

Tamarack traffic calming

Short term options

Public input summary

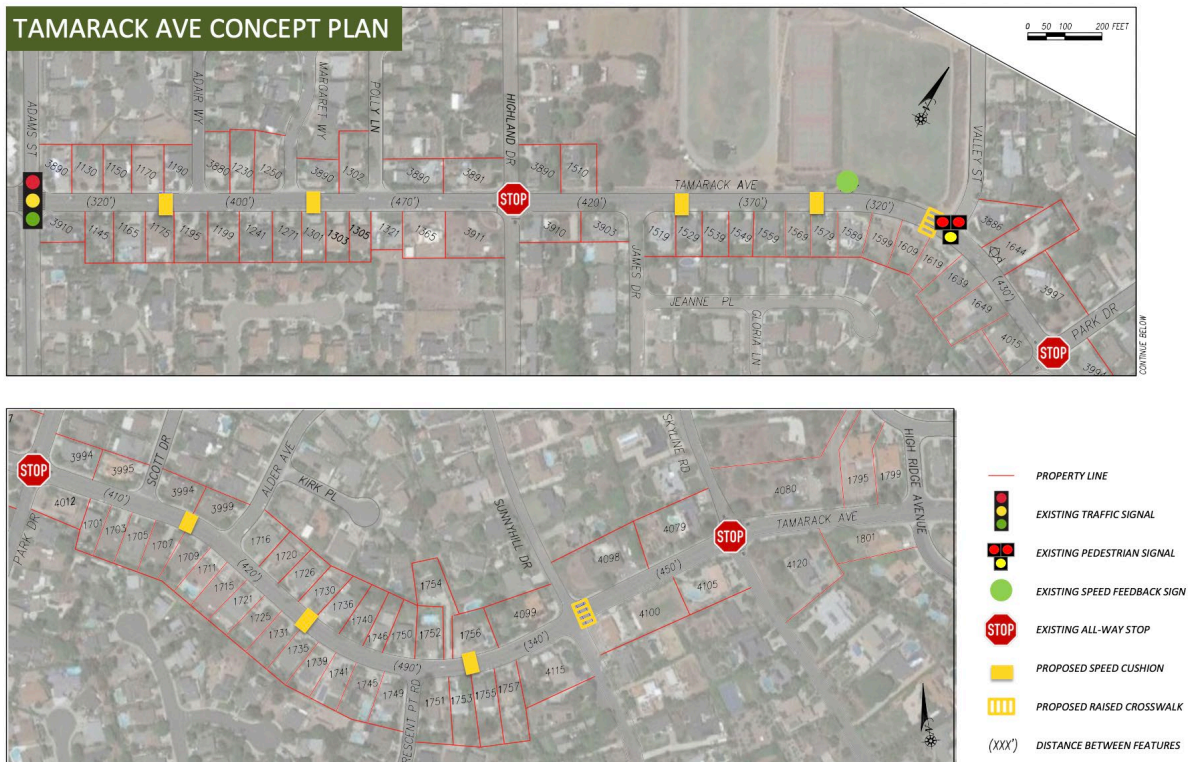
Introduction

Residents along Tamarack Avenue between Skyline Road and Adams Street have expressed concerns about traffic safety due to speeding. The city is planning a long-term project to redesign the entire Tamarack corridor in a way that meets the needs and priorities of people of all ages and abilities who live, walk, bike or drive in the area.

Because this project is still several years away, on July 5, 2022, the Traffic & Mobility Commission recommended that City Council direct staff to expedite short-term solutions to reduce speeding. City staff included the short-term project in the Semiannual Transportation Report presented to City Council on July 26, 2022, and began to work with neighbors to get input in fall 2022.

Proposed plan

City staff assessed the roadway and developed a concept plan using a combination of speed cushions and raised crosswalks. These tools have been used successfully in other neighborhoods to reduce speed, can be implemented quickly, and are considered a cost-effective way to reduce speeding.



How input was gathered

City staff gathered input through a public meeting and online survey:

Public meeting 55 attendees
October 12, 2022, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Online survey 73 participants
October 17 – 24, 2022

How the opportunity was promoted

To encourage participation in the community input opportunity, the city utilized the following tools and channels:

Date	Channel	Reach
Sept. 21, 2022	Stakeholder email	23 subscribers
Sept. 23, 2022	Next Door	Shared to Olde Carlsbad neighborhood
Sept. 27, 2022	Direct mail	248 residents who live along or near this segment of Tamarack
Oct. 6, 2022	City Manager's Update Banners	10,331 subscribers 2 banners displayed – one near Valley Middle and Magnolia Elementary, and one at the intersection of Tamarack and Valley
Oct. 10, 2022	Stakeholder reminder email	42 subscribers
Oct. 11, 2022	Next Door	Reminder shared to 13 Carlsbad neighborhoods
Oct. 17, 2022	Stakeholder email	83 subscribers
Oct. 20, 2022	Next Door City Manager's Update	Shared to 13 Carlsbad neighborhoods 10,348 subscribers
Oct. 21, 2022	Stakeholder reminder	15 people who had not opened Oct. 17 email

About this input

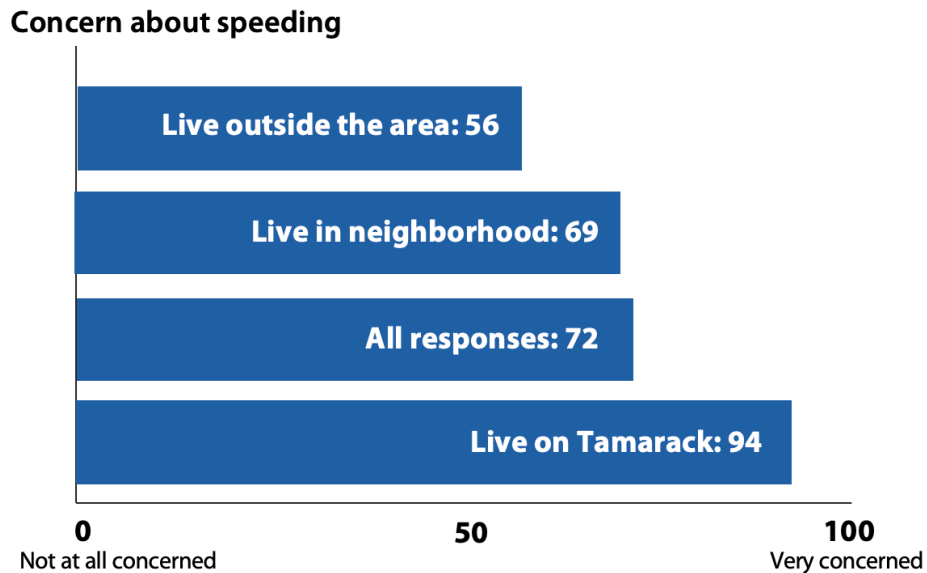
The input was not gathered through a scientific survey. Instead, the input reflects the opinions of those who were aware of the opportunity and had the ability to participate. It should be considered with a similar weight as emails sent to the City Council or public comment at a City Council meeting.

Summary

City staff have summarized the input below and attached the unedited comments and feedback as Appendix 1.

Speeding is a concern

On a scale of zero to 100, on average survey respondents rates their level of concern about speeding on this section of Tamarack a 72.



Feedback on proposed plan

Most survey respondents and meeting attendees liked the proposed plan. Some had suggestions for additional features to consider, either for the short term or long-term project.

Positive

- Can be done quickly
- Low cost/investment
- Doesn't reduce parking
- Will slow traffic

Neutral

- Plan is ok but have other ideas (e.g., traffic circles, stop signs, protected bike lanes)
- Suggestions for changes (e.g., reduce number of speed cushions, move placement of features)

Negative

- Don't think speed cushions will work to slow traffic
- Do not think speeding is an issue on this street
- Concern speed cushions would damage cars
- Concern plan would push traffic to other streets
- Prefer increasing enforcement instead
- Don't think plan will slow down e-bikes
- Other methods could be used to save money

Feature location suggestions

Some attendees provided location specific feedback.

- Move speed cushions closer to stop signs so people don't roll through stop signs
- Add raised crosswalks at all stop signs
- Convert speed cushion at James Drive into a raised crosswalk
- Only one speed cushion needed between Adams and Highland
- Too many speed cushions. Raised crosswalks between Skyline and Valley would help, but no need for enhancements on the rest of the street.
- Use speed cushions without breaks in them to prevent speeders from swerving to avoid them
- Speed feedback sign east of Valley is too close to the intersection

Concerns and questions

Several common questions or areas of concern emerged in the feedback:

- Emergency vehicle access and impacts
- Blind curve going downhill from Skyline
- Space for bicyclists
- Concerns about people rolling through stop signs
- Are there ADA concerns with raised crosswalks?
- Reconfigure access to I-5, since speeding is caused by people using Tamarack to cut through
 - New street (non-residential) to connect
 - Close the I-5/Tamarack on/off ramps

Additional community suggestions

- Stop signs at Valley and Tamarack and Tamarack and Sunnyhill
- Separated bike lanes
- Speed feedback sign or speed cushion east of Skyline to slow westbound traffic
- Rumble strips, other sensory signals
- Lower speed limit
- Require licensing for e-bike riders
- Roundabout at Sunnyhill and Tamarack
- Roundabouts to replace all 4-way stops
- Traffic circles

- Reduce Tamarack to one lane each direction between Skyline and El Camino Real and add bike lanes
- Chicanes
- More lighting
- Add a 3-way stop at Tamarack and Crescent Point
- Add a speed cushion or raised crosswalk after Skyline

Concerns about other roads

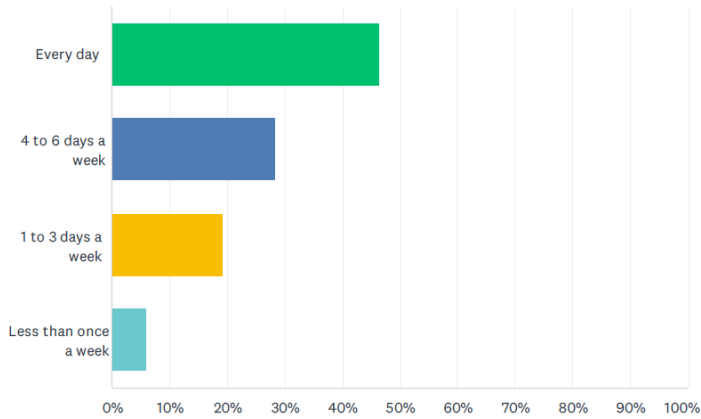
Several attendees and survey respondents expressed concerns about speeding on other roads. In some cases, people were concerned that the project on Tamarack could make speeding worse on other roads. In other cases, people expressed support for the Tamarack plan and wanted the city to explore similar projects on these streets.

Streets mentioned by community members include:

- Chestnut
- Highland
- Carlsbad Boulevard
- Skyline
- Pio Pico
- Basswood
- Valley
- Adams
- El Camino Real

Survey respondents

Most survey respondents (nearly 75%) use this section of Tamarack at least four days a week.



Nearly all survey respondents (86%) live in the neighborhoods around this part of Tamarack or on this section of Tamarack.

