

From: [Nick Fortey](#)
To: [citycouncil](#); [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: June 26, 2023 meeting - public comment - Item 5A Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan
Date: Monday, June 26, 2023 4:57:50 PM

Honorable Mayor and City Councilors,

RE: Item 5A – Adoption of City of Salem Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony related to the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. Providing a comprehensive program to address preserving and enhancing neighborhood livability is important to a vibrant community. We would urge the plan include a few minor refinements:

Page 6 notes limited funding with a “top 10” location selection. We would urge consideration of low-cost and quickly implementable solutions that may offer some relief (even if not a complete solution) to maximize distribution of opportunities around Salem.

Page 7 notes that the City may conduct before-and-after studies. We recognize costs and staff implications but would support periodic assessment to document critical outcomes such as expected reductions in speeds and volumes.

Page 11 notes the City does not have the authority to change the process for setting designated speed limits. This sidesteps the importance of vesting the ability of local speed setting at the local level and thus being responsive to citizen needs. Criteria in OAR 734-020-0015 (Establishment of Speed Zones on Public Roads Except Public Paved Low Volume or Unpaved Roads) allows a more complete incorporation of factors such as 50th percentile speeds than previously included in speed setting criteria. Having a City-initiated review process would provide a more responsive approach to managing speed limits.

Finally, we would strongly encourage the use of traffic calming in new developments so that these principles can be included proactively rather than reactively. We think there are important opportunities that could be implemented to create “already calmed” neighborhoods with new development proposals.

Thanks

Nick Fortey

Traffic and Transportation Chair

West Salem Neighborhood Association