



Legislation Text

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Speeding on NW 31st Drive (B)

This item is to update the City Commission on the status of speeding on NW 31st Drive Avenue in the vicinity of Albert Ray Massey (ARM) Westside Park. *ESTIMATED STAFF PRESENTATION 10 MINUTES*

The City of Gainesville was asked to address speeding issues on NW 31st Drive between NW 8th Avenue and NW 16th Avenue where the speed limit is posted at 25 MPH. The Gainesville Police Department conducted a two day speed study on N.W. 31st Drive and determined that the 85^{tho}% speed was 27 MPH.

On June 12, 2013, staff conducted a public meeting at ARM Westside Park to address the speeding issues. In summary, staff determined that a speeding problem did not exist on NW 31st Drive based upon the above listed speed data.

At the meeting, facilitated by Commissioner Bottcher, staff was asked to examine several alternatives for the residents on NW 31st Drive. Those items are summarized in a memorandum sent to the City Commission on July 24, 2013.

The update shown below was provided to the Public Safety Committee on October 23, 2013:

1. Gainesville Police and Public Works Departments jointly purchased a speed trailer that can be used in neighborhoods around the city where speeding concerns have been raised. It has been primarily utilized on NW 31st Drive since its purchase.
2. The sidewalk project could be programmed in the City's CIP and installed as a part of the NW 8th Avenue milling & resurfacing project.
3. GPD performed a second speed study and collected data on 4 days that included 2 weekend days showing an 85^{tho}% speed of 29 MPH.

A second meeting with the residents of NW 31st Drive was held on January 9, 2014, at the ARM Westside Park with residents from the NW 31st Drive area.

1. GPD promised the flashing speed indicator device would be left on 31st Drive until it was needed elsewhere.
2. Commissioner Bottcher said she would notify the group when the sidewalk issue would be on the City Commission agenda so they could attend and voice support.
3. Public Works indicated that they will check into clearing any obstruction from the existing sign with flashing light and check the condition of the existing crosswalk paint/visibility.

4. Public Works created an e-mail distribution list to send information out to the residents.

A sidewalk has been considered for the east side of NW 31st Drive to address the pedestrian issues on this street. This segment of sidewalk does fit the City's criteria for the installation of sidewalks. It would connect the neighborhood on the east side of NW 31st Drive to mid-block crosswalk that is located in the Westwood Middle School - School speed zone and also improve neighborhood connectivity to Westside Park.

Funding for the sidewalk project estimated at \$78,500 could be considered for funding in the FY15 Public Works Department Sidewalk Fund.

The City Commission: 1) consider the safety options of adding a sidewalk and curb, installing crosswalks and rumble strips; 2) consider funding options for these projects; and 3) remove this referral from the Public Safety Committee referral list.