

From: [Denise Olson](#)
To: [Guy Mueller](#); [Kemble, Rebecca](#)
Cc: [CPNA HospitalityCommittee](#); cherokee-park@googlegroups.com; [Transportation Commission](#)
Subject: Re: [cherokee-park] News Notes -- Transportation Commission Meeting -- Wheeler Road traffic management plan on the agenda
Date: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 7:38:20 AM

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Thank you Guy Mueller for these observations. I too had these exact same thoughts and am glad you had additional references. I have lived in Cherokee Park since the early 70's and can't remember many accidents on Wheeler. Another thing to consider is that people will take alternative routes to avoid speed bumps and traffic islands for example getting to Northport by driving past Black Hawk and taking Iowa.

Denise F. Olson

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Madison, WI 53704
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From: cherokee-park@googlegroups.com <cherokee-park@googlegroups.com> on behalf of Guy Mueller
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Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 7:18 AM

To: Kemble, Rebecca <district18@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: CPNA HospitalityCommittee <cpna.hospitalitycommittee@gmail.com>; [cherokee-park@googlegroups.com <cherokee-park@googlegroups.com>](mailto:cherokee-park@googlegroups.com); [transportationcommission@cityofmadison.com <transportationcommission@cityofmadison.com>](mailto:transportationcommission@cityofmadison.com)

Subject: Re: [cherokee-park] News Notes -- Transportation Commission Meeting -- Wheeler Road traffic management plan on the agenda

Dear Alder Kimball;

Our household has concerns about the proposed traffic "calming" plan for Wheeler Road.

We wonder whether this major infrastructure outlay is really needed? How many accidents have occurred on Wheeler Road over the past 5 years? How many of these accidents, if any, could have been realistically prevented with the installation of speed humps and islands? Could any of these accidents have been prevented with simpler, less expensive approaches? For example, has a simple four-way stop at Wheeler and Comanche Way been considered with respect to its comparative costs and benefits?

Another illustrative example, although radical, would be to vacate Wheeler Road north of Northland Manor Park between Ilene Lane and School Road. The right-of-way could then be used to enlarge the park and directly connect the park to the Cherokee conservation area to the north. The road's right-of-way could also be converted into a bicycle/pedestrian trail--a true neighborhood amenity. The overall result would be that Wheeler Road would no longer be the long, straight-through street that invites speeding traffic. The reduction in imperviously paved areas by the street's elimination in this segment would also facilitate stormwater management and improve water

quality in the Yahara River. Neither would Wheeler Road in this segment have to be plowed, swept, resurfaced, or otherwise maintained year-after-year.

Speed humps:

--Are expensive to install, to maintain, and to remove. In many communities, once speed humps are installed, it is not uncommon for residents to petition for their removal.

--Slow the response times of emergency vehicles and delay parcel deliveries, thus adding expense to shipping companies.

--Interfere with efficiency and completeness of snow removal. Ditto street sweeping, which is necessary to prevent pollution of our streams and wetlands

--Increase the use of alternate side streets.

--Reduce property values--Prospective homebuyers prefer home sites unadorned with humped streets over which they must pass a thousand or more times a year. Speed humps invariably look like afterthoughts--physical proof that the subdivision was not well-planned, that it was ill-conceived from the get-go. [Source: [A bump in the road: speed bumps' impact on property values | Emerald Insight](#)]

--Increase noise levels--Speed humps echo the noises of car engines revving down and up as drivers repeatedly brake, decelerate, sometimes scrape, and then re-accelerate past the humps.

--Increase wear and tear on vehicles--tires, brakes, suspension systems, shock absorbers, etc.

--Increase air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions--On roads with speed humps, carbon monoxide emissions increase by 82 percent, carbon dioxide emissions double and nitrogen oxide increases by 37 percent. [Source: [BBC - Climate Change: The Blog of Bloom: What speed is green?](#)]

--Reduce fuel efficiency--By forcing drivers to brake and accelerate repeatedly, speed humps cause a car that normally gets 58.15 mpg travelling at a steady 30mph to deliver only 30.85 mpg. [Source: [BBC - Climate Change: The Blog of Bloom: What speed is green?](#)]

I know that not all will agree and I also acknowledge that I speak on behalf of a single household, but I kindly request that you reconsider the proposal to install speed humps and traffic islands in our neighborhood. There may be a time and place for speed humps, but unless the accident data clearly indicate a need, this may be a solution in search of a problem, and if accidents really are a serious problem, I truly believe that other alternatives deserve consideration. The technical competencies and experience with which we are comfortable and familiar may not always serve the needs of our constituents.

Sincerely,

Guy Mueller
Madison, WI 53704

On Mon, Mar 8, 2021 at 2:26 PM Kemble, Rebecca <district18@cityofmadison.com> wrote:

Thanks for sharing that info, Alison!

I've been working with Traffic Engineering to devise a solution for the portion of Wheeler between Comanche and N. Sherman. They will be recommending islands for that portion and speed humps for the portion from Comanche to Kennedy. Here's a link the proposal:

<https://madison.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=9194032&GUID=E787B3C3-3C91-4B2E-96C7-CCD9B18662D2> If you'd like to express your opinion to the Transportation Commission you may write to them at: transportationcommission@cityofmadison.com

Rebecca Kemble
District 18 Alder
Madison Common Council
608 347-8097

From: cherokee-park@googlegroups.com <cherokee-park@googlegroups.com> on behalf of CPNA HospitalityCommittee <cpna.hospitalitycommittee@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 2:13 PM

To: cherokee-park@googlegroups.com

Subject: [cherokee-park] News Notes -- Transportation Commission Meeting -- Wheeler Road traffic management plan on the agenda

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Hello everyone:

This Wednesday, March 10, the Transportation Commission is meeting virtually at 5 pm.

There has been a lot of conversation about speeding and traffic on Wheeler Road and the traffic management plan for Wheeler will be on the agenda.

For the agenda and links to plan documents, use this link:

<https://madison.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=817211&GUID=219D16BD-487A-4E1D-9DB4-95D0E5F0DEC6>

Item #7, Legistar item Number 64296, includes graphics on what is being considered for Wheeler Road including mid-block islands, less on street parking, etc.

If you wish to attend the virtual meeting, you will need to register for the Transportation Commission at: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/city-hall/committees/meeting-schedule/register>

Alison
Hospitality Committee

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