

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Public Works Department

TO: David Cronin, City Engineer
FROM: Zach Baker, Project Engineer
DATE: 3 July 2017
RE: Agenda Item for Transportation Commission 7/10/2017:
Traffic Calming Request – Learnard Avenue, between 15th Street & 19th Street

Background

In February, 2017, the Transportation Commission received a request for Learnard Avenue between 15th Street and 19th Street to be considered for traffic calming.

Details

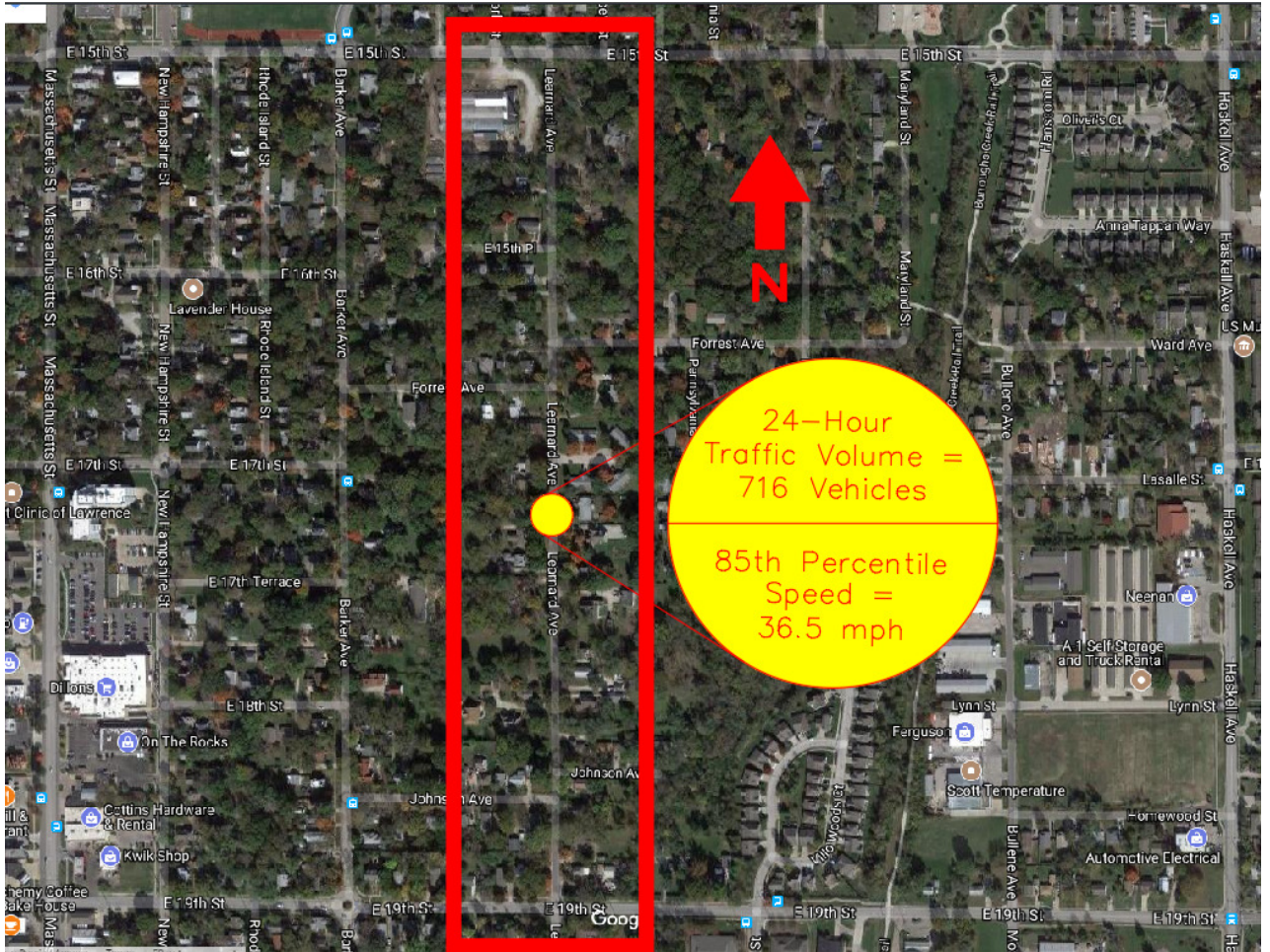
Learnard Avenue

Learnard Avenue between 15th Street and 19th Street is classified as a “local” street and is in a residential area at this location. The street cross section ranges between 20 feet and 22 feet wide, is paved with asphalt, and has a v-ditch for drainage on each side of the road with no curb and gutter. The posted speed limit is 30 mph as provided by State Law. Learnard Avenue is not identified as a Safe Route to School and is not identified as a bike route on the Countywide Bikeway Study. There is no sidewalk on either side of the street and there are no parking restrictions on either side of the street.

Traffic counts and 85th percentile speed data was obtained for Learnard Avenue in this region during May of 2017. The 85th percentile speed of traffic on Learnard Avenue between 15th Street and 19th Street is approximately 36.5 mph, and, the 24-hour two-way traffic volume is approximately 716. The City of Lawrence Traffic Calming Policy is listed below:

Traffic-Calming Devices may be permitted on “local” streets as designated by the City’s Major Thoroughfares Map, and under any one of the following conditions:

- A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
- B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 1000, or
- C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
- D. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B, C or D above are satisfied to the extent of 80% or more of the stated values.



Traffic volumes do not meet condition "B" for consideration of traffic calming devices. The 85th percentile speed of 36.5 mph is greater than 5 mph over the speed limit of 30 mph, therefore, it does meet condition "A" for permitting traffic calming devices. In addition, 12 vehicles in the 24-hour period when the data was taken were traveling > 55 mph.

Action Request

It is staff recommendation the Transportation Commission approve the request for installation of traffic calming devices on Learnard Avenue between 15th Street and 19th Street.

Attachments:

Traffic Calming Policy
Request Email



TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY

Resolution No. 6602, August 23, 2005

1. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may include but are not limited to Traffic-Calming Circles, Speed Humps and Speed Cushions, Speed Tables, Partial Diverters, Full Diverters, Center Island Narrowing, Chokers, and Road Closures; however, roundabouts are traffic management devices and are not subject to this policy.
2. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may be permitted on "local" streets as designated by the City's Major Thoroughfares Map, and under any one of the following conditions:
 - A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
 - B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 1000, or
 - C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
 - D. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B or C above are satisfied to the extent of 80 percent or more of the stated values.
3. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES (except SPEED HUMPS) may be permitted on "collector" streets as designated by the City's Major Thoroughfares Map, under any one of the following conditions:
 - A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
 - B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 3000, or
 - C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
 - D. More than 50% of the frontage of the roadway consists of residential lots with the houses facing the roadway in question, or
 - E. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B, C or D above are satisfied to the extent of 80 percent or more of the stated values.
4. Traffic data will be collected with city personnel using city equipment only. In the event that a requested location does not meet the minimum requirements as stated in 2 or 3 above, subsequent requests will not be considered for a minimum of one year.
5. The Lawrence-Douglas County Fire & Medical Department, the Police Department, the Public Works Department and the Traffic Safety Commission must review all requests for TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES before being presented to the City Commission.
6. If a project is approved by the City Commission, the City Commission will determine financing of the construction. The City Commission may require 0-100% of the costs to be paid by the group or neighborhood making the request.
7. After a project is approved and funded by the City Commission, TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES will only be constructed at a location if 70% or more of the property owners within 300 feet measured along the centerline of the street in each direction approve of the installation or if directed by the City Commission. The individual, group or neighborhood making the request shall be responsible for obtaining the property owners' and residents' approval in writing and submitting it to the city.
8. Once installed, TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may only be removed at a location if more than 70% of the property owners and residents within 300 feet measured along the centerline of the street in each direction approve of the removal or if directed by the City Commission. The individual, group or neighborhood making the request shall be responsible for obtaining the property owners' and residents' approval in writing and submitting it to the city.
9. TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES may initially be landscaped (if appropriate) by the city, provided that the group or neighborhood making the request agrees in writing to maintain the landscaping or pursuant to the payment of a landscape maintenance fee. No privately installed landscaping is permitted unless approved by the city in writing.

Zachary Baker

From: David Cronin
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 2:30 PM
To: 'Bonnie Uffman'
Subject: RE: traffic calming - Learnard Avenue from 15th to 19th Street

Hi Bonnie,

I received your request and will review and place on future Transportation Commission agenda. Will keep you informed of meeting date, thanks.

David P. Cronin, P.E., City Engineer
Public Works Department - City of Lawrence, KS
PO Box 708, Lawrence, KS 66044
office: (785) 832-3130 | fax: (785) 832-3398

From: Bonnie Uffman [mailto:bonuff@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 10:28 AM
To: David Cronin
Subject: traffic calming - Learnard Avenue from 15th to 19th Street

I am writing as a representative of the Barker Neighborhood Association Liveability Committee, to request that Learnard Avenue from 15th Street to 19th Street be considered for traffic calming measures.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Bonnie Uffman
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]