



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: JANUARY 19, 2016

ITEM NUMBER: **NB-3**

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SPEED HUMPS ON SAINT CLAIR STREET

DATE: JANUARY 7, 2016

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT – TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: ERNESTO MUNOZ, PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: RAJA SETHURAMAN, MANAGER,
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES (714) 754-5032**

RECOMMENDATION:

Provide direction on the speed humps request on Saint Clair Street between Drake Avenue and Velasco Lane.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Services Department received a written request for the installation of speed humps on Saint Clair Street between Drake Avenue and Velasco Lane from Mr. Jay Litvak, a resident of Velasco Lane. The written request along with a signed petition were submitted to the City on February 10, 2015 (Attachment 1).

Based on the request, staff collected data and analyzed the traffic conditions along this segment of Saint Clair Street. Saint Clair Street carries about 1,600 vehicles per day and the 85th percentile speed is 33 miles per hour. The analysis revealed that installation of speed humps was not recommended as it did not satisfy the requirements included in the City Council-adopted "Guidelines for Study of Installation or Removal of Speed Humps" (Attachment 2). According to the guidelines, speed humps could be considered if the average daily traffic volumes exceed 3,500 vehicles and the 85th percentile speed is greater than 30 miles per hour. Therefore, in order to address the speeding concern, staff recommended the installation of transverse thermoplastic striping across Saint Clair Street, which was included in a written response sent by City staff to Mr. Litvak (Attachment 3).

Subsequent to the submittal of the written response, Mr. Litvak requested consideration of another alternative (raised markers) that could help alleviate the speeding concerns. This alternative consists of the installation of several rows of raised markers glued to the pavement which cause vibrations to vehicles when they are driven over, to alert the driver. The raised markers were installed in April 2015 across Saint Clair Street and have helped in providing additional warning for speeding motorists.

The above information was provided to the City Council via a Memorandum in November 2015. Council Member Foley directed that the Saint Clair Speed Humps request be agendaized to the regular City Council Meeting in January 2016.

ANALYSIS:

Staff regularly receives speeding concerns along residential streets in neighborhoods throughout the City. Typically, after receiving these types of concerns from residents, staff conducts a field review, collects daily traffic count data, conducts a speed survey, and obtains five (5) years of accident data for the subject location. The information collected is analyzed and compared to the thresholds included in the Council-adopted guidelines for installation or removal of Speed Humps (Attachment 2). If a particular location does not satisfy the Council-adopted guidelines, staff recommends other alternatives such as signage, pavement markings, raised markers, etc., that can help alleviate speeding concerns.

In order to address resident concerns fairly and effectively, and to maintain consistency throughout the City, staff does not deviate from the requirements listed in the City's Guidelines. In the last 12-month period, Public Services staff has received fifteen (15) requests for installation of speed humps at the locations listed in the table below.

| No. | Street Segment | Limits | | Posted/Prima Facie Speed Limit | Observed Speed (85th percentile) | Daily Traffic Volume | Satisfies City Guidelines |
|-----|------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| | | From | To | | | | |
| 1 | Europa Dr. | Balearic Dr. | Calvert Av. | 25 | 28 | 489 | No |
| 2 | Labrador/Bermuda | Baker St. | Gisler Av. | 25 | 27 | 900 | No |
| 3 | Hamilton St. | Harbor Blvd. | Thurin Av. | 25 | 33 | 3,200 | No |
| 4 | Hamilton St. | Harbor Blvd. | Pomona Av. | 25 | 32 | 6,000 | Yes |
| 5 | Avocado St. | Fairview Rd. | College Av. | 25 | 32 | 2,500 | No |
| 6 | Cabrillo St. | Irvine Av. | Tustin Av. | 25 | 30 | 550 | No |
| 7 | Monte Vista Av. | Orange Av. | Santa Ana Av. | 25 | 33 | 1,700 | No |
| 8 | Thurin Av. | Victoria St. | Hamilton St. | 25 | 30 | 3,700 | Yes |
| 9 | E. 18th St. | Tustin Av. | Irvine Av. | 25 | 35 | 1,900 | No |
| 10 | Santa Ana Av. | 19th St. | 20th St. | 30 | 35 | 6,000 | No |
| 11 | Bermuda Dr. | Madagascar St. | Barbados Pl. | 25 | 29 | 255 | No |
| 12 | Maple Av. | Hamilton St. | W. 19th St. | 25 | 31 | 3,500 | Yes |
| 13 | Iowa St. | New Hampshire Dr. | Gisler Av. | 25 | 34 | 2,400 | No |
| 14 | Pomona Av. | Hamilton St. | W. 19th St. | 25 | 28 | 6,100 | No |
| 15 | Saint Clair St. | Velasco Ln. | Drake Av. | 25 | 33 | 1,600 | No |

While based on the review of existing data, three (3) locations did satisfy the criteria included in the speed hump guidelines, staff considered other options in lieu of speed humps which will require budget authorization. Pavement markings and placement of transverse raised markers were recommended on Hamilton Street. On Thurin Avenue, a new all-way STOP control was added at Hamilton Street. On Maple Avenue, speed humps were not recommended due to the potential diversion of traffic to other parallel streets. Additional speed limit signs and legends were added on Maple Avenue.

Based on an analysis of the existing conditions, staff does not recommend consideration of speed humps on Saint Clair Street at this time. Since the installation of raised markers eight (8) months ago, staff has not received any further complaints. In addition, due to the number of speeding complaints and requests for speed humps, the application of Council-approved guidelines consistently has enabled equal treatment of this issue Citywide.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

The City Council could direct staff to install speed humps on Saint Clair Street. If this is recommended, staff will request a budget authorization for the installation. Another alternative is to not recommend speed hump installation.

FISCAL REVIEW:

The cost to install speed humps at one location is approximately \$4,000. In order to effectively implement this type of speed control measure, speed humps have to be installed at two (2) locations (minimum), which will result in a total cost of approximately \$8,000. If authorized, funds for the installation will be requested during the mid-year budget review or during the next budget period.

LEGAL REVIEW:

There is no legal review required for this speed humps request.

CONCLUSION:

Staff, in response to an earlier request for speed humps from resident Mr. Jay Litvak, determined that the guidelines for the installation of speed humps are not met and installed other measures to address speeding concerns. Council Member Foley directed that consideration of speed humps on Saint Clair Street be agendized for the January meeting. Staff requests Council's direction on this request.

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ATTACHMENTS: 1 [Resident Request](#)
 2 [City Guidelines City](#)
 3 [Response](#)

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