



Hacienda Neighborhood Workshop June 9, 2011

Frequently Asked Questions

A: During speed limit survey, was this data taken while the speed limit signage was displayed or was it taken without speed limit sign?

A: Public Works performed speed surveys twice – once with the 25 mph signs in place and once when the signs were not in place. The base line speed data was relatively the same on both occasions.

Q: Regarding the speeding data: does the average represent the average speed for the data that fell within the 85%? In other words, does the average represented here eliminate the outlier data?

A: The average is for all cars including the outliers or high speeders.

Q: Does my street qualify for traffic calming?

A: We have implemented “Step 1” Traffic Calming tools which include an increase in police enforcement when possible, posted 25mph speed signs, and we have placed your street on rotation for the driver feedback trailer which shows speed limit.

Your street does not qualify for “Step 2” Traffic Calming tools because you are a “collector” street. We do not use Step 2 Traffic Calming tools, such as physical road profile-changing devices (i.e., speed bumps) on Collector and Arterial streets because the function of a collector is to take traffic from local streets (such as “The Lanes” off of Hacienda) to major arterial streets (such as Hillsdale). Prohibiting “Step 2” Traffic Calming measures on collector streets is also due to the fact that emergency vehicles use collector and arterial streets when responding to emergency calls.

We see the addition of sidewalks to Hacienda as having great value for residents as they will have an exclusive path of travel to recreate, walk their children to school, the library or one of the neighboring parks. With sidewalks, pedestrians will no longer have to “compete” with cars.

Q: What level of speeding is acceptable?

A: No level of speeding is acceptable. However, the City has established a specific threshold, based on best engineering practices, to be sure we are committing our limited resources to areas or neighborhoods that could receive the most benefit. The traffic calming section of our Neighborhood Traffic Management Program indicates a need for speed mitigation when the 85th percentile speed exceeds 7 mph over the posted speed limit. For Hacienda, this would be 32 mph. On both occasions that we studied speed pattern on Hacienda, 31st to Hillsdale, our data indicated that the 85th percentile speed did not exceed the 7 mph over the posted speed limit.

The industry standard, used in many constituencies, is that traffic calming is needed when the 85th percentile speed exceeds 7mph. There is very good reason for this. Traffic calming tools have proven ineffective at lesser increments. On streets that have an 85th percentile speed over the 7mph posted speed limit, traffic calming

tools succeed at lowering how fast people drive down to less than 7mph speeds over posted limit, but do not succeed at lowering speed to or below the posted speed limit. Generally, Hacienda is already experiencing speeds of less than 7mph over posted speed limit.

Q: Concern: will the 2 hour parking limit on Louise make it hard for displaced Hacienda cars to park?

A: The Public Works team performed a parking analysis to determine if there was capacity on the Lanes to absorb displaced parked cars on Hacienda. From that analysis we found that very few people actually park on Hacienda. On two separate occasions, we checked capacity at peak times when one can expect more people to be home after work (after 7:00 pm) and on both occasions, we found only four cars parked on Hacienda. Workshop participants shared that most Hacienda residents are either parking in their garages, driveways or on the Lanes already. The results of the study showed that there is adequate on-street parking capacity on “The Lanes” to accommodate the four displaced cars from Hacienda.

In theory, for those very few cars that may park on the Lanes, the Residential Parking Permit Program on Louise could possibly make parking on the lanes during the day more difficult for these few cars. However, please note that the Residential Parking Permit Program’s two hour parking limit does not apply on evenings after 6:00 pm or on Sundays. All residents can park in a designated Residential Parking Permit Program zone after normal business hours and on Sunday.

Q: Parking on lanes is potentially dangerous now with too many cars. Entrance to lanes emergency vehicles access?

A: The Fire Department team has evaluated the various ideas shared with the community at the June 9th workshop and the impact to “The Lanes,” and they support the plan to increase pedestrian safety through the addition of sidewalks.