

Next Steps

Here are tools we recommend you and your neighbors take active participation in as they have shown to be effective at reminding drivers that they are in a residential area. These tools allow you to become an integral part in the traffic safety process.

Education, encouragement, and enforcement

Neighborhood Speed Watch

Using a borrowed radar unit, you record information about vehicles you observe traveling at or above 30 mph. NTSS staff then locate the registered owners of the vehicles and send a letter to them asking for their cooperation in reducing their speed. A partner to assist you with the data collection is recommended.

Radar Dolly

You can borrow and place a radar dolly on your street for up to two weeks. This unit gives motorists feedback on the speed at which they are driving, encouraging them to obey the speed limit. Request by calling (425) 452-6856 or sign up on www.bellevuewa.gov/radardolly.htm.

Police Enforcement

If you would like to request enforcement, please do so by calling (425) 577-5656.

You can also submit a Traffic Service Request at: www.bellevuewa.gov/Traffic_Service_Request.htm. Please be specific about the location and times of your concern. The more information you can provide to Police, the better the chance they will be able to address your concern.

Sign and Pledge Program

This program involves lending communities portable signs that encourage motorists to respect the neighborhood, drive responsibly, and drive 25 mph. The signs are moved by community volunteers from place to place throughout the neighborhood every few days. The second part of the program is a neighborhood pace car program. Residents who pledge to drive responsibly and drive the speed limit on all neighborhood streets receive magnetic bumper stickers or window clings to place on their vehicles. As these motorists drive 25 mph on residential streets, they set the pace for drivers behind them.



More info

Find out more about these recommendations in our **Residential Traffic Guidebook** or by logging on to **Streets are for Everyone (SAFE)**—Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services' blog.

Blog: <http://bellevuentss.wordpress.com>

Guidebook: http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Transportation/Guidebook_Web.pdf



TRAFFIC ACTION PLAN



2012-005 SE 45th Pl between 148th and 150th Ave SE

October 23, 2012

Bellevue, WA 98006

Subject: Cut-through and speeding concerns along SE 45th Pl between 148th Ave SE and 150th Ave SE

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services and letting us know your concerns on SE 45th Place between 148th Avenue SE and 150th Avenue SE, specifically the high volumes of non-local traffic and the speed that many drivers are traveling this roadway. We have completed our field reviews and data analysis of this location and would like to share with you our findings and recommendations.

To help us understand traffic conditions on this roadway, a traffic study was conducted to determine vehicle speeds and traffic volumes. From the information collected, average speeds were between 26 and 27 mph, a decrease from earlier studies conducted in 2000. Although there were some drivers choosing to drive faster than the posted speed limit, the majority of motorists are driving appropriately for a local 25 mph street.

Traffic volumes show a spike in traffic during the afternoon peak hours, especially heading eastbound on SE 45th Place. This volume is reflective of the fact that both SE 45th Place and SE 46th Place function as one of the few east-west routes for your neighborhood. As a result, this traffic is considered local and not cut-through.

Over the years, we have implemented traffic safety measures along SE 45th Place which include 25 mph pavement markings to reduce vehicle speeds and a median east of 148th Avenue SE to keep motorists from cutting the corner as they turn onto SE 45th Place. Based on our traffic studies, these improvements are addressing these two issues.

Although physical measures, such as speed humps, are not feasible at this time, we are recommending several options. First, the City is willing to install a Residential Area sign for eastbound traffic if adjacent property owner support is received. This heightens a driver's attention to the fact they are entering a residential street and to drive appropriately. A picture of this is included in the report. If this is something you'd like to proceed with, please let us know and we will provide you a petition to circulate to your neighbors.

We also encourage you and your neighbors to participate in some of our education programs. We have found that speeds often decrease when residents actively participate in traffic education programs, such as the Neighborhood Speed Watch Program, borrowing the radar dolly or requesting police enforcement. We have outlined all these recommendations in more detail on the back of this report.

We appreciate you taking the time to share your concerns and look forward to working with you and yours neighbors implementing the recommendations we have made. Please feel free to contact me at lglas@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2841 to participate in any of the education programs or to circulate a petition for the Residential Area sign.

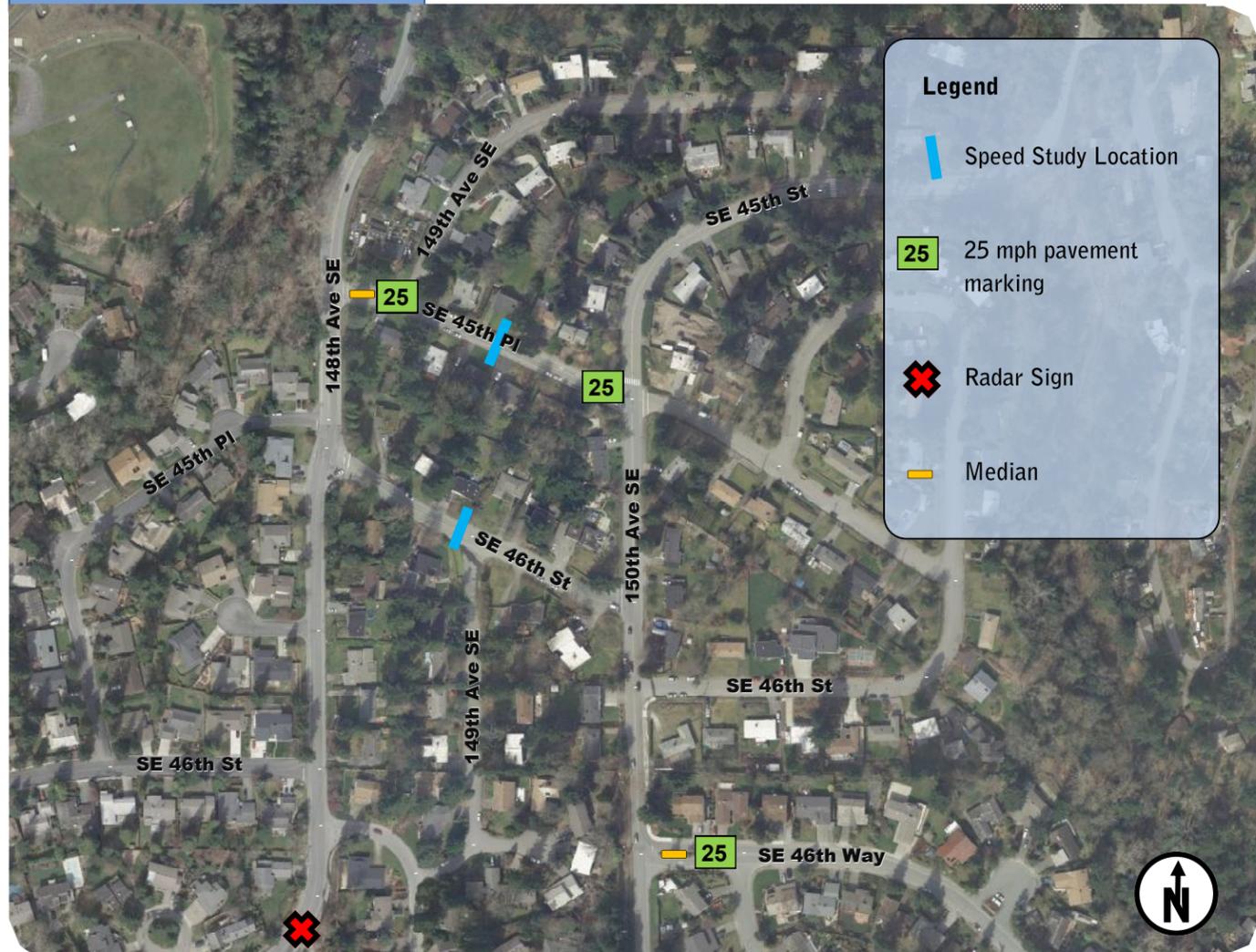
Sincerely,

Linda Glas

Linda Glas, P.E.
 Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services
 Transportation Department



Existing Conditions



Speed and volume results

SE 45th Place						
	Date	Duration	Average Speed	85th % Speed*	Volume	Reduction in 85th % Speed
2000	3/28/2000	24-hour	28.5	31-33	1726	N/A
2012	9/18/2012	24-hour	26.5	29-31	2098	6.3%

*The speed at which 85% of vehicles are traveling; 15% of vehicles are exceeding this speed



Summary of Findings

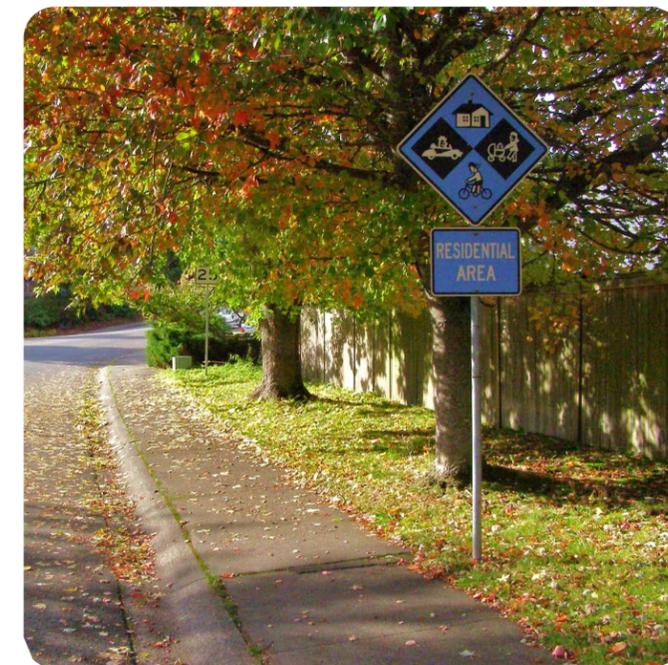
Your primary concerns regarded cut-through traffic and excessive vehicle speeds.



Based on our field reviews and the data collected, the speeds along SE 45th Place are typical for neighborhood streets in Bellevue where the posted speed limit is 25 mph. The most recent studies actually show a decrease in vehicle speeds from 2000 (see chart on page 2).

“Residential Area” Signs

To help alert motorists that they are entering a residential area, we recommend that a “Residential Area” sign be installed in your neighborhood. Adjacent property support is needed to install the sign, so working with your neighbors is important.



While the pattern of traffic would appear to be cut-through—traffic that does not originate or end in the neighborhood—it is apparent that both SE 45th Place and SE 46th Place (to the south) serve as established neighborhood routes to access 150th Avenue SE, Highland Drive, and I-90. Although volumes show an increase from 2000 to 2012, there has also been growth and development in the neighborhoods to the east which may have attributed to this increase.

Bellevue’s blue “Residential Area” signs note that one is entering a residential area. The sign is designed to promote a sense of community by showing pictures of homes, bicyclists, pedestrians, and vehicles. It has a supplemental plaque that states “Residential Area.” These signs are placed in areas where traffic improvement have been implemented and/or where there needs to be a definition between a neighborhood and commercial or business area.

Turn over for more recommendations on what you can do

