



City Council

February 11, 2025
Packet Addendum #1

From: [cindy Bedell](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Kurt Kowar](#)
Subject: City Council Agenda Item Traffic Calming 2/11/25
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 12:49:11 PM

Dear City Councilmembers and Public Works Director,

I am writing with public input about the Traffic Calming Presentation/
Discussion on the Agenda for 2/11/25.

Please consider Photo Enforcement measures instead of more
speed bumps and irregular lane striping. I saw an article in the Daily Camera
recently that the City of Boulder is expanding their photo enforcement program.

I live immediately off of Washington Street and have to drive the
Mount Washington speed bumps every time I want to travel
south on Washington. These bumps are overly aggressive,
unevenly sloped, and intermittent. They also extend into the bike lane.

Many of my neighbors have complained about this overly draconian
traffic calming, but we have not been heard.

It is an urban myth that emergency or wide vehicles can pass over these intermittent bumps because of
the design.

I have watched police cars and school busses stopped to a halt then have to crawl over them, jostling the
students and anything in the vehicle.

I hope there is no emergency police response required where a police cruiser has to arrive quickly
from Washington street.

Contractor and landscaping trucks regularly lose items off their truck beds.
I often do a trash pick-up run along these bumps so that bicyclists like myself
won't get a flat tire from the assortment of screws and metal parts.

In order to avoid the damage to our suspension and alignment and the constant frustration,
most of us detour through surrounding neighborhoods out to McCaslin. This adds a lot
of traffic to these other neighborhood streets that should be on our main collector street, Washington.

These Washington Street bumps should be modified to gentler speed tables that would
allow us to pass at 15 - 20 mph without harming our vehicles or our potluck dishes.
Right now we are required to come to a complete stop 4x in a row, then crawl over them
at 5 mph while getting jostled and bumped.

If we make it over Washington Street and want to continue down Dahlia, the most direct
access to Safeway, Social Security, the carwash, the post office - restaurants and businesses
off of Dahlia, then we have to navigate the game of chicken on Dahlia.

Recently I was in another state for a while. When I returned to Louisville I drove down
Dahlia at night, keeping the white lines on my right as I have been conditioned to do for
40+ years of driving, and as they do in standard striping in other states. Suddenly a car
appeared coming straight towards me and I had to swerve to avoid a head on collision.
Thank goodness there was no bicyclist in the bike lane or they would have been hit.

Do you remember the principle of conditioning from Psych 101? When we drive, we
automatically follow the traffic patterns we have learned and used. This one way
head on collision striping is an accident waiting to happen. I wonder if this will impact real estate
values along that corridor. Recently a house model came up for sale that we've been
wanting for a long time, but we didn't even look at it because it was off of Dahlia and

driving that road is so onerous we didn't want to buy a house there.

Finally, it makes no sense to me to reduce Via Appia to one lane at a time when City Council is promoting adding thousands of residences and vehicles to Louisville. Right after this change was made, there was a terrible mortality accident on Via Appia that seems to be related to a distracted driver on their cell phone. The one lane revision did not prevent that incident. It was an ineffective solution looking for a problem. Via Appia was functioning just fine before money was spent restriping it from two lanes to one lane.

Thank you for considering my input! We all want safer streets in Louisville but let's use some common sense and interventions that are reasonable.

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