

Schippa, Jerry

From: Tao, Yang
Sent: Monday, November 02, 2020 10:52 PM
To: Abbas, Syed; [REDACTED]
Cc: Mohr, Thomas; Winter, Mark; Schippa, Jerry; Heitz, Graham; Lynch, Thomas
Subject: RE: Traffic, speeding, stoplights

Categories: To Do

Good evening Alder Abbas and [REDACTED],

Thank you for the requests for traffic calming on Loftsgordon Ave and for a traffic signal at Packers-Schlimgen!

Traffic Engineering will be happy to work with the neighborhood to look into traffic circles, speed humps or other appropriate traffic calming measures for Loftsgordon Ave as part of our neighborhood traffic management program. It is a neighborhood driven process and involves neighborhood consensus. Below are the normal steps:

1. The neighbors collect signatures of at least half of the addresses along the relevant street blocks, and send the petition back to us.
2. City collects data and performs a traffic study after we receive the petition.
3. City ranks the street compared to all other streets in the city that are being considered for traffic calming.
4. Transportation Commission approves the ranking of traffic calming projects.
5. Top ranking streets will have residents along that street surveyed via mail (March 2021).
6. Streets that have at least a 60% approval of returned surveys will get traffic calming constructed in summer of 2021.

Due to the current COVID-19 public health emergency, we will waive the step 1 petition process so that Ms. Walling does not have to go door to door to gather signatures. Tom Mohr from our office will move this forward.

We do try to coordinate the traffic calming projects with other City projects such as reconstruction and resurfacing. But due to the engineering study and public involvement process above, it will not be able to happen instantaneously to take advantage of the current resurfacing project. However, we will also add Loftsgordon Ave to our list of streets to receive mobile speed board deployment. Right now all of them are being used for our Vision Zero speed reduction projects. But we will get them out there as soon as they become available.

We did include the Packers-Schlimgen intersection for consideration for signalization (traffic lights) as part of the City's annual traffic signal priority list review in 2018 and studied it. For an intersection to be signalized, it has to meet certain warrants as required by federal manuals. Research also shows that unwarranted traffic signals tend to cause more safety issues rather than solving them. The data we collected and the study we conducted indicated that this intersection did not meet these warrants. Traffic signals are also a big commitment by the community, as they are costly to construct/maintain and they have negative impacts. Traffic signals almost always attract more traffic on the side streets (in this case, Schlimgen) and decrease the livability for the neighbors on residential streets. Because of these reasons, new traffic signals in the City have to be approved by the City's Transportation Commission. The Commission didn't approve this intersection after reviewing the studies and comparing it with other candidates. But we will keep this one on our radar.

Thanks again and please let us know if there are any questions. Stay well!

Yang

Yang Tao, Ph.D., P.E.
City Traffic Engineer, City of Madison
215 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Suite 109
P.O. Box 2986
Madison, WI 53701-2986
Office: 608.266-4761
Direct: 608.266.4815
Fax: 608.267.1158
ytao@cityofmadison.com

From: Abbas, Syed
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2020 12:43 PM
To: [REDACTED] ; Tao, Yang
Subject: Re: Traffic, speeding, stoplights

Hi Tao,

Can you please review [REDACTED] request and provide your input?

Thanks
Syed

Alder Syed Abbas, City of Madison, District 12
[District 12 Website](#) [Signup for District 12 emails](#)
[Contact: 608-572-6984](#)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2020 12:41 PM
To: Abbas, Syed
Subject: Traffic, speeding, stoplights

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hi Syed,

Thanks for talking with me today and for your support.

As promised, I am writing to request small traffic circles or speed bumps be put on Loftsgordon Avenue due to the large number of people speeding on our street between Schlimgen Ave and Aberg Ave. Any help in getting this done would be appreciated. I personally prefer the little circles as they don't damage cars and are more aesthetically pleasing. The City is currently working on our street (resurfacing?) FYI.

Secondly, I would like to request that the light at Schlimgen and Packers be made into a true stoplight as this is a very dangerous intersection.

Thanks for whatever you can do to help.

[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10