

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(6)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: May 20, 2008

TITLE: Additional Follow Up to Traffic Calming on Oak Avenue

DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ___ NO ___ X ___
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. February 19 th Oak Ave. agenda item materials C. Enforcement memo D. Memos from Traffic and Parking Committee	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Adena Messinger, Trans. Planner: 918-7329

PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to provide further follow-up information to the Board of Aldermen about traffic calming on Oak Avenue.

INFORMATION

At its regular meeting on February 19, 2008 staff provided follow-up to the October 16, 2007 request from residents for traffic calming on Oak Avenue (between Weaver Street and E. Poplar Ave. (see **attachment B**). The information presented on February 19th indicated that the installed speed table is decreasing the speed of traffic on the 100/200 block of Oak Ave. During the discussion the Board requested additional information on the following items:

1. An update on enforcement of traffic speed (attachment C)
2. Further study of the Oak/Greensboro intersection (attachment D)
3. A proposal for striping of Oak Ave. (attachment D)
4. A report on the street resurfacing schedule for Oak Ave. (attachment D)
5. A recommendation regarding additional signage. (attachment D)
6. A report on the feasibility of on-street parking on Oak Ave. (attachment D)

Additionally, at the meeting, residents expressed their concern about the volume of traffic on their block. At the conclusion of the February 19th meeting, the Board of Aldermen requested additional follow-up from staff on the feasibility of one-way traffic on 100 block of Oak Ave. (attachment D)

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT

Proposed modifications to the pavement marking at the intersection of Oak Avenue and North Greensboro: \$200 - \$300

Staff impact for traffic volume options:

Option 1: Est. 10-15 hours of staff time for monitoring volume over the next year.

Option 2: Est. 75- 80 hours of staff time for the full analysis.

Option 3: Staff time for preparing for a public hearing and approximately 16-20 hours of staff time for developing the baseline neighborhood traffic volume.

The Police Department will continue to monitor Oak Avenue as part of their routine enforcement.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen accept the resolution in Attachment A, directing staff to pursue one of the following options regarding traffic volume:

Option 1. No additional action at this time. Given its current function as a subcollector, the 100/200 block of Oak Ave. is carrying an amount of traffic within the range defined in the LUO. Though not intended to reduce the volume of traffic, the recent installation of a speed table has been shown to reduce vehicle speeds, thus calming the traffic and increasing safety. One option is for the Board to direct staff to not proceed with any further action at this time, other than continuing to monitoring traffic volume on Oak Ave. and routine enforcement.

Option 2. Full analysis first. To determine the neighborhood impacts, another option is for the Board to direct a comprehensive evaluation of the traffic in the neighborhood with the intent of estimating the impacts of the one-way configuration.

Option 3. Partial analysis. A third option is to conduct a public hearing to determine neighborhood interest in this modification to the street network and decide how to proceed based on results of the public hearing. In addition, collect baseline data consisting of traffic volume counts for the neighborhood streets.