CITY OF IOWA CITY
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July 31, 2018

Re: Proposal for traffic calming on Highland, between Boyrum and Keokuk

Dear Resident:

As you may be aware, concerns about vehicle speeds along Highland Avenue have existed for several years. A 2014 traffic study requested by neighborhood residents resulted in a pilot program that installed edge and centerline striping along your street in order to narrow travel lanes and calm traffic. While these pavement markings initially resulted in lower speeds, over time vehicle speeds have increased. The most recent data collected, completed in 2017, found that average speeds on your street are 5 MPH over the speed limit with 15% of drivers exceeding the speed limit by approximately 10 MPH or higher. (See attached sheet.)

A neighborhood meeting was held in June to explore available traffic calming solutions. Given the history of speeding issues on Highland and efforts made over the years to reduce speeding, speed humps have been identified as the most effective means for lowering speeds.

On the back of this letter there is a description of speed humps and an aerial view of the neighborhood showing approximate locations where humps could be installed. Please note that speed humps are designed to allow vehicles to travel comfortably at 20-25 MPH such that traffic can flow steadily down a street.

The intent of the City's Traffic Calming Program is to install traffic calming features *only* if desired by the neighborhood. The next step in the Traffic Calming Program is to survey all households contiguous to this portion of Highland Avenue, between Keokuk and Boyrum:

- Each household receives one vote. **To move forward with the installation of speed humps, we must receive survey cards from 50% of the occupied households surveyed AND, of those who respond, 60% must be infavor of speed humps for the proposal to be considered by the City Council.**
- **Please return the enclosed postage-paid survey card indicating your preference.**
- **To be counted, your postcard must be returned no later than August 31.**

If the proposal receives enough support as measured by this survey, the request for traffic calming will be forwarded to the City Council for final consideration. Within two weeks of the survey deadline, you will receive the results of the survey by mail and notified of the council date. Signs will also be posted along the street to allow other road users an opportunity to provide comment to City Council.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Sarah Walz
Assistant Transportation Planner

cc: Geoff Fruin, Ron Knoche, Jason Havel, Brock Holub, Kent Ralston, Troy Kelsay, Marcia Bollinger