



traffic analysis

SE 16th St., near 150th Ave SE

#2011-005, August 25, 2011

[REDACTED]
Bellevue, WA 98007

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for sharing your continued concerns regarding SE 16th Street traffic. We have completed our review of this location and would like to share with you our findings.

Although speeds have dropped significantly since our first review in 1991, we realize that there continue to be motorists driving faster than the 25 MPH speed limit on SE 16th Street. However, our ability to control speeds on your street through engineering methods is limited by a number of factors. First, SE 16th Street, with average daily traffic volumes of approximately 4600 vehicles, is designated as a collector arterial. It is also one of the main emergency response routes for the Lake Hills community. Finally, our most recent study confirmed that speeds remain too low to qualify the roadway for traffic calming measures. We also reviewed the reported accidents along SE 16th Street over the past five years, which indicated the cause was either related to driver inattention or distraction.

There are a number of streets in Bellevue with similar traffic conditions to SE 16th Street. They have speeds higher than we would like to see but not high enough to meet the City's guidelines for physical measures. In order to better serve these streets and the residents who live on them, we are presently revising our traffic calming program and looking into new education and signing measures. We are just in the development stage of these efforts, but once complete, will include SE 16th Street as a pilot location. Because adjacent resident support will be important to any new effort we undertake, we encourage you to begin speaking with residents along your street about your concerns to determine if they will support additional speed reduction efforts, which could include, for example, changing the look of the street with signing.

Until our pilot program is developed, there are 25 MPH pavement markings and signage to remind drivers of the posted speed. We also appreciate your efforts in borrowing the radar dolly and would be happy to lend it to you again. The dolly, in addition to the 25 MPH pavement markings, may be one reason speeds have dropped. Because additional speed reduction would be best obtained through extra police enforcement at this time, we have sent copies of our most recent speed study to Police Traffic to assist them in their enforcement efforts.

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns. We will be in contact with you by the end of October regarding the pilot project. Again, if you are interested in borrowing the radar dolly, please contact me at (425)452-2841 or lglas@bellevuewa.gov.

Sincerely,

Linda Glas, P.E.
Neighborhood Traffic Project Manager
Transportation Department



Neighborhood Transportation Services
Transportation Department
City of Bellevue
425-452-6856

www.bellevuewa.gov/traffic_services.htm



Proposed Capital Investment Program (CIP) project on SE 16th Street – 148th Ave SE to 156th Ave SE

The City of Bellevue's Ped/Bike Plan lists as a "High" Priority a CIP project to add a 6-foot wide sidewalk and a 4-foot wide planter strip. Because there are many high priority projects in the Ped/Bike Plan, residents are encouraged to share with the Transportation Commission why they feel this project is important and should be funded. This will be especially critical in 2012, since that is when the 2013/2014 budget will be approved. The Transportation Commission meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30pm in City Hall Conference Room #1E-113. There are numerous competing needs with few resources for neighborhood sidewalks; therefore, we encourage residents to attend these meetings and advocate for projects that are important to them. For more information about the Transportation Commission, please visit the City of Bellevue's website at: http://www.bellevuewa.gov/trans_comm.htm.

EXISTING CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

There have been numerous traffic calming measures implemented in the area along and surrounding SE 16th St. The Robinswood Neighborhood Traffic Calming Project installed speed humps, a traffic circle, entry treatments, and a raised crosswalk between SE 16th St. and SE 22nd St. along 150th, 151st, 152nd, and 154th Ave SE.



25 MPH pavement markings have been installed on SE 16th St. near 148th Ave SE and along SE 16th St. near 154th Ave SE

Entry treatments are found on 150th Ave SE, 151st Ave SE, and 154th Ave SE just south of SE 16th St. which are intended to slow down traffic.



Other traffic calming devices, such as this traffic circle at 152nd Ave SE and SE 18th St., have been installed.



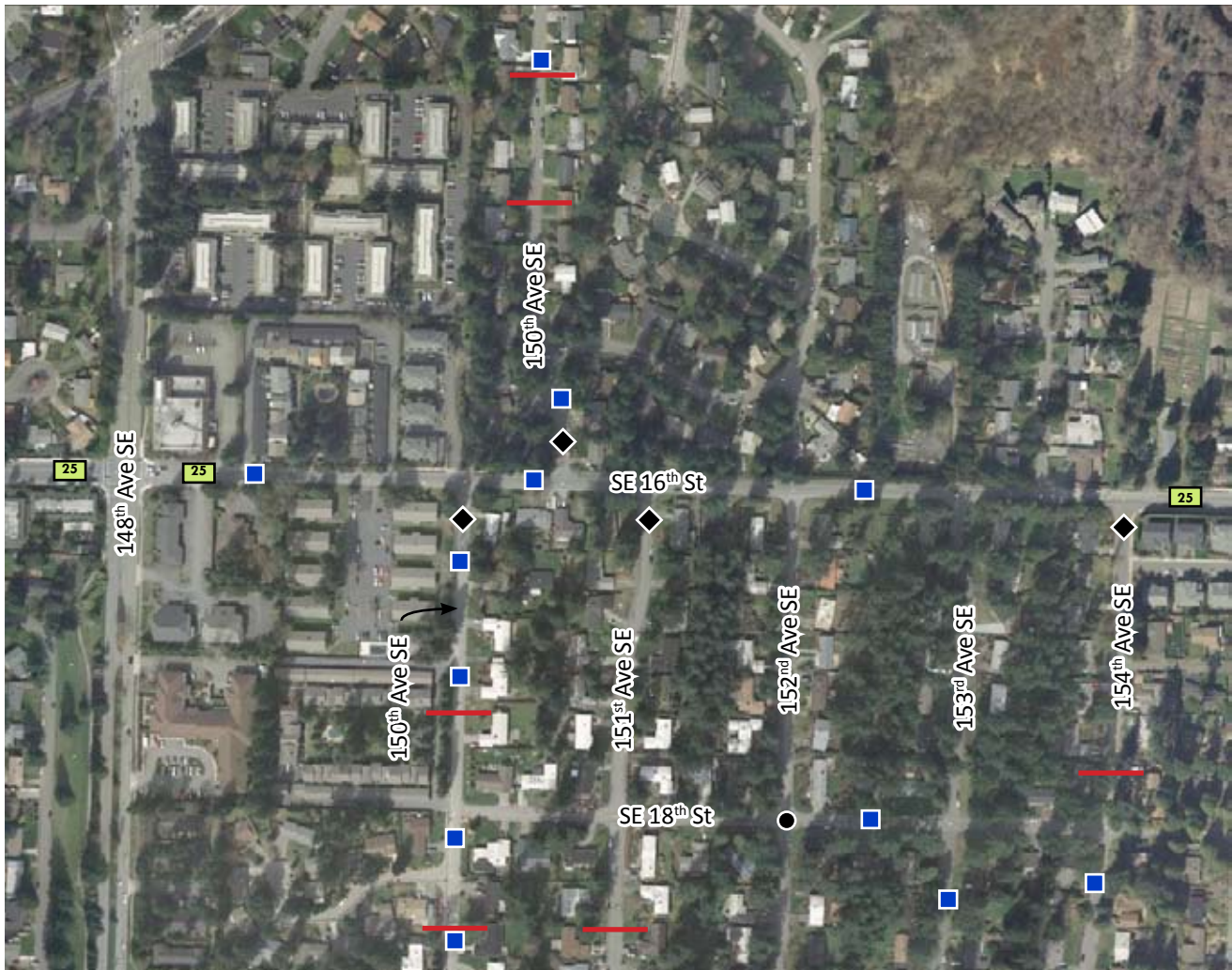
SPEED STUDY RESULTS






Several speed studies have been done along SE 16th St. in recent years. Between 2001 and 2011, the stretch of SE 16th St. near 150th Ave SE has seen a reduction in average speeds and 85th percentile speeds for both eastbound (EB) and westbound (WB) directions of travel.

Date Conducted: June 2011
 Location: near 15011 SE 16th St.
 Average Daily Traffic: 4600 vehicles
 Eastbound Speed: 30 MPH*
 Westbound Speed: 32 MPH*
 Average Speed: 26 MPH (EB)
 27 MPH (WB)

Date Conducted: May 2001
 Location: SE 16th St. - west of 150th Ave SE
 Average Daily Traffic: 4800 vehicles
 Eastbound Speed: 32 MPH*
 Westbound Speed: 33 MPH*
 Average Speed: 28 MPH (EB and WB)

*85% of motorists were recorded traveling at or below this speed.



-  25 MPH Speed Legends
-  Entry Treatment
-  Traffic Circle
-  Speed Hump
-  Speed Studies



FURTHER OPTIONS - Traffic Safety Programs

Neighborhood Speed Reduction Program

This neighborhood-sponsored program involves lending portable signs to the neighborhood, encouraging motorists to respect the neighborhood, drive responsibly and drive 25 mph.

Along with the signs, a neighborhood Pace Car program is organized with residents setting the pace for the motorists following them by driving 25 mph.

Police Enforcement

Enforcement is a tool that encourages motorists to change their driving behavior through the issuance of citations. If you would like to request additional enforcement in the future please do so by calling (425)577-5656.

Neighborhood Speed Watch

One of the ways you can help to address periodic speeders is by borrowing a radar unit and participating in our Neighborhood Speed Watch Program. Using the radar unit, you can record information about vehicles you observe traveling at or above 30 mph. From this information, we will locate the registered owners of the vehicles and send a letter to them asking for their cooperation in reducing their speed.

- ▶ Neighborhood Transportation Services (NTS) provides exceptional customer service to the community, addressing traffic safety concerns in neighborhoods through education and engineering efforts.

