



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

02-085

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

AGENDA:

SYNOPSIS -

FEBRUARY 18, 2002

A temporary traffic circle is recommended by staff at the intersection of 42nd Street and Foster Drive as part of phase one of traffic calming measures developed in conjunction with the Salisbury-Oaks Neighborhood Association.

SUBJECT:

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC
CIRCLE --
INTERSECTION OF
42ND STREET AND
FOSTER DRIVE

FISCAL IMPACT -

Estimated cost of \$5,000. Funding will come from Capital Improvement Program, Project STR131, Citywide Neighborhood Traffic Control Program.

TYPE:

RECOMMENDATION -

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

Approval.

SUBMITTED BY:

BACKGROUND -

JEB E. BREWER, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

City staff has worked with the Salisbury-Oaks Neighborhood Association, and specifically their Traffic and Safety Committee chaired by Mary McBride, over the past few months regarding their concerns over speeding traffic on 42nd Street in the area south of Grand Avenue.

Forty-second Street is a minor collector street in this vicinity, approximately one mile long, providing access to a large neighborhood between Grand Avenue and the Raccoon River valley. There is a four-way stop at the intersection of 42nd/Greenwood Drive.

Based on City counts taken August 2000, 42nd Street carried approximately 4,700 vehicles per day just south of Grand Avenue. The average speed was 30 mph, with the "85th Percentile" speed at 34 mph. The speed limit is 25 mph. The neighborhood also

commissioned several of their own speed studies. The first, taken in July 2000, indicated an average speed of 36 mph and an 85th percentile speed of 42 mph. The second, taken in August 2001, showed an average of 32 mph and an 85 percent speed of 36 mph.

At a meeting in October 2001, staff met with the neighborhood traffic committee and developed a proposed list of improvements that were recommended for implementation along 42nd Street. Three items were identified as "Phase 1" projects. These are:

1. Installation of additional speed limit signing south of Greenwood Drive.
2. Installing centerline and edge-line markings between Grand Avenue and Greenwood Drive.
3. Installation of a temporary traffic circle at the 42nd/Foster Drive intersection.

Several "Phase 2" projects were also identified that include additional traffic circles. These would be implemented only if additional traffic calming measures are deemed necessary after the first projects are completed. They would also involve additional discussions between staff and the neighborhood association.

Staff concurs that the items in Phase 1 should be implemented and is proceeding with items 1 and 2. Six months to one year after the temporary traffic circle is installed, this circle will be re-evaluated by staff and the neighborhood to determine its effectiveness and whether a permanent traffic circle should be installed. At their February 12, 2002 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee concurred with the staff recommendations.
