

Smith Drive/Louisville Drive Traffic Calming

Elke Boyd <elkebboyd@gmail.com> To: Andrew.Briedwell@como.gov, pubw@como.gov Thu, Nov 18, 2021 at 3:03 PM

Andrew,

I want to thank the City for this opportunity to comment on the planned Smith Drive/Louisville Drive traffic calming project.

While I am the current Chair of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission, I am making these comments as a private citizen.

I want to start by applauding the City of Columbia for continuing to strive to make our streets a safer environment for all it's users. Particularly in a densely populated suburban area, such as the Smith Drive/Louisville Drive neighborhood, it is of vital importance to not only allow but to foster safe non-motorized transportation. Studies have shown that time spent outdoors is directly related to lifelong health of the residents.

The neighborhood at hand does not only contain residences, but also churches, schools and parks. A connection to the planned Perche Creek trail is forthcoming. With that in mind, it is not enough to slow vehicular traffic. Safe routes for pedestrians and wheelchair users as well as for bicyclists, whether on the road or sidewalk, must be provided for users of all ages.

Please see my attached markups of the preliminary plan set for the construction area. I am particularly concerned with the bulb outs and islands that force bicycles into the vehicle travel lanes. In addition, bicycle/stroller/wheelchair on- and offramps need to be provided to connect the sidewalks of the straight-through roads with the roadways on each side of all tee intersections.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Elke Boyd

2021-11-18 Smith & Louisville Dr dwg Markups.pdf 2804K



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706 708	City of Columbia, Missouri	Department of Public Works
SCOTT BOULEWARD	Dote: 1 Des. Dwn. Chk. St	' = 30' 1/8/2021 A.S.B. D.G.W. J.D.R. Heet of 8



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Comment forms can be mailed to:	Andrew Briedwell Public Works department City of Columbia P.O. Box 6015 Columbia, MO 65205-6015
Comments may also be faxed to: or forwarded via E-mail to:	573-449-9641 <u>Pubw@CoMo.gov</u> (please include "Smith/Louisville Drive traffic calming" in the subject line and provide your name and complete mailing address)
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	wouldn't bother me if it were implemented.
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3. I disagree with the addition of "bulb outs" as shown in the document titled "Smith-Louisville Traffic Caloning Pheliminary Plan Set". The "bulb outs" will for ree bicigelists using Smith Drive to be squeezed out by cars and will not allow a minimum 3-foot distance of vehicles from bicyclists. I think the addition of median islands may have the same effect of squeezing out bicyclists. I would suggest speed humps instead of median islands and "bulbouts." 4. Adenia Smith Drive needs continuous sidewalks of on both sides of the street all the way to Scoff Blud, The areas where sidewalks are needed are: a) Between Stone Valley Pkwy east to Scott Blud on the north side of the street. b) To the east of Dayspring Drive east to to Scott Blud on the south side of the street. These sidewalks are especially necessary near Scott Blud as this is where amenities such as convenience stores and coffee shops that people desire to walk to will be Situated. 5. In general, the City of Columbia needs to treat arterial streets on the developing outskirts of the city as safe and usable for both breyclists and pedestrians. Cyclists may use city streets as corridors to access trails or rura highways. Pedestrians need safe walking pathways formecreation and walking to amenifies. Utilize a complete streets policy for these newly developed areas.

Smith/I	ouisville Drive Traffic C	alming
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The existing speed bumps on West how Smi by fourierell as well as the hill in Breckenridge a good start but they here to be improved by making from taller - Speed beings in Deveral additional locations on Smith are badly headed I think this would be a Demple and less costly means of plaing geople down I like the idea of a for croswalk with a push button signal near the east end of Smith to help people Dafely access the businesser in that Dhops and 4) The traffic in the Westbury area knoweases A daily The Faurat/Scott antrance ne stoplate so people can turn north with all the new apartments nearby, I take some of the pressure off this area 5.) a streetingert needs to be added at the Intrance to Stonevalley Fky at Smith 6) Parking for the recently opened coffee Shop needs to be provided. The customers have started parting on the street + the area is very congested. This is next to the arena liquer Store. 7) Smith Drive doesn't seem to be a hearily used Cerea for biking , a don't think use head pitre lanesmost won't ride up those tall hills ! set so many residents are in four of busie lanes, why we out they at the meeting? By the way, - e pited 4000 miles last year part I use the Katy trail where I what be nun over by cars



Fwd: [PubW]: Smith/Louisville Drive Traffic Calming

1 message

Dana Sample <Dana.Sample@como.gov> To: Andrew Briedwell <andrew.briedwell@como.gov>

Andrew,

Please see the comments regarding Smith/Louisville.

Thank you, Dana Sample, CTA Sr. Administrative Support Assistant / HR Liaison City of Columbia, Public Works Department 701 E Broadway, 3rd Floor Columbia, MO 65201 573-874-2489 Dana.Sample@como.gov

------ Forwarded message ------From: **Maisells, Forrest /C** <forrest.maisells@exxonmobil.com> Date: Wed, Dec 1, 2021 at 6:28 AM Subject: [PubW]: Smith/Louisville Drive Traffic Calming To: pubw@CoMo.gov <pubw@como.gov> Cc: Laura Maisells <lmaisells@gmail.com>

We support traffic calming being installed on Smith / Louisville Drive as it is most definitely needed with the following clarifications:

• Having direct view of the intersection of Louisville and Smith, we can attest to the high likelihood of a severe accident due to many observed close calls. Vehicles <u>repeatedly</u> fail to stop when turning eastbound on Smith from Louisville. Vehicles heading east on Smith out of the new subdivision do not have a stop sign and thus travel at a high rate of speed. The combination, if not mitigated, will lead to a collision and there is a high potential for a vehicle to jump the curb on the north side of Smith immediately adjacent to our backyard fence. As we have a pool on the other side, and thus always in our backyard, we are concerned about the potential for serious injuries or deaths occurring (property damage notwithstanding). Based on our observation, we do not foresee a speed hump on Smith, despite being higher, will address the intersection problem, as it is too far from it. We believe a speed table at the intersection, in lieu of the speed hump, will be the most effective solution to address speeds/stopping on Louisville and Smith. We understand the drainage concerns raised but request that this solution be thoroughly explored to see if both the traffic and drainage can be resolved together.

• The proposed speed hump location on Smith Drive will be immediately outside our bedroom windows, both upstairs and downstairs, as our bedrooms are on the south side of our home. The current hump, installed by the new subdivision to the west, while ineffective at slowing down traffic due to insufficient height, still generates a large amount of noise/banging as vehicles, especially trucks, pass over it. The new hump will be understandably higher and will exacerbate the noise problem substantially. Please consider if you would like one added outside your bedroom window.

• Again based on observation of the current speed hump, vehicles heading eastbound typically accelerate hard immediately after passing over the hump as they head up the hill. The creates a huge amount of noise (read lots of pickup trucks) as many floor it up the hill. We believe the current proposed design of median islands and bulb outs is too far to the east of the proposed speed bump to stop this rapid acceleration problem. Another speed hump should be installed near the top of the hill which will serve to keep the traffic speed down throughout the entire distance from the medians to the Louisville intersection.

Wed, Dec 1, 2021 at 10:00 AM

• The proposed crosswalk location east of the Louisville-Smith intersection is not the correct location for it in our opinion. It should be located at the actual intersection and additionally there should be one to cross Louisville just south of Smith. For crossing Smith, we propose the crosswalk be located at the outlet of the new subdivision just prior to the intersection. This is undevelopable property so no homeowners are affected and it will serve to also slow down traffic in and out of the new subdivision which is a current problem.

• For Smith itself, we think speed humps will be much more effective than the proposed median island-bump out design. As a bike rider, I would not ride in traffic in the bump out area. While having a bike lane is certainly desirable, it is a very far second concern to the speed problem. Solve the speed problem.

As a final comment, the potential for the collision initially described is high and will only increase at the subdivision to the west continues to fill in. We had inquired the evening of the public comments about the potential to install rocks or similar as a barrier on the north side of Smith to prevent a vehicle from entering our backyard in a crash. Upon further reflection, we feel that the downside of this barrier could potentially be it becoming a place of pedestrian congregation, and/or standing on such a barrier to view our backyard, would be very undesirable. Therefore, we would not want this pursued, rather we think the speed table at the intersection is the best option.

Forrest R. & Laura J. Maisells

507 Silver Thorne Drive

Columbia, MO 65203

(816) 536-2651 & (573) 355-4356

Public Comment Form
Smith/Louisville Drive Traffic Calming
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[] I support traffic calming being installed on Smith/Louisville Dr.
I do NOT support traffic calming being installed on Smith/Louisville Dr.
We are accepting comments until December 3, 2021. Thank you for your input!
Please see attached comments related
A crosswalk across Smith at Levisville
makes sense, but the bump outs, medians, and
There is more space on the back of this form.
** The personal information requested below is not required and could be made available to the public.
ACD -
Name Comproemidamerica.net
203 Knollwood G Columbia, MD 65203 Mailing Address City State Zip

The traffic calming proposals for Smith Drive, while well thought out, are way out of proportion to any perceived problems and would be a waste of taxpayer funds that would be better used elsewhere. Traffic concerns on Smith Drive have been way overstated by a very loud handful of individuals that have been organized through the use of HOA mailings and emails. There has been no organized group to combat the misinformation, but there are a large number that would vehemently disagree if they had the same platform from which to speak. The facts are:

- There have been no accidents on Smith Drive
- There have been no pedestrian accidents on Smith Drive
- There are virtually no homes facing the road or driveways that enter onto Smith
- It is not a neighborhood street. It is an artery.
- There are no yards for children to play, and I've have never seen children paying along that road.
- After 11 years of traveling from Scott Blvd. to Louisville, I rarely share the road with another vehicle.
- After 11 years of turning left onto Smith Drive from Silverthorne, it is extremely rare that I have to wait on a vehicle coming from either direction on Smith, and the maybe 10% of the time that there is a car to wait for, I can see them from either direction with very ample time to decide whether to safely enter the street. I've never had to hit my brakes or had on oncoming vehicle have to hit theirs.
- There is very little foot traffic, and what little there is, is accommodated by wide sidewalks on both sides of the road several feet away from the curb.
- There are nearly zero bicycles.
- There are virtually zero pedestrians crossing Smith other than perhaps an occasional few at Louisville to walk to the park. The only other place pedestrians cross would be at Scott Blvd which is of course already accommodated by a crosswalk and stoplight. If a crosswalk were added at Louisville, then pedestrians could walk on the sidewalk for a block or two to get to one or the other if they felt the need to utilize a crosswalk.
- Using the statistics provided, 3,500 vehicles per day translates to an average of less than 2.5 vehicles per minute, not a busy road.
- Smith is very much like Chapel Hill road where they added bike lanes and raised the speed limit to 40. That seems like a much more appropriate solution.
- I'm 64 years old with kids and grandkids.

Are there statistics or could there be statistics for pedestrian counts, bicycles counts, or pedestrian crossings? Can we get that information prior to jumping on a plan? If this were a subdivision street with kids playing, or a near downtown road with consistent pedestrian traffic, I would understand the need. But the light pedestrian traffic and relatively light vehicle traffic on Smith simply doesn't warrant the cost and use of public resources.

Smith/L	ouisville Drive Traffic C	alming	
We would appreciate hearing your t complete mailing address, and sign		vrite legibly, inclu	ide your
Comment forms can be mailed to:	Andrew Briedwell Public Works department City of Columbia P.O. Box 6015 Columbia, MO 63205-6015		
Comments may also be faxed to: of forwarded via E-mail to:			
V I support traffic	colming being installed on Smith/L	misville Dr.	
Traffic Calming	wouldn't bother me if it were implei	mented	
I do NOT suppor	rt traffic calming being installed on.	Smith/Louisvillo	Dr.
We are accepting com	ments until Dec. 3, 2021. Thank you	for your input!	
Communents Thank you for ta	king your valuable time to present th	e meeting last M	onday.
I learned at the meeting that Smith		the second second to be described as a second	
are not suitable. These humps may	effect emergency vehicles. Conseq	puentially, it seem	s that
the only alternative for controlling s	peeding vehicles is by using Median	Islands and Buit	o Outs.
Although most of the people in attenda	ince at the meeting wanted speed hump	os. It seems to mit	
that if we want vehicle speeds to be	a slower, the recommandations pres	ented need to be	done.
I would like for you to consider the	possibility of adding a traffic light sor	newhere on Scot	t Blvd
there is more space in the back of this form.			-
** The personal information reque	sted below is not required and could	be made availabl	e to the public
+111 was Willia Three	a Mekany		
William Thomas McKenney	mckenneyw@r	nissouri	
Name	Columbia	MO	65203
700 Medford Drive			

Public	Comment	Form
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between Smith Drive and Chapel Hill. We have noticed that traffic on Smith has increased

significantly since the traffic light was installed on Smith and Scott. People who live in Georgetown

and other areas South of Smith use Louisville and Smith in order to access Scott at a traffic

light. This would not solve the speeding issue, but it would reduce the amount of traffic on

Smith Drive.

Again, thank you for presenting your findings to those interested.



Fwd: [PubW]: Smith/Louisville Drive Traffic Calming

1 message

Dana Sample <Dana.Sample@como.gov> To: Andrew Briedwell <andrew.briedwell@como.gov>

Hi Andrew,

Please see comments regarding Smith-Louisville below.

Thanks, Dana Sample, CTA Sr. Administrative Support Assistant / HR Liaison City of Columbia, Public Works Department 701 E Broadway, 3rd Floor Columbia, MO 65201 573-874-2489 Dana.Sample@como.gov

------ Forwarded message ------From: **brenda peculis** <brendap.home@gmail.com> Date: Mon, Nov 29, 2021 at 3:49 PM Subject: [PubW]: Smith/Louisville Drive Traffic Calming To: <pubw@como.gov>

Gree ngs

I am wring to voice my concerns about the proposed traffic calming designs for Smith Street. I a ended the event held at City Hall on November 8th

Overall, I'm very happy that op ons are being considered to slow the speed on Smith and Louisville – this is much needed and arguably long-overdue! I have lived at 505 Silver Thorne since 2004. In the past few years, while wai ng at the stop sign on Silver Thorne Dr to turn le. onto Smith, I have seen cars on Louisville barely slow as they turn right onto Smith – occasionally turning into the path of a car speeding out of Breckenridge. While there is a speed hump out of Breckenridge, it is not effec2ve at slowing those cars, which are well above the posted speed by the 2me they hit the Louisville intersec2on

However, the specifics of the proposed plan have me a bit concerned. Specifically:

The bump-outs that are proposed will force me – as a bicyclist – into the lane of traffic, forcing them to share the lane with me. That means 4 or 5 2 mes over that 2 block stretch I will need to directly compete with cars for my place in the lane. Cars will be accelera? In g around me, making it less safe for everyone.

I have lived in Columbia (and at 505 SilverThorne) for over 15 years – I frequently bike the en relength of Sco? Avenue, in the designated bike lane. I also bike Gillespie Bridge to UU to O to Route K and up Old Plank without fear. There is no bike lane on that route but the cars see me and my ac? Ons are predictable. However, the thought of biking on Smith with the proposed bump-outs really terrifies me. I will be *forced into* the lane of moving traffic and have to hope the drivers will make space for me and accommodate my slower speed as we all weave around concrete obstacles.

Some have proposed designated bike lanes, separated by curbs, bollards or flex posts as an op² on that would prevent bikers from having to compete with cars. Normally I would be in favor of this, however, if snow plows are going to dump snow in the bike lane and it will never be cleaned by the street sweepers, then it becomes unsafe for bicyclists.

I would PROPOSE :

striped bike lanes the *en re length* of Smith and on into Breckenridge. This should include sharrows added to the lane(s) near Sco² on Smith indica²ng to Drivers that bicycles need to be in that lane. The distance between Sco² and the driveway into the gas sta²on/mall has become par²cularly dangerous with the recent changes in that intersec²on.
Addi²on of *striped crosswalks at EVERY* intersec²on / T-intersec²on on Smith. The presence of crosswalks would remind drivers that pedestrians are present and have the right to cross a street there.

Mon, Nov 29, 2021 at 3:51 PM

3) Placing *tall speed tables at every T-intersec on* and 4-way intersec[®] on to slow traffic. While these do not narrow the line of sight, the combina[®] on of speed tables and painted bike lanes have been used elsewhere in the city (Stewart Rd between West and Providence) to slow traffic and to safely make space for bicycles on the street.

4) One ADDITIONAL tall speed hump at the top of the hill which is not labeled on your maps, but is near where you would match the map at point A on the handouts provided. This hill creates a huge blind spot in both direc2 ons. Drivers often accelerate to and over this hill. With speed bumps installed as above, by far the longest stretch of uninterrupted road would include this enormous blind spot. Right now, most pedestrians DO cross at the top of this hill as it is by far the safest place - and the *only one* with a direct line of sight in both direc2 ons. Slowing traffic over the top of this hill is impera2 ve.

thank you for the opportunity to respond - and for your all englon to this maller

-Brenda Peculis

505 Silver Thorme Dr

30 November, 2021

TO: Public Works Department, City of Columbia RE: Smith-Louisville Traffic Calming

I attended the Interested Parties sessions on November 8 and the previous one earlier in the year. For purposes of disclosure, I wear several hats.

1. First, I am a resident at 505 Silver Thorne and obviously concerned about traffic speed on Smith since I am on that road virtually every day.

2. Secondly, I am President of the Stoneridge Homeowners' Association, although the Association hasn't taken a position on the plans. Instead, we have urged all members to look at their plans and send their thoughts to you, either on the website, by post or by email.

3. Third, I am an avid bicyclist and have been recently elected to the Local Motion board.

4. Finally, I am a member of the Columbia Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission. The Commission discussed the plans and drawings at our meeting on November 17. The Commission didn't take a formal position on the plans due to timing issues but the members reiterated our ongoing position that safety should be a paramount concern regarding all road users, especially cyclists, pedestrians and the disabled. In this regard, we noted that a connection to the Perche Creek trail is planned at the West end of Smith Drive which likely will increase cycle traffic.

Regarding the plans as presented on November 8 and on the project website:

1. Thanks to the City staff for their willingness to discuss the plans and their openness to citizen input. The more dialogue, the more trust.

2. I have a number of questions and comments regarding the actual plans. Proceeding from West to East on Smith,

a. The excessive speed of traffic coming from Breckinridge subdivision and heading East on Smith is compounded by the limited visibility South of the intersection on Louisville. Effective traffic calming West of Louisville on Smith is needed to reduce speed, especially since the Southwest corner will soon be developed for housing. Similarly, Northbound vehicles making the right turn on Smith from Louisville often proceed without yielding, let alone stopping, at the stop sign. At present, there is very little left turning traffic; however, that will likely change as Breckenridge gets built out and Christian Fellowship School enrolls more students. A traffic circle would be a preferred option.

b. Apparently the traffic circle is disfavored due to cost and drainage issues. The engineers also indicated that drainage issues precluded placing the traffic table and crosswalk directly in the intersection of Smith and Louisville. I urge you to reconsider this feature. I support the proposed HAWK crossing; however, it is accessible only to pedestrians proceeding in one of

the three directions at this intersection, leaving the others unprotected, except by the stop signs on Louisville and Silver Thorne. The table would be more effective if it were placed in the intersection, with marked crosswalks (one E-W and two HAWK N-S) to ensure safe passage for pedestrians.

c. Water from Silver Thorne drains into the intersection with Smith and freezes in winter, causing slippery conditions that lead to cars skidding into the traffic on Smith. Correction of this condition could be done at the same time as improving drainage at the Smith-Louisville intersection.

d. Proceeding East from Silver Thorne Dr., the hill slightly East of Matchline A in the plans is a unique problem, since the hill invites speeding by traffic in either direction, the hill limits visibility, and there is only a short distance to the intersection at Silver Thorne, which is a hazard as described in c., above. I support effective traffic calming be at that area, including speed bumps and/or a median to slow traffic on either side of the crest.

e. East of the hill, the three-way intersection at Somerset needs a way to allow pedestrians to cross especially since the hill on Smith limits visibility. Although it doesn't front a residence, there is substantial pedestrian traffic that is headed to and from Louisville Park and the Hamlet. A HAWK crossing would be ideal. Curb cuts allowing access to the intersection are of course essential.

f. Traffic on to Smith from Dayspring and Stone Valley (including cut-through traffic from Scott) will increase substantially with the Westbury development. Raised crosswalks (both N-W and E-W) and HAWK signals are needed.

3. Overall, the proposed bulb-outs will force cyclists to merge into the traffic lanes while going past the bulb-outs. As someone who regularly rides on Chapel Hill, I can testify that motorists speed up to pass me at the intersections and even within the traffic lane, notwithstanding that I am going downhill at nearly 30 mph. Protected bike lanes that preserve a physical separation between the bike lane and the traffic lane would be preferable to the existing plan, perhaps by leaving a bike lane between the bulb-outs/pedestrian refuges and the curb. This would narrow drivers' field of vision and also promote cyclist safety. Alternatively, curbing, bollards or flex posts could accomplish similar separation.

4. I urge that any speed bumps be as high as possible. Construction in the Breckenridge subdivision and Ri-Mor's topsoil harvesting in the Perche Creek bottoms mean that heavy equipment haulers and dump trucks will be using Smith Drive for the foreseeable future. In our observation, because these vehicles have high clearances, they aren't slowed by speed bumps nearly as much as passenger cars or even SUVs.

5. Last, although it isn't part of this project, the traffic situation from Dayspring to Scott Drive is hazardous to pedestrians and cyclists, due to the narrow lanes and the lack of cycle lanes and the low merging table from Scott. Crossing Scott in either direction on a bicycle is an adventure to say the least. We routinely have to dismount and walk over to push the buttons in order to have

time and space to get across safely.

Let me reiterate my appreciation for the communications from and dialogue with the City engineering staff, and for your consideration of my input.

With best regards,

Thank Schmidte C

Frank Schmidt 505 Silver Thorne Drive Columbia, Missouri 65203

573-424-6872 f.schmidt@mchsi.com



Fwd: [PubW]: Smith-Louisville traffic calming

1 message

Dana Sample <Dana.Sample@como.gov> To: Andrew Briedwell <andrew.briedwell@como.gov>

Andrew,

Please see the comments from Frank Schmidt regarding Smith-Louisville.

Thank you, Dana Sample, CTA Sr. Administrative Support Assistant / HR Liaison City of Columbia, Public Works Department 701 E Broadway, 3rd Floor Columbia, MO 65201 573-874-2489 Dana.Sample@como.gov

------ Forwarded message ------From: <f.schmidt@mchsi.com> Date: Mon, Nov 29, 2021 at 2:02 PM Subject: [PubW]: Smith-Louisville traffic calming To: pubw <pubw@como.gov>

Greetings. A hard copy is in the mail. Best regards, Frank Schmidt

30 November, 2021

TO: Public Works Department, City of Columbia RE: Smith-Louisville Traffic Calming

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Mon, Nov 29, 2021 at 2:09 PM

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With best regards,

Frank Schmidt 505 Silver Thorne Drive Columbia, Missouri 65203

573-424-6872 f.schmidt@mchsi.com



Fwd: [PubW]: Louisville Traffic Calming Project 2171

Dana Sample <Dana.Sample@como.gov> To: Andrew Briedwell <andrew.briedwell@como.gov>

Thu, Nov 11, 2021 at 11:19 AM

Andrew,

Please see comments below regarding Louisville Traffic Calming.

Thanks,

Dana Sample, CTA Sr. Administrative Support Assistant / HR Liaison City of Columbia, Public Works Department **701 E Broadway, 3rd Floor Columbia, MO 65201** 573-874-2489 Dana.Sample@como.gov

------ Forwarded message ------From: **Kim Stonecipher-Fisher** <stonecipherfisher@gmail.com> Date: Wed, Nov 10, 2021 at 7:10 PM Subject: [PubW]: Louisville Traffic Calming Project 2171 To: <pubw@como.gov>

A speed limit of 25 mph between Chapel Hill and Labrador on Louisville is considerably lower than many other areas with the same demographics Only backyards are off Louisville in this area (no driveways) and the crosswalk is at a well marked intersection. It is interesting that the stretch of Chapel Hill from Scoot Boulevard to Grant Lane is designated 40 mph with basically the same layout - backyard only abutting property.

Unless there have been several accidents, involving speed on this stretch, we think this is a horrible misuse of taxpayer money. The calming device square at Tip Tree is absolutely not necessary - there is great visibility from both directions.

Please consider this our formal notice of objection to the calming of traffic - especially from Chapel Hill to Labrador on Louisville.

Kim Stonecipher-Fisher, MBA 1900 Surrey Court Columbia, MO 65203 (573)446-1707 cell (573)489-1707

stonecipherfisher@gmail.com