

Stewart Road Traffic Calming

Constituent Newsletter, 18th February, 2018

Dear _____:

While I have received a lot of positive feedback on the new Stewart Road speed humps, some constituents have complained that they are too high and too frequent, and have called for their removal. Therefore, I am polling everyone on this newsletter list - please let me know whether you see the speed humps as beneficial to the neighborhood, or want them to be removed.

In my view, they do a good job of calming traffic and making this residential street more pedestrian-friendly. I would support reducing the general speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph, so that vehicles are already traveling closer to the 20 mph required to safely drive over the humps.

Cheers, Ian

Constituent Responses

Summary:

In favor of keeping Stewart Road speed humps:	51/83 = 61%
In favor of removing Stewart Road speed humps:	17/83 = 20%
Neutral, balanced, or in favor of some modifications:	15/83 = 18%
In favor of reducing posted speed limit to 25 mph:	13

Individual Responses:

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 1:27 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hello Ian- I support the speed humps on Stewart even though I dislike them. I dislike them because they work, they remind me it's a residential neighborhood with heavy foot and bike traffic and they slow me down! I assume folks that want them removed also want them removed because they are functioning as designed and slowing people down. I also assume the complainers mostly don't live in that area. The speed limit should be 25 not 30, I thought it already was 25.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 1:28 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I live just off Stewart on Edgewood Ave. The speed bumps have helped tremendously. If anything, I would like to see more of them in our neighborhoods, defiantly not less. Thank you.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 1:31 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,

This is just a quick note to state my support for keeping the speed humps on Stewart Road. They do what they are intended to do.

Now, is there any possibility of getting some on Ridgemont and on Highridge? I realize money is short, but boy, we would love to see people slowing down. That blind curve around the bridge near the intersection of Ridgemont and Highridge is very dangerous when people are driving 45 mph (25 mph zone), and there is no sidewalk. I really do fear for the safety of all who walk or ride in that area, especially cyclists on the trail as it crosses Ridgemont. Many people do not even slow down there, let alone stop.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 1:33 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>
Subject: Stewart speed bumps

Way to high, too frequent.

Check out the ones on park college st.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 1:35 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

For your speed hump poll:

I strongly support the Stewart Rd speed humps because that's my usual bike commute route, and the humps definitely keep car speeds down.

(I also drive on Stewart at least once a week and don't mind the humps.)

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 1:53 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,

I'm in favor of KEEPING the road humps on Steward Rd.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 1:55 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

speed bumps on Stewart good! I drive more slowly on the length of steward, and take broadway more often.

I'd like the same bumps installed on Sunset from Rollins southeast to West Blvd. I'm waiting to see if the Rollins calming influences traffic on that stretch. There are no sidewalks and its a road with lots of pedestrians, kids on bikes, dog walkers etc.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 1:56 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I am a huge fan of the Stewart Road Speed Bumps. They are just high enough to do their job and if they were less frequent people would speed up too much between them. They are making Stewart road more pleasant and safer. Lets keek them.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 1:59 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stewart Road speed bumps.

Frequency: Just right; however, why would one be installed at a jogged, tee intersection of all places? This is really awkward at Westwood Avenue.
Height: Too high to traverse at 20 mph. Either lower them or change signs to 15 mph. In my case, I cannot safely traverse at more than 12 mph.
Speed limit: **Lower general speed limit to 25 mph** if the speed bumps remain unchanged.
Unsolicited comment: At least three of the speed bumps are nearly impossible to see in the summer months (sunny days) because they are placed beneath a tree canopy. I know where they are, and I realize there are signs; however, infrequent travelers of Stewart Road have some difficulties seeing the speed bumps (the white arrows are not visible at noon+) along with the signs which blend in with the surrounding vegetation.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 2:03 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Keep the speed bumps on Stewart Road. I don't like them but I think there are a good idea.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 2:12 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian!

I think the speed humps on Stewart are a good thing. There is indeed a lot of foot and bicycle traffic along Stewart, and slowing the cars down is a good idea. Making the speed limit 25 seems like a good idea to me too.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 2:37 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I haven't driven over them much but I'd be in favor of 25 mph on Stewart.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:06 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Dear Ian,

Thanks very much for your inquiry about the speed humps. I live at 403 W. Stewart and I'm writing to express my strong support of keeping the speed humps in place. If anything, I would suggest adding a couple more at the west end of the street to calm traffic approaching West Blvd. I also strongly support your suggestion to reduce the speed limit through the neighborhood.

When the weather is pleasant, I often sit on my front porch or walk through the neighborhood with my young children and dog. Prior to the speed bumps being put in, I routinely witnessed people speeding down Stewart, far in excess of the current speed limit. There's a narrow strip of grass between the sidewalks and street, and not a well defined shoulder along the road. Thus, when cars drive too fast, it's quite frightening to be a pedestrian on the sidewalks because of the close proximity of the vehicles. Additionally, many people use Stewart for bike commuting and speeding vehicles create a hazardous situation.

Although some people still choose to speed on Stewart, overall the speed humps do seem to have had the desired effect of calming traffic. I suspect that those who are not in favor of the humps find them inconvenient because they require them to drive at a reasonable speed.

Thanks for your efforts to make Columbia a safer place for both pedestrians and cyclists.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:22 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian:

I lived on Stewart Road for a few years and know the problems since it has become an "alternative to Broadway". And, I was surprised with the speed bumps that really get your attention. **They are effective, however, and should not be lowered.** **The reduced speed to 25 mph is a good idea** and continues the effort to have it a safe street in a residential neighborhood.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:25 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

It took a little adjusting, but I like the new speed humps on Stewart as is. Like others, I had been driving too fast down that stretch and they help me remember to slow down for safety's sake.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:32 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Speed bumps are an improvement. Thanks.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:35 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

regarding speed bumps, I'm really not a fan of them. I've never understood why if the speed limit is 25 you have to slow down to 20 for the bump - seems if they slowed you down to the speed limit that would be more reasonable. I rarely drive on Stewart but the 3 speed bumps on College Park between Stadium and Rollins seem like too many. Not sure what the reason for them is - "kid friendly?" but you never see kids on the streets these days, not like my childhood in the 1960's, no one lets kids play in front yards anymore, only a handful walk or ride bikes to school.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:39 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

My wife and I do not like the Stewart Road speed bumps. Why not just give speeding tickets to the violators instead of punishing everyone. I have stopped using Stewart Road because of the speed bumps. They are pushing traffic onto Maupin which is not designed for extra traffic.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:41 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

I lived in Westmount neighborhood and think the speed bumps could be lowered just a bit, and am not sure if one or two might be removed and still have effect, but I think the reduction of speeders has been helpful.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:43 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Now, as for the Stewart Rd. speed bumps, I dislike them. I've totally changed my driving patterns, now cutting through Parkway to get on Broadway to head west. I wondered if the speed bumps weren't a behind the scenes way to end up widening Broadway. I'm not sure if anyone considered unintended consequences. The speed bumps are not drivable at 20 mph. I have to brake and cross them at maybe 15 mph in order to protect my vehicle and contents in my car - maybe a drink in my cup holder. I'd love to see the science behind the bump size, because I've ridden my bike and driven on other roads with bumps that say 20 mph and they are much lower to the ground. These seem like someone in charge just dumped a bunch of asphalt without any real consideration of height or design. They are TOO HIGH, and abruptly so. They are hard on vehicles. While I never appreciated cars travelling 40-50 mph down Stewart, these bumps seem like overkill. Where a bump is needed is on the section between Garth and Stadium. The cars pretty much fly through the stop sign at Garth, but there's no bump there to slow traffic down. It would seem to me that the spacing of the bumps was given little to no thought.

So please, lower their height, at the very least. Make it so they are safe driving over at the speed limit we have now: 30 mph. Lowering the speed limit to 25 is not going to help as 25 mph is still too fast to drive over the bumps.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:45 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Mr. Thomas:

I travel Stewart Road between West and Providence three days a week and have done so for perhaps 18 to 20 years. I pass from west to east at approximately 7:45 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. I find the western most speed bump to be less than helpful. I also feel strongly that one of the four could be removed.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 3:58 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

In reply to your survey about the Stewart Road humps I'll share my views.

The humps don't bother me too much anymore. After going over them a couple times and realizing that 20 MPH is much too fast if you care about the undercarriage of your vehicle, I have rerouted. Anytime I'm travelling west and north of Stewart, I now take West Parkway to Broadway and return the same way. If I'm headed southwest, I take the back way. And if the humps are removed and the speed limit reduced to 25 mph on Stewart Rd, I will likely continue my new routes of habit. I see Stewart Rd as a road designed to handle traffic at 30 mph. If I'm going to be driving 25 I find it more enjoyable to drive the smaller side streets.

When we walk along Stewart now, I watch and count vehicles that bottom out when they cross the humps. It's rare that I don't see at least one bottom out. I haven't looked, but I would imagine there are scrape marks on the pavement from these occurrences. When I have driven over the humps, I found that 5 mph is a more realistic safe speed if you don't want to damage your vehicle. I've seen cars go over them at much higher speeds and some without bottoming out, but over time they will pay the price in service work.

So my vote is to remove the humps and keep the speed limit at 30mph.

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On 2/18/18, 4:02 PM, wrote:

I live on Lathrop just south of Stewart and I definitely find the speed humps beneficial. It makes crossing Stewart much easier than it was before because traffic moves at much more manageable pace for pedestrians. This is particularly true for children walking without an adult.

It's true that they slow you down as a driver which people can find annoying. On the other hand given that Stewart from Garth to West is only about a mile, the time cost to drivers is pretty negligible.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 4:27 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

My friends on Stewart love the speed bumps.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 5:05 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,

I agree that the Stewart speed humps are beneficial to the neighborhood. I also find them kind of irritating, mainly because they slow me down a bit. Obviously they are doing their job. Don't remove them. Or at least not more than one of them.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 5:05 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I live near Stewart Road, and while I appreciate the city's effort to slow down the speeders, those bumps are too high. I am usually driving less than 20 mph as I approach them and still feel the front of my car dipping down too far. When a car dips in the front, the wear and tear on the vehicle increases. As a result, I am avoiding the street and using Broadway instead and have noticed the heavier traffic on that street especially around 5:00 in the afternoon. You might be wondering why I just don't use another street. There isn't one available. I work out south so there are two routes available Broadway or Stewart to West Blvd and then Forum or Stewart to Providence. This city is hard enough on cars given the number of unfilled potholes and poorly executed patching and the even more stop and start driving due to extremely complicated traffic flow. I vote for removing two of the bumps on Stewart.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 5:06 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I don't live on Stewart Rd but sometimes travel that way. The speed bumps have been effective to slow me down!

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 5:31 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,

I think the speed bumps are annoying BUT effective, a low-cost, environmentally-friendly way to slow down speedsters.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 6:09 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,
I am a constituent of yours and a resident of the Old Southwest, living a few houses off of Stewart Road.

In response to your query about Stewart Road:

I consider the speed humps on Stewart to be of appropriate size and distribution, and a positive addition to the safety and enjoyment of the neighborhood.

Your thought of a lower speed limit on Stewart closer to that for which the humps were designed makes good sense to me.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 6:15 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian, I'd generally agree that the road humps are a good thing. I'd also agree that the speed limit would make more sense at 25, so the humps don't require as much adjustment for those driving the speed limit.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 6:27 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I hope more of us will let you know that we do not like the speed bumps and would agree with 25 miles per hour.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 6:30 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,
Thanks for this note. I fully support Stewart Road speed bumps the way they are. I drive and bike Stewart Road almost daily and I think they've helped a lot to calm traffic. They are not a difficulty for motorists.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 6:31 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Thanks Ian for the newsy update.

Stewart Road speed bumps. I dislike speed bumps any where in Columbia. They are not fun to drive over. **But I realize that drivers have to be slowed down. Speed limits do not work. It would be a waste to remove them.**

By the way the people dissatisfied are probably cutting across town to make time to West Blvd. Bumps work. Let the locals in that neighborhood decide if an inconvenience.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 6:33 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

Since you asked...

I'm a hump hater. They waste fuel by causing every car to slow down and then speed back up multiple times. (Although I don't slow down for them unless Diana's in the car with me.)

They suck even more on the bike.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 6:50 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Take out the speed bumps. They are too big and there are too many. Put in stop signs to slow people down. Also, put the stop signs back in at the roundabout on Fairview and Rollins. I get very tired of people speeding up to follow someone in front of them going into the roundabout, instead of waiting their turn. If there was stop signs again, they would have to stop. The intersection is TOO SMALL for a decent roundabout!

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 8:12 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I think the speed bumps on Stewart Road are a very good thing, and I do not want them removed.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 8:36 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Please count our TWO votes to leave the Stewart Road speed humps in place and reduce the speed limit to 25mph.

Please count our TWO votes to leave the Stewart Road speed humps in place and reduce the speed limit to 25mph.

We are cyclist who frequently use that road and would appreciate the slower speed limit. It is a very nice residential street so I would imagine the slower speed limit would be welcomed by most. Thank you, Jill Baxter & Peter Pastoret (Ward 6)

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On 2/18/18, 8:41 PM, wrote:

Hello Mr. Thomas,

I support the existing Stewart Road speed humps and lowering the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph.

Also, I feel the speed humps are safer for bicyclists because cars move slower as a result. The riders have a little bit more time to react in event of problems.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 8:50 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

You asked for our assessment of the speed bumps. They bumps are inconsistent in height and seem to be illogically placed. People speed up, brake, and speed up again. Would 3 instead of 4 be better? I doubt reducing the speed to 25 mph would get drivers to drive more slowly. Maybe, we should try the speed bumps a bit longer. Undecided about the effectiveness of the speed bumps,

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 9:14 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

I think the speed bumps on Stewart are doing a great job slowing down traffic. They are much better than the ones on College Park. The Stewart speed bumps are inconvenient enough to prevent speeding, but can be taken at or close to the posted speed limit if one wishes. If I lived in that neighborhood I would be firmly against removal.

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Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 at 11:51 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

The speed bumps on Stewart are ridiculously high. This is not a typical residential street but a secondary east-west artery. I am probably a normal driver and avoid the street entirely because of fear of damaging my car at anything near the posted speed limit. If the goal was to not calm traffic but completely discourage it, then it has been accomplished.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 3:49 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Dear Mr. Thomas:

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the Stewart Road speed humps. My personal preference would be to remove them, lessen them, or at least make them less frequent. If I lived with a driveway onto Stewart Road, I might feel differently, because I suspect they lessen the amount of traffic as well as the speed of drivers who still use the thoroughfare. Frankly, speed humps on a primary snow route just don't seem appropriate.

If, as I suspect will happen, the humps remain, then reduce the speed limit to 20 mph if that's the speed needed to "safely" traverse the humps. Its mean-spirited to create a situation that makes a street less vehicle-friendly, and then post an unsafe speed limit.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 5:15 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Speed humps on Stewart Road

Recently I was very disappointed to drive down Stewart Road and encounter the speed humps. This street is a traffic artery much like West Broadway and it is unrealistic to slow down traffic to school zone level. As has already been said, the humps are too high and too frequent. I support their removal.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 7:17 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hello Ian,

Although I don't live too close to Stewart Road, I do use it regularly for jogging in the mornings, and my family often drives home from church on that road. I think the new speed humps are perfect. People were going very fast on that road. Anything to lower speeds and blasting through red lights in this city I'm in favor of.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 7:44 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Stewart speed humps. **They should stay right where they are.** I live on St. Christopher, and I often go down Stewart to avoid Broadway at 5 pm. Anybody that wants them removed probably wants to go back to roaring down Stewart at 45 mph like they were doing before the humps. The people in the house on the west side of West Blvd. at Stewart didn't put up stone barricades and reflectors on the wall of the house for nothing.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 7:51 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian:

I also support the speed bumps as a necessary part of living in residential areas. I use that route and if you go the speed limit you are OK, if not you are quickly reminded to slow down.

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On 2/19/18, 7:53 AM, wrote:

Dear Ian,

In response to your request for a response, " please let me know whether you see the speed humps as beneficial to the neighborhood, or want them to be removed", I will say that I find those speed bumps very frustrating. I don't mind a speed bump that enforces the speed limit, but the speed limit there is a reasonable 30 MPH and the bumps are only 20 MPH. Plus they are so close together, I am constantly on and off my brakes and gas, or else just crawl the whole way up the street. Stewart Rd. is a major thoroughfare for those of us who work on campus, and anyone who buys a house on that street knows that when they buy. It's like the people living on Broadway. There's traffic. Yes, we definitely need to stop speeding and drag racing from fraternities, but just a couple of speed tables would do the job while allowing regular traffic to proceed at a normal pace. **I would suggest removing one of the current bumps, and slightly reducing the remaining ones so they could be traversed at 25 to 30 MPH.**

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 7:55 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,

The speed humps are fine. "Too high" probably indicates that they are achieving their intended function and forcing people to slow down. By contrast, I would point to the Fairview roundabout that is ineffective. "Too frequent" is probably not supported by relevant design standards, but may accurately reflect people's dislike of being slowed down. More interesting for my us the inconsistent spacing, which may make some think the spacing is arbitrary.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 8:00 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I think the speed humps on Stewart are fine.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 8:17 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

Hope you're well. **The speed humps are a large pain in the rear which means they are extremely effective!! Keep the speed humps!! Slow down people!! Also, I firmly believe speed limits on our residential streets/neighborhoods is to fast at 25mph.** My car is traveling in the the teens through our neighborhoods -- lead by example I'm hoping! Cars routinely peel off of Broadway and pass my driveway on Westwood going 40mph + it is insane!!
So I'm ranting- sorry!
Yes to keeping speed humps!!

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 8:46 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I like the speed bumps!

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 9:01 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Councilman Thomas,

This is a response to your query regarding the speed humps on Stewart Road.

Stewart Road is a public street not a private drive for the neighborhood. These particular speed humps are terrible.

If the goal is to dissuade drivers from traveling on Stewart Road, mission accomplished. I no longer drive on Stewart Road. I suspect some drivers, like me, now choose to travel on Broadway, causing further congestion there.

The Stewart Road speed limit is 30 mph except for the speed humps which have a posted speed limit of 20 mph or even slower (if you care for your car.) It would be much better for the wear and tear on vehicles to have stop signs at intersections. I suspect stop signs would have been less expensive to install and would have slowed traffic too. It will be too bad for citizens needing help when the next emergency vehicle that travels Stewart Road tries to arrive in time.

I understand the Council's intention on behalf of a few concerned voices to force traffic to obey the posted speed. This chosen solution goes beyond simple enforcement and approaches something closer to punishment. Interestingly, Stewart Road was recently repaved and striped specifically to relieve some of the traffic pressure on Broadway. The speed humps have subverted this stated goal. Reducing the speed limit to 25 will not solve the problems associated with these speed humps.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 9:15 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

keep the speed bumps

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 9:16 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Thanks for all you do, Ian! I expressed concerns about the speed humps before they were put in and still have the same concerns, so I would vote to remove them. We live just south of Stewart, I work on campus, and we have one kiddo at Grant and one at West Middle who both have evening and after-school activities there so we drive back and forth on Stewart a zillion times a day (OK, feels like it!), not to mention times that we are walking, walking the dog or biking. I have never experienced notable problems with the traffic on Stewart and certainly haven't noticed a change for the better since putting in the speed humps. Certainly the number of them in such a short span of blocks is clearly excessive - the only other place I've encountered that level of traffic calming is in a parking lot ☹. Just my take on it though, we'll certainly survive either way.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 9:53 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I like the speed bumps!

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 12:22 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian, I take Stewart and College Park several times a week and have now gotten used to the speed humps, and guess what? They conditioned me to slow down! If they are removed on Stewart I will probably will unconsciously continue to take it easier through there, but they have to be adjusting other peoples driving habits too if they changed my lead foot mentality. I hated them all at first..

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 12:27 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ward4@como.gov>

Ian,

I think the Stewart Road traffic speed humps are very beneficial and have slowed traffic noticeably. In my view the only individuals who complain are likely those who want to speed. Thanks.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 12:32 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

In response to you newsletter and poll, I would be disappointed if the speed bumps were removed. Before the speed bumps, very few drivers respected the speed limit. This solved the issue. They are just fine in quantity, size and location.

We have a lot of young kids in the neighborhood and this really helps. I wish we had one on Edgewood Ave. where I live as very few respect the speed limit and it is a busy cross street.

+++++

Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 1:05 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian

For your speed hump poll: **While I find them a little annoying, but a small price to pay to calm traffic on Stewart Road.** Although I live on East Stewart, I do walk and drive along West Stewart at least a couple of times a day. It seems to me that there is a decrease in speeders. Height of the humps is no problem for me, even in a relatively low-slung car. Being more of a table than a bump is nice. I thought what we were going to get was a little more like the speed bumps found in many parking lots, which are rough to maneuver through. It seems that the 2 eastern-most humps are unusually close together, but I won't second guess the engineers' reasoning for their spacing. From my vantage point, they don't appreciably affect the volume of traffic. You just can't drive as fast. That is not a bad thing.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 1:36 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

Thanks for your message. I would like to respond to your inquiry regarding constituent's thought about the Stewart Road speed bumps. Here are my thoughts in bullet form:

I don't understand why speed bumps were placed at intersections such as the one on Lindell. It makes getting out of the street onto Stewart a little awkward.

Almost speedbump per block from Parkway West all the way to Lindell does seem like overkill, especially since there are none between Lindell and West Boulevard. Are cars not speeding in that area?

There are so many streets in Columbia that could benefit from speed bumps; I'm not sure how Stewart Road managed to corner the inventory. I believe that places along Edgewood, Garth, and West Parkway (now cut through streets for many drivers) would have benefitted more than placing the bumps along Stewart at or near each of those intersections.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 1:40 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

In response to your polling request, **I am opposed to the humps/bumps on Stewart Road which is one of the main arteries to downtown Columbia and the University campus.** We have a 30 mile an hour roadway and we need to slow down 4 times within a short distance to 20 miles an hour. Makes no sense. Please take them away and please do not start this hump business on Rollins Road. Bad idea all around.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 1:51 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

I am not a fan of speed bumps as a traffic calming measure. They are effective(ish) but there are other treatments that can be done for the same cost that would be just as effective and have other benefits for the neighborhood and for those who are just passing through. **That being said, I do not think the speed bumps along Stewart should be removed.** The money has already been spent on them, they are working, and they've made it better for people walking and biking in the neighborhood. I have a feeling that those who are complaining about them are people who do not want to drive at a reasonable and safe speed.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 2:57 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian
Who's going to pay for the removal of the speed bumps? I drive on them all the time. You just have to drive slow. Come on!

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 3:43 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Dear Ian:
I have encountered the speed humps on Stewart and approve. This is a good case study for adding this type of traffic calming to a larger, more heavily travelled collector streets in our City.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 3:57 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian, **Please do not let anyone remove the speed humps on Stewart Road.** Maybe some day there will be a better alternative but I firmly believe they are currently the best option. I believe they are helping to reduce the traffic to safer speeds. I also think that by making people more aware the speed humps are making it safer for commuters and neighborhood families to bike and use the sidewalks. When a person complains about the speed humps I can't help but to assume they are probably one of many who were previously driving too fast.

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On 2/19/18, 4:01 PM, wrote:

I can only speak from my point of view: I drove up Stewart Road once after the speed bumps were installed and found it so annoying I haven't been on the street again. So I would say it has had the calming effect sought (from me, at any rate!)

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On 2/19/18, 5:20 PM, wrote:

Ian:

The first time I drove down Stewart after the speed bump install, I thought the city had a surplus of hot asphalt left over from a big job. They went over to Stewart and started laying down speed bumps until it was used up. Excessive as that may have seemed.

I understand the need to slow down traffic, but I think this is over kill. There are way too many of them. I just avoid Stewart to go to library. I'm sure this is better for Stewart Rd residence since it just keeps another car off their street. This is good for them but not practical for me.

Anyway, it's a delicate balance. Something is needed but these things are huge and there are way too many of them.

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Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 at 5:40 PM

To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi, Ian. For the record, I support keeping the speed bumps on Stewart Road. Reducing the speed limit might be beneficial. Thanks for requesting feedback,

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On 2/18/18, 7:43 PM, wrote:

Ian:

I am writing you to give you some feedback on the Stewart Road speed bumps as you requested in your newsletter.

I live near the corner of West Blvd South and Stewart Road and use Stewart regularly to get to the library or down to campus/Providence Road. Or at least I used to. I so seriously hate those speed humps that I am now finding other routes to get to destinations East!

There are several problems with the bumps IMO:

1. The signs warning about the speed humps are not far enough away from the actual humps themselves. Those of us who live around here have by now experienced enough suspension-shattering jolts the first few times we encountered them that we are conditioned to anticipate them and slow down without needing to see the sign. However, for people unfamiliar with Stewart Rd (visitors to town, people unfamiliar with the area), they just do not have enough reaction time between the sign and the hump to slow down sufficiently. As high as those humps are, without sufficient advance warning, there is actually a real potential for damage to vehicles

when they hit them at speeds above 20 mph (does the city need another lawsuit?) or perhaps actually cause an accident--consider the fact that a motorcycle or scooter going over one of these things at high speed may become airborne!

2. The humps are clustered too closely together on the eastern end of Stewart. This means that westbound cars have the chance to get all the way back up to 30-35 mph before encountering the weird intersection that is West Blvd and Stewart Rd. This is a problematic intersection because people think Stewart keeps going, when in fact, it dog legs to the left. Ask my neighbor Keith Politte, who lives directly across from that stop sign, how many times people have crashed into his yard in the middle of the night because they were speeding westbound down Stewart. The most recent crash this fall resulted in severe injuries to the driver.

These humps may be achieving traffic calming, but in an unintended way because I suspect that, like me, many people are now avoiding driving down Stewart Road unless they absolutely have to.

In an ideal world, I would like to see the darned things removed altogether, and would suggest that instead the city try striping bike lanes on both sides of Stewart Road for its full length. The stripes have the effect of narrowing the road for drivers, which forces them to slow down. When bike and pedestrian stripes were added on both sides of my section of West Blvd from Stewart down to Stadium, the difference in the traffic speed was noticeable and has made West Blvd South a lot safer for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Barring complete removal of the humps, which I suspect you oppose, please consider doing the following:

1. Space the humps out more, moving some of them up toward the western end of the street--this may help reduce accidents at Stewart and West. (I wish was there was something more we could do about reducing accidents at that intersection. Years s ago when Jerry Wade was 4th Ward councilman, he made a considered effort to try to get a roundabout put at West and Stewart at my and my neighbors' request due to how dysfunctional that intersection was and the number of accidents occurring there. Apparently that effort was stopped in its tracks by certain a business interest in town who had a vested interest in keeping West Blvd open to truck traffic. Mr. Wade would not reveal who that was, but I have my suspicions).

2. Lower the height of the humps by about 30-50%

3. Improve signage--have advance warning signs on both the Eastern and Western ends of Stewart warning that there are speed bumps up ahead, but also increase the distance between those signs warning drivers of the individual humps and the humps themselves.

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On 2/19/18, 8:12 PM, wrote:

Thanks for your inquiry about the Stewart Rd speed humps. As someone who walks a lot in this neighborhood, **I think they are on the whole an improvement.** It is now a lot easier to cross Stewart on foot, and cars are now more likely to stop at intersections like Edgewood when there are pedestrians.

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comments: My opinion of the speed humps on Stewart Rd.

This road is a major East/West thoroughfare and therefore the humps should be removed. For emergency vehicles and older adults, these larger than most humps can be a driving hazard. Stewart is a connector in that it connects with several major North/South streets and allows the flow of traffic to be moved- rather than the 2 lanes of congested traffic on West Broadway. School busses, and emergency vehicles are seriously thrown, even at 20mph when crossing these high humps. Please have them removed! The families who live along this major road knew/know it is a major thoroughfare for many years.

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Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 1:05 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,

As for my view of the speed bumps on Stewart Road, I live on Stewart Road and I think they're doing a great job. Not only do they reduce speed, but they have also reduced the amount of overall traffic on this road. Unfortunately there are still some individuals who feel it is necessary to approach the speed humps traveling well over the speed limit, slam on their brakes as they go over the speed humps, and then accelerate to their original speed. I am firmly in favor of keeping them and would also support reducing the overall speed limit. This is a road through a neighborhood, not a highway. There is no need for vehicles to be traveling over 30 mph in this neighborhood and unfortunately they do. Speed bumps or no.

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Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 8:43 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

There are 2 pretty close together btw. Edgewood & Parkway; might be better to move that one to west of Edgewood rather than just east of Edgewood. Overall, they are helpful but I still see people going over them while speeding on Stewart.

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Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 9:55 AM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian, thanks for soliciting feedback about the speed humps. I live on Lindell Drive, so I'm very familiar with driving on Stewart Road. The two westernmost speed humps (Lindell and Westwood) are a reasonable height and seem to accomplish the goal of slowing traffic without disrupting traffic flow. Not so with the easternmost speed humps, which are unnecessarily high and unpleasant to drive over, even at the recommended 20 mph speed. Traffic tends to back up behind them. I would favor removing them or grinding them down to the height of the two to the west. For what it's worth, friends who live on Stewart report that the project has had an unintended consequence — noise pollution from cars accelerating after going over the humps. I think the humps should be adjusted to allow a car to drive safely and consistently at the speed limit, whether that's 30 mph or 25 mph. (I would not like to see it go any lower than that).

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Date: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 4:37 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,

The Stewart Road "Speed Bumps" are ridiculous; way too many! They are also much too high for even a safe and comfortable 20 mph speed. The the height and spacing of the speed bumps on College Park and Manor Drive are much more appropriate for residential traffic.

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On 2/20/18, 6:56 PM, wrote:

On a 2nd note, I am opposed to the Steward Rd. speed bumps. Broadway is crowded and alternate East-West routes from western Columbia are Steward, Ash, And Worley. The only one with speed bumps is the street going through the wealthiest neighborhood! That fact really bothers me!! As the city grows, each of these alternate streets will be needed even more as good streets to scatter the traffic. More importantly the safety issues are much greater on Ash and Worley than Steward. There are more houses, the houses are closer to the street, and there are more kids and other persons walking along the streets!!! Having the speed bumps on the street for the wealthiest citizens is embarrassing and more importantly WRONG!!

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On 2/20/18, 8:37 PM, "..... wrote:

Regarding the Stewart Road speed bumps—Change often meets with resistance. Yes, there are a lot of speed bumps, and traffic flow has changed in the neighborhood. I live on Katy Lane between Forum and Limerick and would welcome that kind of traffic calming. The house next door to me had a car crash into it, and my neighbors across the street have had cars in their yard twice due to excessive speeding. In fact, one of the cars ended up suspended in the neighbor’s tree. This section of Katy is both curvy and hilly, and would benefit from speed bumps. Because of the traffic light at the intersection of Forum and Chapel Hill, many drivers use this section of Katy as a bypass. I would like to discourage this practice, and look forward to resolving these speeding issues before someone is seriously injured. Thank you for listening.

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On 2/22/18, 12:57 PM, wrote:

Thanks for your recent newsletter Ian and your continued good work on behalf of the 4th. I live on Edgewood and support the use of speed bumps on Stewart Road. I have observed the high speeds many motorists use over the 40 years I have lived in the neighborhood and a little inconvenience is meaningless when it comes to safety. I likewise support decreasing the speed limit to 25 mph, as well. With enough time people will get over what it is they object to or use other streets to go cross town.

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Date: Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 12:05 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

I support keeping the speed humps even if they are annoying. It certainly causes people to slow down. I contacted the city several months ago asking to have one or possible two put in on Stewart between Garth and Providence. They said they would consider it. When people get to Garth after the speed bumps they gun it (likely from irritation) all the way to Providence. It is amazing how fast cars go by my house at 25 E. Stewart. I wish someone would do a speed check.

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Date: Sunday, February 25, 2018 at 10:23 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

Please remove speed bumps! They have forced traffic to maupin that has historically been more of a pedestrian/bike pedway but now has traffic on it trying to avoid the speed bumps on Stewart!! There is also more traffic on south greenwood now since the speed bumps. Stewart has sidewalks but maupin & greenwood do not so additional vehicular traffic is in fact more dangerous!!! Please remove the speed Bumps!!!

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Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 3:31 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Hi Ian,

Since you asked—I thought I would respond to your question about the speed humps on Stewart. I think they are fine now that they are there, but I wish there had been more discussion about where to invest our limited “pedestrian-friendly” dollars. In my 13 years of living in and biking/walking Columbia, I never once had a problem on Stewart. In contrast, I have daily struggles with the crosswalk on Broadway/Aldeah/Edgewood. There are some additional “hotspots” on Broadway, Ash and Worley, where motorists do not look both ways before they pull out into the intersection. I’ve recently wondered when the bike trigger in the left turn lane on Garth by the library is going to be replaced. If you are trying to turn left on your bike at that intersection, you basically have to wait for a car to join you in the left turn lane, or get off your bike and use the crosswalk. (There used to be a one of those spots like they have on the north side of that intersection that triggers the left turn arrow for a bike.)

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Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 7:16 PM
To: Ian Thomas <ian@ianfor4th.com>

Ian,

I wanted to comment on the Stewart Rd speed bumps. I am sorry for the delay but I wanted to drive the road a couple of times. I think my observation is more a question. The speed limit is 30 mph while the speed control of the speed bumps is 20 mph. If the traffic should slow to 20 mph why not simply set the speed limit to that level and enforce it? Or, if the desire is to keep traffic to the posted speed limit why not construct the speed bumps accordingly?

I too would agree with the 25mph, in fact I always thought it was, or 20mph.