



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
Division of Transportation

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July 28, 2008

Ms. Sheila Cole
713 31st Street South
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Ms. Cole:

This is in response to your email sent to Mr. Bruce Cameron, President, Aurora Highland Civic Association requesting for traffic calming measures for 31st Street South between South Eads Street and Glebe Road.


The Arlington County Board considers neighborhood traffic calming a major factor in sustaining the quality of Arlington's residential neighborhoods. Therefore, the Division of Transportation, Neighborhood Traffic Calming (NTC) team, consisting of transportation planners and engineers, has investigated your request. All requests for traffic calming measures that the NTC staff receives are evaluated, ranked and prioritized based on the severity of problems throughout the County. The County has also appointed a citizen Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee (NTCC) that plays a role in prioritizing and funding NTC projects.

Staff investigated records, conducted field site visits and collected speed data on 31st Street South. We found the average speeds were measured at 20.20 mph and a traffic volume of 445 vehicles per day. A traffic volume of 445 vehicles per day is an expected volume for this street. Further analysis indicated that the 85th percentile speed was measured at 25.50 mph, meaning that most (85 percent) motorists traveled at 25.50 mph or below, and 15 percent traveled at a higher speed. An 85th percentile speed of 25.50 mph does not meet the 30 mph adopted minimum threshold speed that defines a speeding problem as outlined in the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program. As a result, no further action will be taken since the thresholds have not been met.

During the staff evaluation of this area, it was noted that the westbound 31st Street South at South Grant Street stop bar pavement marking was missing. It has been ordered to be installed in the fall 2008.

It has been a pleasure to review this matter for you. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 703-228-3202.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth Diggs
Transportation Planner III

C: Bruce Cameron, President, Aurora Highlands Civic Association
Johanna Soli, NCAC Representative
Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee
Lt. Grady Jolley, Arlington County Police Department