
Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by John - 2008/08/05 09:11

This seems to be an issue of concern for many of us, so let's make a separate discussion thread here for the Speed Hump issue.

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by Shadwife - 2008/08/05 10:58

Due to summer schedule and our unavailability to attend a meeting, I have not seen or heard much about the Master Plan...in reading these threads I can only guess what the plan includes...but if I'm understanding correctly I can't see the plan unless we attend the meeting. Is that correct? I live on Shotwell Street near the Michael's Way Stop sign and agree about the speed bumps, although I don't enjoy them myself in my own neighborhood, I understand the reason behind it.

As far as any other topic of discussion, I would like to be more informed. I am assuming this will raise HOA rates, but I'm ok with it, as long as it's a reasonable increase. Someone said in the thread about their neighbors not keeping their house up - while I understand our homes are our investment, you can't know everything about someone's personal situation. My husband was hit hard by our strained economic times, and we had zero money for renovations, paint or additional landscaping, even though we desperately needed to. Has nothing to do with pride, it has everything to do with survival.

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by NoBS - 2008/08/05 12:18

If you want to slow down traffic petition the county to close Winding River so that the only traffic in the Southlands are the residence of Southlands. I would also suggest that if speed humps must be put in, put them where the stop signs occur. Perhaps that will get the drivers that run the stop signs to at least slow down before running it.

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by admin - 2008/08/05 12:19

Thanks for your comments.

On Shotwell, coming down the hill, and on Southlands drive, Speed Bumps could do a great job of controlling the speed of cars.

But speed bumps also can impeded the ability of firetrucks to get into our subdivision. They have to basically stop and roll over them.

And what happens to kids? on bikes and skateboards?

Ultimately, controlling speed is in all of our interest. Nobody wants injured kids, or accidents.

I think three, maybe four humps on that hill would help slow people down... or maybe just corrugated rumble strips. Those would SHAKE your car, but not impact emergency vehicles...

However - if we add these, we need to remove stop signs. Stop signs are being ignored or "rolled" - I do it, and I'm sure most people do... In the 10 years I've been here, I've spent hundreds per year on brakes for my cars...

Speed humps control SPEED without making you stop un-necessarily.

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by NoBS - 2008/08/05 12:29

I live even further down Shotwell and the prospect of rolling over speed humps from the entrance all the way to my house is nothing I look forward to. In addition, I also ride a motorcycle and speed humps are very dangerous to cross on a motorcycle.

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by John - 2008/08/07 22:17

Ok.

The discussion on speed bumps continued at version 3 of the meeting tonight.

I have not verified this myself, but we were told that:

1 - there will be several places along the way to basically stop the project; and

2 - They would be posting on the website (SHOA website) a list of the locations they want to submit to the county for consideration; and

3 - The county won't take out stop signs. (I believe this to be an incomplete answer, because the last time I called about this the county told me we could petition to have signs removed.)

The list numbers 35 in all, and each one would require the approval of the homeowner's on both sides of the street. (this is what we are told - I will probably try to confirm this independently.)

Given these statements (can't call them facts without verification...) I can suggest that you just vote your conscience. I believe that properly engineered speed humps will do more to keep speed down on our streets, without harming our vehicles or wearing out breaks like stop signs do.

I suggested putting in a plan that proposed / requested removal of certain stop signs along with implementing speed humps. Not sure if the board will go along with that.

I volunteered to take the list of addresses and map them using google so we can all see where they are. I'll do this after they upload the list.

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by dZiTao - 2008/08/08 20:21

Several things that I heard at the meeting disturbed me.

"Ask for the moon and take the stars" If we are going to put a plan to the county, I don't believe we should play games. Ask for what you want. Knowing the government if they ask for 35 the county will probably say "Well it looks to us like you need 45!". Just deal straight with people.

I also heard that if you are going the speed limit, the speed humps won't slow you down or impede you. Now I don't know if the Mountain Park speed humps are correctly made or not, I think I also heard they may not be, but on the way home today I decided to put it to the test.

I drove through Mountain Park and took several of the speed humps at exactly 25 MPH. I felt like I was doing an episode of "Streets of San Francisco"! :woohoo: If I hadn't had my seat belt on I would have been flying all over the place. You definitely have to slow down way below 25, so speed humps WILL put extra wear and tear on breaks, suspensions, etc. to say nothing of the increased aggravation.

This also made me realize that speed humps could actually cause an accident if someone goes over them too quickly and they loose control.

In my opinion, 35 speed humps is ludicrous for a subdivision the size of ours. I also don't believe that we could possibly need them on some of the smaller cul-de-sacs, but it sounded like they would be put in there too, just in case in the future a speeding teenager moves into the neighborhood.

I'm with John, take some stop signs out, maybe put a couple speed humps in if it is truly necessary. As the question is asked in the proxy vote, one would have to say NO. There is no real plan and a lot more work would have to be before submitting anything. 3 speed humps or 35 speed humps is a huge difference in a neighborhood of our size.

Please vote NO until this is better thought out.

Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by Shadwife - 2008/08/08 21:17

Yes, I agree that 35 speed bumps is entirely too many. This is over compensation for a small problem. This will quickly make our neighborhood less desirable if we indeed sell our houses one day - I would certainly be hesitant about moving in a small community with 35 speed bumps!!

There are only about 10 in Mountain Park - and we traverse them every day on our way to school. The side streets do not have them only the main roads and comparably to what our small area would feel like - I'd rather see sidewalks added and give up some of my yard space to do so for people to walk/bike uninhibited, than speed bumps of that number.

No would be my vote as well on that issue, I'm afraid. Have Cherokee county give out some speeding tickets - it'll slow people down.

Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by admin - 2008/08/08 21:22

I mentioned that at the meeting last night.

5 on Southlands drive, maybe 6.

3 on winding river toward river chase

I could see 10 on shotwell, maybe 12. But they would have to be primarily before and after intersections, in place of stopsigns....

35? Nah.

But As I noted, I also volunteered to look at the list, and map it for us all to see...

But MARC is not interested in spending any more time on this... or discussing anything else on this "proxy vote" that isn't really a valid ballot...

Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by stepco - 2008/08/09 00:11

Hi John,

I live at the bottom of the hill on Shotwell Street. People always fly through that stop sign. Sometimes I count to see how many poeple in a row wheel on through it. I think I counted 16 cars once, before a single car stopped properly.

Someone hit and ran over my mailbox last year. (Hit and run!) What if I had been standing there getting my mail? Or worse yet, the unthinkable, what if my small children were playing in the front yard? I am ALL FOR putting a speed hump (that actually works to slow people down) near the bottom of the hill. They are welcome to put one in front of my house.

I am not opposed to having fewer stop signs for people in the back of the neighborhood. And I don't think we need 35 speed humps.

I will, however, do everthing in my power to ensure a speed hump gets mounted at the bottom of that hill. The way I figure it--if someone speeds over it and wrecks, they most likely will hit the tree which is in the far corner of my yard, but at least it is not where near my mailbox or where the children play.

Stephanie

=====

Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by admin - 2008/08/09 00:18

stepco wrote:

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Stephanie

You have the large corner house there, where if you went straight they would hit your house? or the one with the trees and bushes on the right?

Yes. I understand, and, that HILL is where they need one or 2 speed humps, between augustus way and that stop sign.

I'll admit to not always stopping there, but I have a manual transmission, so I typically don't even go 20 through the neighborhood - and I pay VERY careful attention to the children. After all, I've raised 3... I could not bear to loose one. :S

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by admin - 2008/08/10 20:05

NoBS wrote:

I live even further down Shotwell and the prospect of rolling over speed humps from the entrance all the way to my house is nothing I look forward to. In addition, I also ride a motorcycle and speed humps are very dangerous to cross on a motorcycle.

So... are you mechanically inclined with motorcycles? My son has this honda... I'm just a computer geek, so I'm no help.

John

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by stepco - 2008/08/11 01:12

Are you asking ME if I'm mechanically inclined with motorcycles? Confused.

But, if that question was for me, the answer would be A) Nope, and B) those things will eventually kill you or leave you in a coma or with a brain injury, otherwise, so I have no sympathy for the poor bike.

Sorry, but I have too many friends who were either killed (yes, as in dead as a door nail), or nearly killed, via motorcycle so I don't advocate riding them at all.

Maybe speed bumps will make someone think twice about wanting to ride a suicide machine in the first place. So, thereby, I've most likely helped saved another life or two with my vote.

Yes, I can feel good about that John. And if it mangles up your bike, well that could be a blessing in my estimation.

Thanks for helping me to reaffirm my confidence in my "yes" vote to have speed bumps! :)

Stephanie

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by John - 2008/08/11 07:27

stepco wrote:

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But, if that question was for me, the answer would be A) Nope, and B) those things will eventually kill you or leave you in a coma or with a brain injury, otherwise, so I have no sympathy for the poor bike.

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Yes, I can feel good about that John. And if it mangles up your bike, well that could be a blessing in my estimation.

Thanks for helping me to reaffirm my confidence in my "yes" vote to have speed bumps! :)

Stephanie

No, Stephanie, I was not asking if YOU were mechanically adept with motorcycles. ;) You'll see that I quoted the user named NoBS. He states that he rides one.

Motorcycles have their place in transportation. I know a few who have died on them, but I also lost 4 friends when a bus went through a stop sign and their car went UNDER it... That was years ago, and in a different city.

Voting yes on the speed hump issue is voting your conscience, and it's the one issue on the form that is fairly clear and single purposed. I am waiting for Marc to put the list of proposed locations on the website.

Thanks for participating in these open discussions!

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by NoBS - 2008/08/11 11:32

admin wrote:

NoBS wrote:

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So... are you mechanically inclined with motorcycles? My son has this honda... I'm just a computer geek, so I'm no help.

John

I know more about cars than bikes but I do have some knowledge about them, depending on the symptom I might have some suggestions.

Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by John - 2008/08/11 11:59

Thanks for your response. I sent an email to your registered email address.

John

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by dZiTao - 2008/08/11 15:59

those things will eventually kill you or leave you in a coma or with a brain injury, otherwise, so I have no sympathy for the poor bike.

Sorry, but I have too many friends who were either killed (yes, as in dead as a door nail), or nearly killed, via motorcycle so I don't advocate riding them at all.

Maybe speed bumps will make someone think twice about wanting to ride a suicide machine in the first place. So, thereby, I've most likely helped saved another life or two with my vote.

Yes, I can feel good about that John. And if it mangles up your bike, well that could be a blessing in my estimation.

Thanks for helping me to reaffirm my confidence in my "yes" vote to have speed bumps!

It is true that one could be injured in a motorcycle crash more easily than a car crash, but absolutely everything you say above can be said for cars too. I have friends who have died or nearly died in cars and speed humps could cause a car to lose control also. I also have friends who have ridden motorcycles for 40 years with no near death experiences.

Just wanting to point out that this is probably not a good argument to affirm your yes vote. Please vote your conscience, but double check your logic. And no, I don't have a motorcycle nor do I ride one. :)

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by stepco - 2008/08/11 17:20

I thought you may have been talking to someone else. I just thought I'd throw in my 2 cents anyway! Peace!

(p.s. I know motorcycles have their "place" in society and that people frequently get killed in other types of vehicles--I just think that the mortality rate is higher with motorcycles.)

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by stepco - 2008/08/11 17:20

The one with the trees and bushes.

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by John - 2008/08/11 19:55

No doubt that mortality rate is higher on a Motorcycle, and the fact that my son rides one scares me very much, every day. But he makes 10\$ an hour, and at 4\$ a gallon, driving a car to work a 4 hour shift and back is almost not worth doing.

And with gas prices so high, I'm even seeing more BICYCLES on the road! Talk about taking life in your own hands...

Thanks so much for participating. I remember the owners of the house you are in...never maintained that area around the tree...

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by stepco - 2008/08/11 23:49

I love this kind of stuff. Thanks for hosting this site. What a great forum for people to vent or express their feelings.

You do know you are coming off to people as the neighborhood nutjob, right? Just so you know. ;)

Anyway, I totally understand what you mean. With the price of gas and the failing economy, it's a wonder anyone can afford to do anything. I'll pray for your son's safety. That's a tough situation to be in.

Yup. Those bushes were the bane of our existence, so we pulled the majority of them up and cut the rest way down. We were handed that mess. Wish we could have done it earlier, but had to save up money. Now, we can't afford to do anymore landscaping until my husband finds better work with better pay. Or until we get another winfall. I enter a lot of sweepstakes and win things like cars and stuff. Ok, so that's it. Have a good one!

Steph

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by John - 2008/08/12 07:20

stepco wrote:

I love this kind of stuff. Thanks for hosting this site. What a great forum for people to vent or express their feelings.

You do know you are coming off to people as the neighborhood nutjob, right? Just so you know. ;)

Funny that - since I'm trying to STOP the insanity... and open discussion. But they thought John Adams and Ben Franklin were crazy too...

Anyway, I totally understand what you mean. With the price of gas and the failing economy, it's a wonder anyone can afford to do anything. I'll pray for your son's safety. That's a tough situation to be in.

Yup. Those bushes were the bane of our existence, so we pulled the majority of them up and cut the rest way down. We were handed that mess. Wish we could have done it earlier, but had to save up money. Now, we can't afford to do anymore landscaping until my husband finds better work with better pay. Or until we get another winfall. I enter a lot of sweepstakes and win things like cars and stuff. Ok, so that's it. Have a good one!

Steph

I know all about those kinds of personal situations - I was 'self employed/under-employed' for 3 years... with the paint peeling on the trim of my home... I wonder what stricter covenant would have fixed that???

what line of work is your husband in?

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by stepco - 2008/08/12 11:38

Agreed, the stricter covenant would not have fixed it, but I do get the point of having covenants. Actually, my husband and I were talking the other day about how we would tend to be more lazy with yardwork and upkeep on the house if we didn't have some fear of the HOA! So, it works good for our personality types. Keeps us motivated.

Some other neighborhoods look so horrible, that it must be depressing for people to come home to that everyday. I'm grateful that we have a bright, clean, sun-shiny subdivision. If it starts to go downhill, that would be bad for me mentally.

My husband works for Choicepoint during the day, and Starbucks at night. He makes independent feature horror movies in his (ha ha) spare time. Sometimes if I stand real still, I get to see a glimpse of him.

Steph

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Re:Speed bumps, stop signs, and traffic

Posted by NoBS - 2008/08/15 08:02

It seems to me that the homes in the neighborhood that need the most work are the rental homes. It's not up to the tenant to paint the house, it is up to the owner. In addition, I think the owner, if they are going to rent their home, should also be responsible for the yard work and should be required to hire a yard service to do just that.

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