

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 21, 2009 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
Claremont Drive - Main Street to Fairview Avenue – Permanent Traffic Calming Improvements	Resolution Ordinance ✓ Motion Discussion Only	Naneil Newlon, P.E. Director of Public Works

SYNOPSIS

A motion is requested to direct staff to prepare construction plans for traffic calming improvements on Claremont Drive, between Main Street and Fairview Avenue.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The Five Year Plan and Goals for 2008-2013 identified *Exceptional Municipal Organization*. A supporting objective of this goal is *Top Quality Core Services Responsive to Current and Future Community and Citizen Needs*.

FISCAL IMPACT

The approved FY09 Budget for traffic calming is \$90,000. The construction cost estimate for this project is \$60,000.

UPDATE & RECOMMENDATION

This item was discussed at the April 14, 2009 workshop. During that discussion, Commissioner Schnell inquired whether staff had any information pertaining to the impact of traffic calming measures on vehicular accidents. Staff contacted Naperville, Oak Park and Geneva in an effort to gather this information. Both Naperville and Oak Park responded they have not seen any increase in accidents at the locations where traffic calming devices have been installed. Naperville and Oak Park also indicated they have observed a reduction in traffic volumes and operating speeds in these areas. No response was received from Geneva. Staff recommends approval on the April 21, 2009 active agenda.

BACKGROUND

A Neighborhood Petition Form was submitted in March of 2007 by residents on Claremont between Main and Claremont asking for interventions to reduce excessive speeding. After an initial neighborhood meeting and subsequent traffic monitoring, staff confirmed that that the 85th percentile speeds ranged from 34 to 40 mph, exceeding the posted limit of 25mph.

Pursuant to the Village's Traffic Calming Policy, staff installed four temporary rubber speed cushions (two each at two locations) in May of 2008. Subsequent speed measurements showed speeds were reduced to a range between 22 and 35 mph. Public response to these temporary improvements was mixed. Staff received 26 comments via letter, e-mail and phone with 13 supportive comments and 13 objecting comments.

Based upon the level of effectiveness of the initial four speed cushions, staff installed an additional six cushions in October 2008. Staff reviewed the effectiveness of the additional speed cushions. The analysis showed speeds to be between 24 and 32 mph and daily volumes reduced by 10% to 54%. Public response to the additional speed cushions was generally negative. Staff received 9 comments. Four were not

supportive of the additional improvements. Four were not supportive of any of the traffic calming improvements and one supported the additional improvements.

With this input, staff designed a permanent traffic calming plan for Claremont which consists of:

- Medians at Fairview, Osage and Blackburn
- Bulb-outs or curb extensions near Grand and Lyman (both north and south)
- Permanent asphalt speed humps just east of Parkview and just west of Clayton

This plan was reviewed by TaP at their March 11, 2009 meeting. Of the residents at the meeting, nine supported the plan, four opposed it and three expressed reservations about specific elements (drainage impacts, visibility and narrowness). TaP recommended an additional rumble-strip median at Main Street as part of the plan. Staff concurs with the recommendation.

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
COUNCIL ACTION SUMMARY

INITIATED: Public Works **DATE:** April 21, 2009
(Name)

RECOMMENDATION FROM: _____ **FILE REF:** _____
(Board or Department)

NATURE OF ACTION:

STEPS NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT ACTION:

- Ordinance
- Resolution
- Motion
- Other

Motion to direct staff to prepare construction plans for traffic calming improvements on Claremont Drive between Main Street and Fairview Avenue.

SUMMARY OF ITEM:

Adoption of this motion shall direct staff to prepare construction plans for traffic calming improvements on Claremont Drive between Main Street and Fairview Avenue.

RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN:
