

From: [Tao, Yang](#)
To: "Ann Kovich"; lance.lattimer@gmail.com
Cc: [Rummel, Marsha](#); [Mohr, Thomas](#); [Kamp, Charles](#); [Lynch, Thomas](#); [McGuigan, Patrick](#); [Winter, Mark](#)
Subject: RE: Spaight Street Speed Humps
Date: Friday, September 13, 2019 4:21:32 PM

Good afternoon everyone,

Just want to follow up on some potential interim measures that we are thinking about doing.

Traffic Engineering will place speed board trailers on Spaight St once in a while. Since we have many other locations would like to receive these boards and research shows that it loses its effectiveness approximately one to two weeks after each placement as people get used to it, we will leave the boards there for one to two weeks at a time. We are working on the logistics to get it deployed as early as next week.

We will ask the MPD TEST team whether more speeding enforcement can be provided on these blocks of Spaight St.

Since the plan is to have this considered at the Transportation Commission on October 30, Traffic Engineering staff is also checking with the contractor whether they can make adjustments to their plans so that they may still possibly move in to install the speed humps in early November (if weather collaborates) in case the Commission approves the speed humps that night. We were told that there is no guarantee these can be constructed this year even if the speed humps are approved now, so the chances of the construction this year may be small. But staff will make every effort to try to work with the contractor on that.

Hope these help and please let us know if you have any questions.

Best,

Yang

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From: Ann Kovich <annelizabethkovich@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2019 4:23 PM
To: lance.lattimer@gmail.com

Cc: Rummel, Marsha <district6@cityofmadison.com>; Tao, Yang <YTao@cityofmadison.com>; Mohr, Thomas <TMohr@cityofmadison.com>; Kamp, Charles <CKamp@cityofmadison.com>; Lynch, Thomas <TLynch@cityofmadison.com>; McGuigan, Patrick <PMcGuigan@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: FW: Spaight Street Speed Humps

Good afternoon. Here is an update on the Spaight Street Speed Humps. Traffic safety is certainly a priority for the Transportation Commission, especially the safety of children. However, in order to make the best decisions, sometimes the Commission needs additional information. Commissioners do recognize and appreciate the neighborhood's desire for additional traffic calming; and the Transportation Commission is interested in continuing to review and carefully consider appropriate traffic calming measures for this street.

As you mentioned, the final motion as agreed by the Transportation Commission on August 14, 2019 was to delay the decision and construction of any speed humps on Spaight Street until the 2020 construction season. In the interim period additional information was required from Traffic Engineering and Metro:

- Traffic Engineering will evaluate other appropriate traffic calming measures, including but not limited to, a 4-way stop and street narrowing;
- Metro will provide the Transportation Commission with strategies to improve on-time performance of Route 3 with the goal to reduce after pulse by 50%;
- Metro will report on how speed humps would impact performance.

On Monday I spoke with both Yang Tao and Chuck Kamp; and I asked them to determine how quickly the additional required information could be prepared and presented to the Transportation Commission. I met with Yang and Chuck last night; and we are planning for a preliminary review of data from Traffic Engineering and Metro at the October 30, 2019 Transportation Commission meeting.

In order to obtain additional information on the safety of children in school zones, the Transportation Commission received reports on Crossing Guard Assignments, School Zone Safety, and Safe Routes to Schools Programs at its meeting last night.

In a separate email Yang will provide his thoughts regarding temporary traffic calming measures on Spaight Street.

Just a reminder that Tom Mohr has determined that the residents will not have to vote on speed humps again (as the wording was carefully chosen in the motion approved by the Transportation Commission).

Sincerely,

Ann

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From: [Lance Lattimer](#)

Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 12:09 PM

To: [Marsha Rummel](#); [Tao, Yang](#); [Mohr, Thomas](#); [Lynch, Thomas](#); [Ann Kovich](#); [McGuigan, Patrick](#)

Subject: Re: Spaight Street Speed Humps

Photos of 8/31 accident attached.

On Tue, Sep 10, 2019 at 12:07 PM Lance Lattimer <lance.lattimer@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Alder Rummel, Traffic Engineering, and Transportation Commission:

It's my understanding that reconsideration of the speed hump decision denying traffic calming to 1300-1400 Spaight Street was disallowed.

It should go without saying that residents, parents, and cyclists are sorely disappointed with how the process has been handled on all levels. Moreover, we regretfully feel bitterness towards the Transportation Commission for glossing over our safety concerns.

On August 24, the Transportation Commission voted to deny residents the safety measures we petitioned for in summer 2018, wrote to support on many occasions since then, and approved by a vote in winter 2019.

Later that same week, on August 31, there was a bad accident at the corner of Spaight and Dickinson Streets just before 8 o'clock in the morning. One speeding car ignoring a stop sign hit another speeding car, and both ended up careening onto the sidewalk where they came to a standstill. This sidewalk abuts the schoolyard. School began for the year just three days after this incident.

I'd like to reflect for a moment what would've happened if this accident would've occurred on Tuesday, September 3rd at 7:45 in the morning instead of that preceding Saturday. Tuesday morning, there were dozens of kids congregating in that *exact* spot before their first day of class.

We've now gotten confirmation from parties involved in the accident that both vehicles, both relatively new, were 'totaled'. On most residential streets, one could expect some bumper scratches or a fender bender. What kind of normal residential street sees car crashes where two vehicles are **totaled?! Likely a street that is too wide, with no calming, where cars excessively speed.**

It's frustrating to have to sound angry when writing. It's simply more pleasant to sound pleasant... but we all feel *exhausted and dismissed* by Transportation Commission and other city

agents who prioritize seemingly every other metric over the safety of children and residents.

Please clarify: It's our understanding that Transportation Commission will allow traffic calming measures to be installed after Metro approaches the Commission with a plan to reduce delays on Route 3. You've asked Metro to come forth with this in January, correct?

We ask three things of Transportation Commission, Traffic Engineering, Madison Metro, and our alder:

1. To reevaluate where resident, pedestrian, and child safety lies on the scale of things to weigh, particularly in comparison with Metro timetables. We ask that safety be better prioritized. We do not recall a discussion of *Safe Routes to School* during your deliberations.

2. If you **refuse** to allow installation of speed humps in 2019... We ask the City to install permanent traffic calming and safety measures for Spaight Street ***immediately upon the start of construction season*** in late winter/early spring 2020, rather than waiting until Fall 2020 when other NTMP projects are bid out and constructed. Keep in mind that we started this petition process in Summer 2018. These measures should be installed by now, and we are angry they are not. These measures should have no issue being constructed early in 2020 if Metro has a plan to Transportation Commission by January.

3. To install temporary traffic calming ***immediately***. Parents of Marquette and O'Keeffe students should send their kids to school knowing that the city is aware of the problems on Spaight Street and working to correct them. To date, we haven't had the feeling that anyone acknowledges a problem.

We look forward to hearing back on a plan going forward, and what residents can do to help move the process along. We've tried in vain to move the process along for well over a year now. Please let us know how we can collaborate rather than be left at the sidelines.

Thank you,

Lance Lattimer