



March 05

Neighborhood Traffic Management

Introduction

Burlington's neighborhood traffic management efforts are neighborhood driven. Residents concerned about traffic are encouraged to seek solutions themselves, and find a means to involve and inform their neighbors, who will be affected by the introduction of traffic control measures.

City staff are supporting partners, helping neighbors devise creative and workable ways to preserve our safe and peaceful streets.

Traffic Control Request

When residents request assistance from the City to control neighborhood traffic they will be asked to describe the problem and whether the issue has been raised with the City in the past. The City's actions will be based on this initial query and move along a continuum from Enforcement to Engineering and perhaps Enhancement with considerable overlap along the way.

When speeding is the issue

Residents who believe that people routinely drive too fast on their street can begin the process with a call to the Burlington Police Department, 658-2700. Police work with Public Works and other City staff in a team effort to address all of the factors influencing driver behavior.

Enforcement

Enforcement of existing ordinances is the City's first response. The success of this enforcement effort will determine whether the City pursues traffic engineering solutions to slow traffic.

Most people caught speeding are driving too fast in their own neighborhoods.

Speeding is a bad habit, and we need to help each other break it. That's why neighborhood involvement is so important. Neighbors remind each other of their mutual responsibility to all of the residents -- particularly the children -- living in the community

Neighborhood Assessment

Concurrent with or prior to police enforcement activities DPW staff will review available data and collect any additional data necessary to make an initial assessment of the problem. Staff will also review the status of neighborhood traffic controls in place and make immediate recommendations for improvements when deficiencies as defined by accepted engineering standards are found. The first task within the neighborhood will be to obtain a consensus of the residents as to the type of real or perceived problems that exist and their views toward the different types of area traffic control.

Through this preliminary investigation staff may find that the problem is better treated by other programs and refer the neighborhood to those solutions.

Engineering

Should enforcement appear to be inadequate and the problems persist the neighborhood may want to consider an engineering approach or street enhancements designed to influence driver behavior.

Residents who wish to proceed with enhancements in their neighborhood with the goal of countering the negative impact of



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traffic on their quality of life, may choose to organize their neighbors and develop a street enhancement proposal.

Definition of Neighborhood & Organizing effort

DPW will review the neighborhood request and neighborhood assessment and based on the potential impact on other streets in the neighborhood advise residents of their need to include neighboring streets.

Once the impact area has been defined organizers have three (3) months to inform ninety percent (90%) of residents of the affected area – street or neighborhood – about the intention to develop an enhancement proposal and demonstrate the support of thirty-three percent (33%) of the residents for continuing these activities. If support is not demonstrated within the allotted time as demonstrated by neighborhood petition (form supplied by DPW), the City will not support moving ahead with the project. It cannot be over stated: neighborhood consensus on problem identification is essential to moving forward.

Decision Making Process

Once support has been established and demonstrated City staff will meet with residents and begin developing an enhancement concept.

Residents, and City staff – the enhancement team – will:

- create a working group
- re-state the problem
- define project objectives
- review options
- create a time-line
- develop a cooperative agreement that records these actions.

DPW staff will notify property owners that the team has been formed explain its goals and objectives and the overall process.

Enhancement Proposal

Once a proposal is developed the team will present the proposal to the balance of the residents.

The presentation may take place at a neighborhood meeting or through other means. Support of sixty-six percent (66%) of residents in the impact area is needed to implement the enhancement proposal.

If support is demonstrated, DPW will set a schedule for implementation.

If support is not demonstrated the team has ninety (90) days to revise the proposal for re-submittal to residents for a second review.

Should this attempt also not receive the necessary support, the City will advise the organizers that they must now wait three years before beginning the process again.