

#2007-005
Lochleven Neighborhood



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- Street Maintenance Department**..... (425) 452-7840
damaged signs, potholes, or icy streets
- Police Traffic Division**..... (425) 452-6940
loud noise, speeding vehicles, and illegal parking
- Bike Patrol Office**..... (425) 452-6176
bicycle safety for children
- Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program**..... (425) 452-6867
pedestrian safety issues, outreach
- Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP)**..... (425) 452-6103
updates and information on transportation NEP projects
- General Transportation Questions**..... (425) 452-6856
[http:// www.cityofbellevue.org/transportation_home.htm](http://www.cityofbellevue.org/transportation_home.htm)

#2007-005
Lochleven Neighborhood



October 2, 2007

Bellevue, WA 98004

Subject: Neighborhood Traffic Calming Request #2007-005

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]:

Thank you for letting us know your concerns regarding traffic in the Lochleven neighborhood. We have received concerns from residents about the traffic impacts from the construction in downtown Bellevue and the new homes being built in the neighborhood. Over the years, the City has conducted a number of traffic studies in your neighborhood and implemented traffic calming measures, i.e. newsletters, placement of the radar trailer, and permit parking restrictions to address these concerns. We have compiled a report summarizing the most recent studies, as well as a map of the neighborhood showing the inventory of stop signs and posted 25 MPH signs.

One of the most common requests we receive is for the installation of speed humps. The City has established guidelines for the use of speed humps to limit the use of these measures to locations experiencing significant speeding issues. One of the reasons behind this is to reduce the impact speed humps have on emergency response vehicles, which experience delays up to 9 seconds per hump. In order to meet the guidelines for the installation of speed humps, 85% of motorists must exceed 35 mph. The speed limit in the Lochleven neighborhood is 25 mph, and the guidelines for the use of speed humps have not been met.

Another request we receive on a regular basis is for the installation of stop signs to address speeding in neighborhoods. It seems like an obvious, inexpensive way to reduce vehicle speeds. However, what seems to be a perfect solution can actually create a less desirable situation. When stop signs are used as "nuisances" or "speed breakers," there is a high incidence of drivers intentionally violating the stop. When vehicles do stop, the speed reduction is effective only in the immediate area of the stop sign, since a large percentage of motorists then increase their speed to make up for lost time. This results in increased mid-block speeds. For these reasons, we do not use stop signs as speed control devices. Instead, they are used to improve safety at intersections where traffic volumes or accidents require their installation.

We realize that there will continue to be some motorists who choose to drive faster than the posted speed limit of 25 mph. This is true in all neighborhoods. The motorists who are speeding would best be addressed through our education programs, which are described in detail on page 7 of this report, as well as in the pamphlets included. If you would like to get involved with any of these programs (Neighborhood Speed Watch, Radar Dolly, or Neighborhood Speed Reduction Program), please contact Brian Casey at bcasey@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6867. If you have any questions or comments about this report, feel free to contact me at lglas@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2841.

Sincerely,

Linda Glas, P.E.
Neighborhood Traffic Project Manager
Transportation Department





#2007-005
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Page 2

Legend

- Stop Sign
- 25 mph Speed Limit Sign



Page 3

#2007-005
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96th Ave NE near 511:

Study Conducted: 09/2005 1
Volume Count: 205 vehicles/day
Speed Study:
 Northbound: 24 mph*
 21 mph (average)
 Southbound: 27 mph*
 21 mph (average)

NE 5th St east of 99th Ave NE:

Study Conducted: 08/2005 2
Volume Count: 608 vehicles/day
Speed Study:
 Eastbound: 25 mph*
 20 mph (average)
 Westbound: 23 mph*
 18 mph (average)

99th Ave NE near 417:

Study Conducted: 08/2005 3
Volume Count: 602 vehicles/day
Speed Study:
 Northbound: 27 mph*
 23 mph (average)
 Southbound: 27 mph*
 23 mph (average)

**85% of motorists were recorded traveling at or below this speed.*

NE 5th St east of 94th Ave NE:

Study Conducted: 10/1998 4
Volume Count: 131 vehicles/day
Speed Study:
 Eastbound: 29 mph*
 23 mph (average)
 Westbound: 26 mph*
 21 mph (average)

98th Ave NE north of NE 1st St:

Study Conducted: 10/1991 5
Volume Count: 375 vehicles/day
Speed Study:
 Northbound: 23 mph*
 18 mph (average)
 Southbound: 23 mph*
 18 mph (average)

NE 1st St west of 99th Ave NE:

Study Conducted: 10/1991 6
Volume Count: 405 vehicles/day
Speed Study:
 Eastbound: 29 mph*
 23 mph (average)
 Westbound: 31 mph*
 25 mph (average)

**85% of motorists were recorded traveling at or below this speed.*





NE 5th west of 99th facing east



99th north of NE 5th facing south



99th south of NE 5th facing north



NE 5th east of 99th facing west



NE 5th west of 94th facing east



94th north of NE 5th facing south



94th south of NE 1st facing north



NE 1st east of 94th facing east



Recommendations

Neighborhood Speed Watch—We realize that there are motorists who drive in excess of the posted speed limit. One of the ways you can help to address this is by participating in our Neighborhood Speed Watch Program. This program allows you and your neighbors the opportunity to record the speeds of vehicles. From this information, we locate the registered owner of the vehicle and send a letter to them asking for their cooperation in reducing their speed.

Radar Dolly—We have a portable radar sign on a dolly residents can borrow and place on their street for up to two weeks.



Radar Dolly

Neighborhood Speed Reduction Program—

This neighborhood-sponsored program involves lending portable signs to the neighborhood for four months encouraging motorists to respect the neighborhood, drive responsibly, and drive 25 mph.



NSR Sign

Along with the signs, a neighborhood Pace Car program is organized with neighborhood residents setting the pace for the motorists following them by driving 25 mph.

See included pamphlets for additional information on the above recommendations. Please feel free to contact Brian Casey at (425) 452-6867 to participate in these programs.

Because of the speed study findings and our field reviews, we do not believe any additional measures are necessary at this time. However, if you feel the situation has changed, or have any further concerns, please let us know.

