



November 18, 2014

Subject: Traffic Calming Improvements, NE 140th Street North to the City Limits, along 117th Place NE, 119th Place NE and 119th Avenue NE, Kirkland, WA

Dear Resident:

The City of Kirkland (City) has been working over the past several months with a small group of High Woodlands residents committed to calming traffic along 117th Place NE, north of NE 140th Street. As a result of several meetings and conversations, their efforts produced a plan for changes along 117th Place NE, as well as to the north along 119th Place NE and 119th Avenue NE up to the City Limits. This letter is to let you know about their efforts and show you the proposed traffic calming changes the City hopes to implement in 2015. The City would also like to hear from you by December 15, 2014 if you have questions or concerns about the proposed plan, or if you would like to volunteer to be part of a neighborhood group being formed to consider future traffic calming measures. More information about the proposed plan and future working group is discussed below.

The enclosed figure shows two phases of traffic calming changes to 117th Place NE, 119th Place NE and NE 143rd Street between NE 140th Street and the City Limits just north of NE 153rd Street. The City is implementing these changes based on input from the small High Woodlands group and measurements of traffic speed and volume completed in May and July 2014. The traffic calming changes are described below.

Phase 1 – New Signage

You may have noticed new signs installed this fall. The City's Sign Shop staff installed a new speed limit, curve warning, neighborhood and radar enforced signs to remind drivers to slow down.

Phase 2 – Speed Check Signs, Road Striping and Road Marking

The next phase has three components (see enclosed figure):

1. Install flashing radar speed check signs at two locations, one facing southbound traffic on 119th Avenue NE near NE 148th Street, and one facing northbound traffic between NE 140th Place and NE 142nd Street. The radar signs would let drivers know when they are speeding and encourage them to slow down.
2. Add white edge lines in the road that separates street parking from the travel lane. This striping gives the road a narrower feel and causes drivers to slow down. The striping would be similar to the edge lines painted on 116th Place NE south of NE 140th Street. Centerline striping is not proposed at this time.
3. Add "25 MPH" road markings at three locations in each lane of 117th Place NE, 119th Place NE and 119th Avenue NE to remind drivers of the speed limit.



Funding for the above work is proposed in the 2015/2016 budget. If adopted in the budget, the road striping and markings could be completed as part of the City-wide 2015 Striping Program that occurs in August and early September. The City may be able to install the radar signs by spring 2015.

Is there a Phase 3?

In our most recent meeting with community members, neighborhood representatives expressed a desire to have further input into potential future traffic calming changes beyond those currently planned. In response, the City will be forming a neighborhood group to evaluate types and value of additional, more extensive traffic calming measures, if needed.

Ideally, the neighborhood working group would have participants representing all areas of the neighborhood. The working group would meet several times over the next few months and report back to the entire neighborhood to seek comment and input. If you are interested in being part of the neighborhood working group, please contact me by December 15, 2014.

Contact Information and Deadline

You can contact me at (425) 587-3870 or krobertson@kirklandwa.gov if you have questions or concerns about the proposed Phase 2 traffic calming changes, or would like to participate in the neighborhood working group. The deadline for contacting me is December 15, 2014.

Sincerely,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathy Robertson".

Kathy Robertson
Neighborhood Traffic Control Coordinator

Enclosure: Phases 1 and 2 Traffic Calming Changes