \$8,000 to \$12,000.

### 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.

**Attachments and Links**

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