

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD  
 STAFF REPORT  
 June 17, 2010

**SUBJECT**

Humboldt Street Bike Boulevard Pilot Project-  
 Speed Hump Survey Results Permanent  
 Design Proposal

**ISSUE**

Humboldt Street Bike Boulevard Pilot Project-  
 Permanent Design Proposal

**STAFF PRESENTER**

Nancy Adams

**BACKGROUND**

On March 18, 2010, staff presented a summary of the process and City Council policy for installing speed humps on roads. In addition, staff presented the proposed locations where the speed humps would be installed on Humboldt Street.

On March 18, 2010, the Board passed a motion to recommend that the Public Works Department proceed with the process to install speed humps on Humboldt Street; include an additional proposed location for a speed hump between Louisa Drive and McConnell Avenue; re-instate the east west stop controls on the side streets at Carr Avenue, McConnell Avenue and Spencer Avenue; and request Public Works staff to investigate whether it is possible to reduce the traffic circle size at Silva Avenue, Carr Avenue and Spencer Avenue.

**ANALYSIS**

1. Public Works Department mailed out 258 surveys to property owners and residents on Humboldt Street between Lewis Road and College Avenue. Of the 87 responses, 44 supported the speed humps within their block and 43 opposed the speed humps within their block.
2. Below is a summary of the survey results for each segment:

Street Segment	# of Parcels	Total # of Responses	# Supporte d	# Opposed	% Supported of Total Responses	% Supported of Total Parcels	% of Responses Per Segment
Lewis – Silva	37	18	14	4	78	38	49
Silva – Carr	22	7	3	4	43	14	32
Carr – McConnell	22	5	3	2	60	14	23
McConnell – Pacific	12	5	2	3	40	17	42
Pacific - Spencer	31	20	10	10	50	32	65
Spencer – Nason	12	11	3	8	27	25	92
Nason – Howard	11	5	1	4	20	9	45
Howard – Benton	11	7	4	3	57	36	64
Benton – College	16	9	4	5	44	25	56

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3. The results of the survey based on the total number of parcels within the block showed that there were no segments where a majority (66%) of the residents were in support of the installations of the speed humps within their block. There was one segment (Lewis Road and Silva Avenue) based on the total number of responses within the block where a majority (78%) of the residents were in support of the installation of the speed humps within their block.
4. Pending the concurrence of one remaining property owner, staff is proposing to recommend that the City Council approve the installation of one speed hump on Humboldt Street between Lewis Road and Silva Avenue.
5. Staff has reviewed the request by the Board to investigate reducing the size of the circles at Silva Avenue, Carr Avenue and Spencer Avenue. Although reducing the circles is possible, staff determined that this reduction in deflection would lead to a potential increase in mid block speeding. Since speed humps will not be installed between the traffic circles to help maintain a slower speed, staff supports retaining the current size of the traffic circles.
6. In analyzing the Humboldt Street bike boulevard, the City Traffic Engineer used discretion in applying the current Council policy on speed hump installation (See attached). The policy states that speed humps are considered on local streets with an 85<sup>th</sup> percentile over 35 MPH and requires a substantial majority of support which has been interpreted to be 75%. On Humboldt Street bike boulevard, the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile is generally under 30 MPH, Humboldt Street is a collector and the percentage of support was reduced to 66%.
7. On April 14, 2009, the City Council approved a pilot project and directed staff to conduct a six month review period once the project was installed. The pilot project was installed in August 2009.
8. The review period was extended to consider other traffic calming devices including potential diversion and a recent survey of Humboldt Street residents to install speed humps. The review period including the following meetings:
  - October 8, 2009 – Community Meeting #1
  - December 10, 2009 – Community Meeting #2
  - December 15, 2009 – City Council Meeting – Vehicle Movement Prohibitions
  - December 17, 2009 – Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB) Meeting
  - February 4, 2010 - Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB) Special Study Session
  - February 17, 2010 – Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts Meeting
  - February 18, 2010 - Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB) Meeting
  - March 18, 2010 – Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB) Meeting
  - April 2010 – Conducted speed hump survey for Humboldt Street
  - June 17, 2010 - Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board (BPAB) Meeting

9. Staff has concluded that there has been an adequate review period and is prepared to present a permanent project proposal for the City Council consideration. (See attached). The following summarizes the components of the permanent project:
  - Retain circles at Silva Avenue, Carr Avenue and Spencer Avenue
  - Re-instate east west stop controls on the side streets at Carr Avenue and Spencer Avenue
  - Remove the traffic circle at McConnell Avenue and Humboldt Street
  - Re-instate all way stop control at McConnell Avenue and Humboldt Street
  - Install speed hump on Humboldt Street between Lewis Road and Silva Avenue - (pending concurrence of one remaining property owner)
  - Install additional bike boulevard pavement legends
  - Install colored stamped asphalt concrete crosswalks and bulb outs at the intersection of Humboldt Street and Benton Avenue
  - Install colored stamped asphalt concrete crosswalks at the intersections of Humboldt Street and Seventh Street and Humboldt St and Cherry St
  - Install radar speed feedback sign on Humboldt Street between Pacific Avenue and Spencer Avenue for the southbound traffic
10. The cost estimate for the permanent project is \$809,000 (see attached). The City will seek outside funding to implement the permanent project, such as Bicycle Transportation Account funds, Transportation for Clean Air Funds and TDA Article III funds.
11. Staff anticipates presenting the permanent project proposal to the City Council for their consideration July 20, 2010.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board may, by motion, support staff's recommendation to request that the City Council approve the installation of a speed hump on Humboldt Street between Lewis Road and Silva Avenue – (pending concurrence of one remaining property owner).

The Board may, by motion, support staff's permanent design proposal. The following summarizes the components of the permanent project:

- Retain circles at Silva Avenue, Carr Avenue and Spencer Avenue
- Re-instate east west stop controls on the side streets at Carr Avenue and Spencer Avenue
- Remove the traffic circle at McConnell Avenue and Humboldt Street
- Re-instate all way stop control at McConnell Avenue and Humboldt Street
- Install speed hump on Humboldt Street between Lewis Road and Silva Avenue - (pending concurrence of one remaining property owner)
- Install additional bike boulevard pavement legends
- Install colored stamped asphalt concrete crosswalks and bulb outs at the intersection of

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Humboldt Street and Benton Avenue

- Install colored stamped asphalt concrete crosswalks at the intersections of Humboldt Street and Seventh Street and Humboldt Street and Cherry Street
- Install radar speed feedback sign on Humboldt Street between Pacific Avenue and Spencer Avenue for the southbound traffic

Attachments: Humboldt Street Bike Boulevard Permanent Design Proposal  
Humboldt Street Bike Boulevard Cost Estimate  
City Council policy on Speed Humps