



Staff Report

RESOLUTION APPROVING INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMPS AT THREE LOCATIONS ON THE 1200 BLOCK OF NORTH ROAD

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

Staff requests that the City Council approve the installation of speed humps at three locations on North Road between Cipriani Boulevard and Buena Vista Avenue.

Background

In September 2006, the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee (PTSC) received multiple requests from residents of North Road to install speed humps to reduce the speed of vehicles driving the 1200 block of North Road. The PTSC reviewed the requests, performed a traffic study, reviewed speed, volume data, collision history and past traffic enforcement in the area.

After analyzing the findings, the PTSC sent letters and Teleminders to the residents of the 1200 block of North Road inviting them to attend the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee meeting on November 16th where the findings were presented.

Twenty three residents from North Road attended the meeting to provide input and discuss the possibility of speed hump installation. The PTSC went over the Speed Hump Policy adopted by the City in 1996 which was included as part of the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program in 2000 and its applicability to North Road. In order for the speed humps to be effective and safe both for drivers and pedestrians, the criteria specified in the Speed Hump Policy needed to be met. It was noted that certain criteria (i.e. street designation, absence of vertical curb, street grades at some locations were not met. Therefore, the PTSC recommended one location for the speed humps as the only possible solution that would meet the current speed hump policy. The PTSC did recommend the installation of pavement legend and additional signage to advise drivers of the speed limit. In addition, the Police conducted direct traffic enforcement in the area and provided educational outreach to the residents about perception of traffic speed. The residents disagreed with the PTSC decision.

In July 2007, the PTSC was contacted by North Road residents who shared a concern that the additional signage and traffic enforcement provided very little effect on speed calming and due to presence of children in this area the City staff was asked to review the possibility of speed hump installation again. The PTSC held a Traffic Calming meeting with residents of the 1200

block of North Road on August 2, 2007. The PTSC staff prepared a presentation outlining possible locations of speed humps based on the requirements specified in the Speed Hump Policy. The major requirement was to install speed humps only on the portion of the street with grades below 5%. Since the street is a designated emergency route for police and fire response, speed humps will be used to facilitate emergency vehicles.

Discussion

A necessary requirement for the speed hump installation is to submit a petition to the City containing signatures of 75% of the residents along and between the project boundaries with 66% of these signatures being from the property owners. In addition, the residents shall bear 25% of the speed humps installation. In late August 2007, City staff received new requirements for speed humps developed by the Institute of Traffic Engineers (ITE), which gave greater flexibility for installation of the speed humps. City staff on September 25, 2007 amended the existing Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program adopting the new ITE guidelines for speed hump installation. At the same time City staff prepared a petition for the North Road residents outlining three locations for speed hump placement.

In November 2007, North Road residents submitted a signed petition for the installation of speed humps at the following locations: 1207/1210, 1222 and 1235/1237 North Road. If the City Council approves the installation of the speed humps, the City will provide 75% of the speed hump purchase and installation cost and 25% of the cost will be provided by residents. After the residents provide 25% of the cost, the City staff will purchase and install six speed cushions (two per each location). The approximate cost of the speed hump purchase is \$8,000. However, the vendors' prices are subject to change in 2008.

The Belmont Public Works Maintenance staff will install the speed humps and necessary signage. The current maintenance rate per hour is \$162, considering four maintenance people installing speed humps and signage in three days (24 hours), the total cost of labor will be \$15,552. Residents will have to pay 25% of the installation cost which amounts to \$3,888. The installation will not take place until 25% of the estimated cost is received by the City from the residents.

General Plan/Vision Statement

No impact.

Fiscal Impact

The total cost of the speed hump installation is approximately \$12,000. One-fourth of the cost (\$3,000) will be paid by 23 property owners in the subject area, which amounts to \$130/household. The City's share of speed hump installation is \$9,000. Payment for this project is from the Street Improvements Fund budget account 234-4312-3100-9030.

Public Contact

The Council agenda was posted and residents were notified.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the installation of the speed humps at three locations on 1200 block of North Road.

Alternatives

1. Take no action.
2. Refer back to staff for further information.
3. Deny approval.

Attachments

- A. Resolution
- B. Exhibit A
- C. Petition Summary – Council Only

Respectfully submitted,

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Jack R. Crist
City Manager

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RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT APPROVING
INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMPS AT THREE LOCATIONS
ON THE 1200 BLOCK OF NORTH ROAD**

WHEREAS, the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee (PTSC) has received multiple requests from the residents of North Road to install speed humps at three locations: 1207/1210, 1222 and 1235/1237 North Road; and,

WHEREAS, the PTSC reviewed the requests, performed a traffic study and reviewed speed and volume data, collision history and past traffic enforcement in the area; and,

WHEREAS, North Road is a designated emergency route for police and fire response, speed hump cushions will be used instead of regular speed humps; and,

WHEREAS, the residents will fund 25% of the cost and installation and will not take place until 25% of the cost is received by the City from the residents; and,

WHEREAS, the funding will be from the Street Improvement Fund, budget account 234-4312-3100-9030.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Belmont approves the installation of the speed humps at three locations on 1200 block of North Road.

* * * * *

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on January 8, 2008 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

CLERK of the City of Belmont

APPROVED:

MAYOR of the City of Belmont