



Department Source: Public Works

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: February 20, 2023

Re: Public Hearing for the Audubon Drive and Shepard Boulevard Traffic Calming Project

## Executive Summary

Public Hearing to consider the installation of traffic calming devices on Audubon Drive between Stadium Boulevard and Shepard Boulevard, and on Shepard Boulevard between Old 63 South and Audubon Drive. The estimated cost of the project is \$70,000.

## Discussion

Shepard Boulevard scored as the fifth highest priority project within the 2020 Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP), with a score of 79.56 out of a possible 100. Audubon Drive scored as the 11<sup>th</sup> highest priority project within the 2020 Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP), with a score of 69.33 out of a possible 100. The scoring system takes a number of factors into consideration including speed, volume, pedestrian generators in the area, proximity to schools, bike routes, and recent crash history. The majority of the scoring (2/3) is based on speed and volume of vehicles. The speed limit on Shepard Boulevard is 25 mph; however this street scored at the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of 39.52 mph and has over 1,300 vehicles traveling on it per day. The speed limit on Audubon Drive is 25 mph; however, this street scored at the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of 36.11 mph, and has over 1,300 vehicles traveling on it per day.

Two Interested Parties (IP) meetings were held for this project. The first IP meeting was held on December 13, 2021. The second IP meeting was held on June 8, 2022.

During the first IP meeting, staff gathered information from the public and listened to potential solutions. Support for traffic calming to encourage lower speeds was mixed from those providing comments.

Using information gathered at the first IP meeting and the Public Hearing for the proposed Audubon Drive sidewalk project, preliminary plans were developed and presented during the second IP meeting. Those providing comment and in attendance had mixed responses to the proposed traffic calming.

Based on comments received during the second IP meeting comment period, a proposed speed hump on Audubon Drive north of Shepard Boulevard was removed from the preliminary plan.

Following the second IP meeting, the Shepard Neighborhood Association held a vote of its members for support of the proposed traffic calming plan. The results of this vote indicated 37% of households are in favor of the proposed traffic calming plan, and 63% of households



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701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

are not in favor of the proposed plan. However, of the 49 households that are directly on either Audubon Drive or Shepard Boulevard and responded to the vote, 65% are in favor of the proposed traffic calming plan, and 35% oppose the proposed plan.

Staff would like to proceed with the construction of seven speed humps, two speed tables, and three crosswalk improvements on Shepard Boulevard and Audubon Drive during the 2023 construction season.

The calming devices will be located at the following locations:

- One speed hump for each direction on Shepard Boulevard near 2212 Shepard Boulevard
- Speed hump on Shepard Boulevard near 2317 Shepard Boulevard
- Speed hump on Shepard Boulevard near 2411 Shepard Boulevard
- Speed hump on Audubon Drive near 1401 North Azalea
- Speed hump on Audubon Drive near 1305 Audubon Drive
- Speed hump on Audubon Drive near 1101 Audubon Drive
- Speed table on Shepard Boulevard at Danforth Drive with all-way stop removal
- Speed table on Audubon Drive at South Azalea
- Crosswalk improvements on Shepard Boulevard at Danforth Drive
- Crosswalk with bulbout islands on Shepard Boulevard at Bucks Run
- Crosswalk with bulbout islands on Audubon Drive at Meadowlark Lane

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The estimated cost for the installation of a series of seven speed humps, two speed tables, and three crosswalk improvements on Shepard Boulevard and Audubon Drive, including signs and markings, is \$70,000 paid from Annual Traffic Calming Funds.

Long-Term Impact: Staff anticipates the replacement of the traffic calming devices every 15 years.

## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Safe Neighborhoods, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

### Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable



## Legislative History

Date	Action
01/17/2023	R1-23 Setting a Public Hearing for the Audubon Drive and Shepard Boulevard Traffic Calming Project
06/08/2022	IP Meeting Held
02/21/2022	R24-22- Accepting the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program 2021 Year End Report Summary; authorizing the installation of traffic calming devices on Bray Avenue; authorizing staff to complete the public improvement process for the proposed installation of traffic calming devices on Smith Drive, Louisville Drive, Proctor Drive, Audubon Drive, Shepard Boulevard, Ridgefield Road, Ridgemont and Highridge Drive; authorizing staff to pursue traffic calming projects on Garth Avenue, Manor Drive, Russell Boulevard and Northland Drive.
12/13/2021	IP Meeting Held
11/15/2021	PH45-21 Proposed construction of a sidewalk on the west side of Audubon Drive between Azalea Drive and Shepard Boulevard.
02/15/2021	R29-21- Accepting the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program 2020 Year End Report Summary; authorizing staff to complete the public improvement process for the proposed installation of traffic calming devices on William Street, Hinkson Avenue, Smith Drive, Louisville Drive, Bray Avenue, and Maplewood Drive; authorizing staff to pursue traffic calming projects on Shepard Boulevard, Audubon Drive, Proctor Drive, Ridgefield Road, and Ridgemont and Highridge Drive.

## Suggested Council Action

Approve the installation of traffic calming devices on Audubon Drive between Stadium Boulevard and Shepard Boulevard, and on Shepard Boulevard between Old 63 South and Audubon Drive.