

My Action Plan for 99th Avenue NE

Are you feeling inspired to take action to address the traffic concerns on 99th Avenue NE? Here is a checklist to help you get started:

- ☐ Talk to my neighbors and share the City's findings and recommendations
- ☐ List interested neighbors who want to help me with efforts:

- ☐ Decide the educational programs we want to participate in:
 - ☐ Neighborhood Speed Watch
 - ☐ Radar Dolly
 - ☐ Sign and Pledge Program
- ☐ Contact City staff to set-up a training session and get materials

Notes:

More info

Find out more about these recommendations in our **Residential Traffic Guidebook** or by logging on to **Streets are for Everyone (SAFE)**—Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services' blog.

Blog: <http://bellevuentss.wordpress.com>

Guidebook: http://www.bellevuewa.gov/pdf/Transportation/Guidebook_Web.pdf



TRAFFIC ACTION PLAN



BELLEVUE
NEIGHBORHOOD
TRAFFIC
SAFETY
SERVICES

2013-002 99th Avenue NE south of NE 8th Street

May 16, 2013



Bellevue, WA 98004

Subject: Speeding Concerns and Cut-through Traffic on 99th Avenue NE south of NE 8th Street

Dear 

Thank you for contacting Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services and letting us know your continued concerns with vehicle speeds and cut-through traffic on 99th Avenue NE south of NE 8th Street. We have completed a field review and data analysis and compiled this information into the enclosed Traffic Action Plan (TAP), as well as our recommendations.

First, we would like to thank you for taking the time to borrow our radar dolly. The radar dolly is an effective tool that provides motorists feedback on the speed at which they are driving, encouraging them to obey the speed limit. The data collected from the radar dolly and past speed/volume studies indicate that speeds and volumes on 99th Avenue NE are quite similar to other 25 mph residential streets in Bellevue.

However, given your proximity to the mall, your concern was primarily with cut-through traffic. While speed and volume studies are adequate for investigating how fast and how many motorists are driving on a street, they do not indicate from where motorists are coming or going—a key in understanding the severity of cut-through traffic.

Your concern has been echoed by other neighborhood residents over the years. With continued growth in the downtown core and proximity to Bellevue Square, we are taking this opportunity to conduct a neighborhood study to determine the severity of cut-through traffic. While the timeline for this project is still being developed, expect to see opportunities to participate in the process in the coming months. Before the City builds or installs anything in your neighborhood such as radar signs, residential area signs, or other measures, we want to ensure that we have neighborhood support.

Prior to the neighborhood cut-through traffic project moving forward, I encourage you to utilize one of our education programs, detailed inside. Educating the community by creating awareness around traffic safety through targeted education programs and outreach are effective ways to bring about change. If you are interested in these programs, please let us know and we can help you get started.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your concerns and borrow the radar dolly. We have prepared this report specifically for your location and look forward to working with you and your neighbors. Please contact me at jmurphy@bellevuewa.gov should you wish to participate in any of our programs described in this Traffic Action Plan.

Sincerely,

John Murphy
Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services
Transportation Department





What is cut-through traffic?

Cut-through traffic is traffic that does not have an origin or destination within a neighborhood. For example, those motorists who are using the local neighborhood street to bypass adjacent congested arterials would be considered cut-through traffic.

What triggers physical measures to address cut-through traffic?

- Minimum of 300 vehicles per day use the roadway
- 30% of motorists (must be at least 30 vehicles) do not have any origin or destination in the neighborhood during peak hours (typically 7-9 am or 4-6 pm)

Legend



Exit only; no entrance to NE 4th St off 100th Ave NE



Speed study location

Summary of Findings

Location	Year of Study	Average Speed		85% Speeds*	
		Northbound	Southbound	Northbound	Southbound
1 Speed Study	2010	22	23	27	27

*85% of vehicles travel at or below this speed

Customized Traffic Action Plan for 99th Avenue NE

Education, Encouragement, and Enforcement

Our studies show the majority of speeds on neighborhood streets are local residents. By educating the community and encouraging safe driving, we can begin to change driver behavior and reduce vehicle speeds.

Neighborhood Speed Watch



Using a borrowed radar unit, you record information about vehicles you observe traveling at or above 30 mph. NTSS staff then locate the registered owners of the vehicles and send a letter to them asking for their cooperation in reducing their speed. A partner to assist you with the data collection is recommended.

Radar Dolly



We appreciate you borrowing the radar dolly, which gives motorists feedback on the speed at which they are driving, encouraging them to obey the speed limit. Should you like to borrow the radar dolly again, please request it by calling (425) 452-6856 or sign up on www.bellevuewa.gov/radardolly.htm.



Educate the Community



Enhance Neighborhood Identity



Reduce Excessive Vehicle Speeds



Sign and Pledge Program

This program involves lending communities portable signs that encourage motorists to respect the neighborhood, drive responsibly, and drive 25 mph. The signs are moved by community volunteers from place to place throughout the neighborhood every few days. The second part of the program is a neighborhood pace car program. Residents who pledge to drive responsibly and drive the speed limit on all neighborhood streets receive magnetic bumper stickers or window clings to place on their vehicles. As these motorists drive 25 mph on residential streets, they set the pace for drivers behind them.



Neighborhood Study to be Conducted in Lochleven and West Bellevue to Address Cut-through Traffic Concerns

Over the years, we have received numerous concerns from residents in the West Bellevue and Lochleven neighborhoods about traffic cutting through the neighborhood, especially as the downtown core grows. To address these concerns, we will be conducting a neighborhood-wide effort to better understand the key residential streets that are facilitating cut-through traffic. We will be working with the neighborhood association and residents to ensure that any proposed solution meets the needs of the neighborhood. While a timeline for this effort has not been fully developed, community outreach should begin later this year.