



CITY OF HARRISONBURG
**PUBLIC
WORKS**

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To: Eric Campbell, City Manager
From: Thomas Hartman, PE, Director of Public Works;
Date: January 14, 2020
Re: Posted Speed Limit Reduction on East Grattan Street

Summary:

Consider a Resolution reducing the Posted Speed Limit on East Grattan between S. Main Street and S. Mason Street to 15 mph.

Background:

In early 2019, Public Works staff was contacted by a resident of E. Grattan Street with concerns about speeding on the road and the amount of traffic using the residential street as a cut-through route. The resident lives between S. Main Street and S. Mason Street and noted that drivers use Grattan Street as an alternative to Martin Luther King Jr. Way to travel between the two arterial streets. Staff and the resident took this concern to the Transportation Safety and Advisory Commission (TSAC) at its February 2019 meeting, as this type of traffic pattern on a local street is a potential safety issue. The speeding issue was corroborated by a mobile speed radar unit placed on the street by the Harrisonburg Police Department, although with some concerns about the accuracy of that data. TSAC advised Public Works to gather additional traffic speed and volume data, to allow a more detailed assessment of the problem and possible solutions.

The Commission also approved of approaching the concerns in a similar manner to Neighborhood Traffic Calming efforts, but without formally enrolling the street in the Program, given that the concern was limited to one street segment as opposed to the whole neighborhood. The approach of the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program to reducing speeding and cut-through traffic is to implement measures in a phased manner, starting with the least restrictive and least costly options, and progressing with more restrictive and/or costly measures, as needed, until the problem is abated. The study area for evaluation was determined to be E. Grattan Street between S. Mason Street and S. Main Street, shown in Figure 1 below.

Community Engagement:

This issue has been shared and discussed at multiple Transportation Safety and Advisory Commission meeting, which have agendas published to the City website and are open to the public.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends adopting the Resolution for the speed reduction on East Grattan Street.

Attachments:

1. Grattan Street Engineering Study
2. Resolution
3. Presentation

Review: