

As We Heard It (AWHI) Report III

Forest Valley Drive Traffic Calming Study

Background

The City initiated a Neighbourhood Traffic Calming (NTC) study along Forest Valley Drive due to traffic concerns raised by residents including speeding and school safety. The purpose of the study was to develop, evaluate, and recommend traffic calming measures which aim to improve conditions for road users and residents along Forest Valley Drive.

Summary of Consultation Activities

The third online consultation was conducted in spring 2023. Considering comments from the second online survey (conducted in winter 2022) and upon further review, it was recommended to add a single set of speed cushions to Alternative Option 1 on the section of Forest Valley Drive near the schools, as an additional measure to reduce speeds and improve safety, and consider it as a **Final Recommended Plan**

As this was a slight change to Alternative Option 1, the third online public consultation was undertaken to share the final recommended plan and seek feedback. A flyer was mailed to residents and the surrounding neighbourhood to notify them about this consultation/survey. The survey was available from April 10th 2023 to May 12th, 2023. A total of 144 people responded to this public survey.

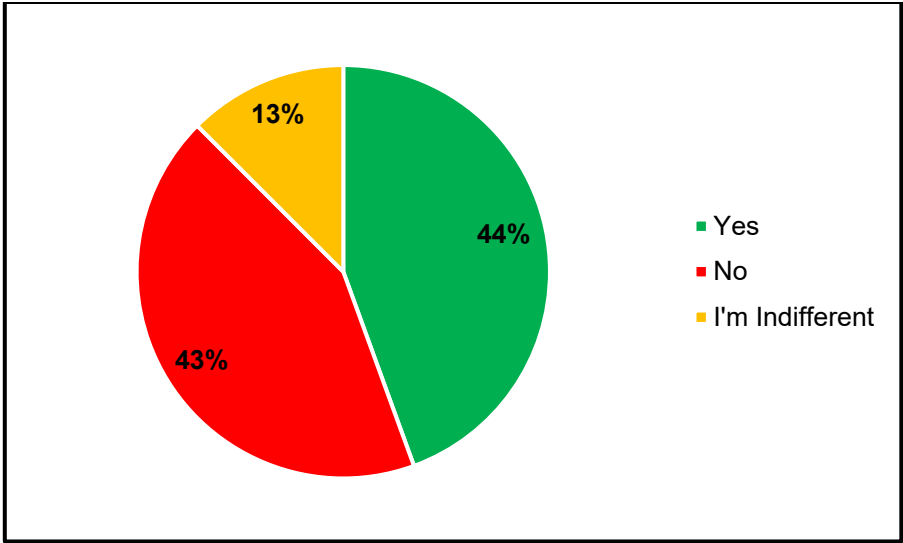
This 'As We Heard It (AWHI)' Report III is the result of the third online consultation.

AWHI Reports from the first and second online consultation events can be found on the project webpage at [Forest Valley Drive Traffic Calming Study | City of Ottawa](#)

Online Survey Results

The following section includes the results from the third online survey including summaries of the individual comments received.

1. **Do you support the [Final Recommended Plan](#) along Forest Valley Drive?** (Final Recommended Plan is Alternative Option 1 shared during the second online survey with the addition of a single set of speed cushions on Forest Valley Drive between Des Ravins PI N and Des Ravins PI S, fronting the schools/park/splash pad.)



Response	Total # of Respondents	Total % of Responses
Yes	64	44%
No	62	43%
I'm Indifferent	18	13%
Total	144	100%

2. Please include any general comments you feel are relevant:

Out of 144 respondents, 109 responses were received for this question and a representative summary has been prepared below. The full list of responses can be found in the Appendix.

- Speeding is an issue on Forest Valley Dr. Need additional measures.
- No traffic issues on Forest Valley Dr. Traffic calming are not required.
- Support additional speed cushions along Forest Valley Dr.
- Do not support speed cushions.
- Concern over existing crosswalk in front of school as the drivers do not stop for pedestrians.
- Consider installation of speed camera.
- Safety issue for pedestrians crossing Forest Valley Dr. at Willowbark Dr.

3. What is your postal code?

Out of 144 respondents, 142 provided their postal code. 95% of the respondents were from Chapel Hill North Area. 3% of the respondents were from adjacent areas (Orleans Village, ConventGlen and Blackburn Hamlet area). The remaining 2% of the respondents were outside of these areas.

Appendix

Below is the complete summary of different comments received for Question 2. Comments have been consolidated and grouped into common themes and are not in any particular order.

Traffic Concern on Forest Valley
Some people drive far too fast on Forest Valley Dr. If this is the best, we can do I guess it's better than nothing. I'd like to see more safety and traffic calming measures for pedestrians and cyclists.
Speeding issue between St Joseph Blvd. and Rivermill Cres. has not been addressed through this plan
I notice cars/drivers speeding like crazy. They also don't stop at pedestrian crossing.
The drivers are coming from Orleans Blvd and speeding around the bend.
The real speed on Forest Valley Dr. is between Rivermill Cres and Meadowglen Dr.
Ok between Meadowglen Dr & Orleans Blvd. Does not address the speeding between Meadowglen Dr and Montreal Rd. This is where tickets are handed out.
This plan does nothing to reduce speed between Forestglen Cres and Meadowglen Dr.
In future plans, I would like to see something that addresses excessive speeds going north from the Forest Valley Dr/Rivermill Cres intersection. Many times, drivers accelerate after the stop sign as they are going downhill towards St Joseph Blvd.
I support any/all improvements to reduce the speed of drivers turning onto Meadowglen Dr from Forest Valley Dr.
I still have concerns about the intersection of Forest Valley Dr and Willowbark Dr. This is a busy intersection that does not have an enhanced pedestrian crossing
I'm not sure why you didn't include the Forest Valley Dr and Willowbark Dr intersection as that one gets really busy during rush hour with the school there. I would have like to see some measure taken there as well.
The children are also crossing at Willowbark Dr and Forest Valley Dr which is a problem and an accident waiting to happen!!
I am happy that the safety of children using the park, splashpad and the ones attending school has been considered. This was my main concern.
No Concern on Forest Valley
I've never noticed people speeding excessively or being reckless on Forest Valley Dr.
I always walk around the neighborhood and never feel the need to have these changes made.
We have always been fine like this, we never heard about any accidents in our 12 years here.
Additional traffic calming is not needed on such a wide road, with such wide verges.
I haven't seen any speeding issues in the last 9 years.
I always bike in the neighborhood and feel safe when biking on the street. When crossing the intersection at the park, I feel safe and have clear sight of all cars without issue.
In 10 years of living here, I have seen MAYBE 2 cyclists on Meadowglen Dr hill from St. Joseph's Blvd. It is a VERY steep hill and not cyclist friendly. I do not know why we

need narrowing lines on that hill (waste of money). Also, in 10 years of living here, I have NEVER seen a pedestrian cross at Rivermill Cres.

Support Speed Cushions

Speed cushions are good idea and would support adding more

This is not enough to reduce speed. Additional speed cushions should be placed between Forest Glen and Rivercrest

Need speed humps or stop signs between Meadowglen Dr and Rivermill Cres to address speeding issue

Support additional speed cushion that is being proposed

I support additional safety measure including speed cushion.

One speed cushion does not reduce speed. Need double speed hump like Asticou to reduce effectively.

Agreed with final if there will be one single set of speed cushions in the location described in the plan

Speed bump is a great idea.

Adding a single speed cushion to existing crossing is the best option in this area.

One set of speed cushions near school is sufficient

There should be a speed cushion or ped crossing at the corner of Willowbark Dr and Forest Valley Dr since there is pedestrian crossing traffic from the ravine walkway.

Thanks for listening to my previous input & I think the additional speed cushions are a good idea to keep the school/park/splash pad area safer by reducing speeding through that section.

I find it disappointing to have removed the speed cushions proposed at the start of the project

Why did you remove the most effective measures to slow traffic when this is the primary concern. Add the speed cushions throughout.

The speed bump location(s) are sufficient to ensure continuous safety in the school zones.

Yes, there needs to be more speed cushions

Speed cushions are required

Raised pedestrian crossing and bump out ensure a safer experience for pedestrians, narrow lanes make the road safer for cyclists.

Have always supported the addition of speed bumps which I think are the only thing that will slow cars down

The speed cushions should go as far south as Willowbark Dr b/c vehicles speed up Des Ravin PI S to reach Orleans Blvd.

While I am happy to see speed cushions installed between the two schools, I find it surprising/disappointing that the approved plan does not include speed cushions on Forest Valley Dr between Rivermill Cres and Meadowglen Dr

Do Not Support Speed Cushions

Speed cushions are not required

I support improvements to bike lanes and cross walks but not speed cushion

Speed cushions are unacceptable addition to the preferred plan

Speed bumps/cushions are not wanted. The community has already spoken.
Oppose the new speed bump – they just result in people speeding up between the bumps.
We don't need them
Your calming measures are not effective. Look at Viseneau and the result there ... people speed up to 50 plus the slow down for the BUMPS then speed up and slow and speed up and slow
No extra speed cushion
The final plan would be fantastic except speed cushion
The addition of speed bumps, have motorist speeding up one pass it. Don't support
Adding cushions only slow down emergency vehicles
Do not support speed cushion
I object to raised pads (speed cushion) which cause increased wear to vehicles (safety risk), considerable cost to implement and maintain (winter road clearance)
I do not need any flex sticks nor speed bumps.
Don't want any speed bumps. The rest is fine
It would be better just to build protected bike infrastructure that would seriously narrow the road and reduce speed without bumps
It is clear from the previous survey that a majority of respondents did NOT want speed bumps, but supported the other proposed changes.
Cushions may make it difficult for snow removal in the winter or may sustain damage which would cost the taxpayers to repair
Bike Route/Lane
Forest Valley Dr is too narrow for bike lane on both sides.
South side of pavement near St Joseph Blvd is damaged. Bikes cannot stay in bike lane. Also need to sweep on a regular basis as debris build up
As a cyclist, your planned bike paths along Forest Valley Dr could introduce new hazards because the road is uneven for cyclists.
There's placement of new 'Bike route sign'. A dedicated bike route, especially on the Forest Valley Dr hill to St Joseph Blvd is needed. Many people bike up & down that hill and a bike lane would help with the safety.
Needs stronger protections for cyclists
Crosswalk
Do not support additional crossing on Willowbark Dr
The plan ignores the multiple requests for flashing lights at the crosswalk. This is the most dangerous part of Forest Valley Dr and the concerns are being ignored
Cars often do not stop at the pedestrian crosswalk by Des Ravins PI – although the signs display to do so. It is very dangerous for children, especially for children.
Our biggest concern, given daily use of the crosswalk at the corner of Des Ravins PI South, is that vehicles regularly drive through the crossing while pedestrians are waiting to cross.

Speed Camera Request (not included as part of proposed traffic calming measures)
Address the issue with police and speed cameras. Present solution will hamper motorist even when school is closed
All these sticks and crap is a waste of money, ugly, ineffective and overkill, just put a camera and earn revenue instead.
If speed control is desired, install photo radars.
I strongly propose adding a traffic speed camera on Forest Valley Dr where the existing traffic speed monitor radar is. That will resolve the speeding problem on Forest Valley Dr.
I really think that speed traps and cameras are the most effective deterrent. I saw a car drive so fast up the hill and lose control smashing into two parked cars in a drive way!
Instead of speed cushion why not install speed camera
Let's go with speed cameras.
Have cameras been considered?
Support Design from Previous Consultation
No need to revise preferred option based as indicated in second online survey result
Support result from public consultation 2 that removed dedicated bike lane and maintained the status quo regarding on-street parking
Narrowing on Rivercrest Dr as shown on Alternative Option 2 should be maintained
Alternative option 1 is sufficient which is without speed humps
Alternative 1 with no speed cushion is sufficient
Option 2 is preferred (option 2 include 2 sets of speed cushions)
I prefer option 2 with speed bumps
Miscellaneous
Some measures north of Willowbark Dr would be helpful to remind drivers that they are entering school/park area
This is a solution looking for a problem
Speed board should be installed in the northbound direction between Des Ravins PI N and Des Ravins PI S
Parked/stopped vehicles and bike lanes near school cannot coexist unless dedicated space is provided for each separately
Small portion of irresponsible drivers are causing issues.
This is a waste of money for taxpayers and can result in other issues like motorists trying to save time on other roadways and emergency vehicles being slowed down due bumps and other traffic calming measures.
Thank you for this consultation
I have always believed that having roads as open and clear as possible gives maximum room for error, more room to avoid collisions, and much better overall visibility. So, put me down as a firm (and well-justified) "no" for any and all such restrictions of traffic flow.
Suggest cutting down on this type of heavy volume by installing a 'No Left Turn' signal, at least at certain times, i.e. morning rush hour, at the bottom of Forest Valley Dr at the intersection with St Joseph Blvd. Or alternatively, a No Left Turn sign (again, at least at

morning rush hour, and Local Traffic/Access Excepted) at Orleans Blvd. & Forest Valley Dr.
I do not oppose the plan but consider it misses the key point which is traffic volume
Do we really need any more traffic calming measures? How many traffic accidents involving cyclists or pedestrians have been recorded in the past 5 years?
Narrowing at Meadowglen Dr or the third cross walk is not required. Snow removal will be an issue
Stop spending taxpayers money on this. Instead pave the streets and fix dangerous potholes.
Good for bikes, pedestrians, and buses.
Added stop signs, speed bumps, narrowing roadway only deter drivers from taking these routes, and there are very few alternatives to get out of the community
Consider altering the signal phasing at Forest Valley Dr/Orleans Blvd and Forest Valley Dr/St Joseph Blvd. Also, consider replacing dual northbound left turn lane with single at Forest Valley Dr/St Joseph Blvd
Looks good.
Do not support narrowing at Meadowglen Dr.
Proposed new bus stop at Rivermill Cres is too soon after all way stop and will cause congestion.
The bus stop at Rivermill Cres after all way stop is odd so when bus stops cars will be in intersection.
This will not improve safety or deter speeding or cut thru traffic
No plan will calm traffic without real police enforcement
I think it is probably the right thing to do in terms of improving safety between Des Ravins Pl S+N, near the school and park.
I approve of all measures with the exception of relocating the bus stop at the north end of Forest Valley Dr
Between the sports fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, and now splash pad, the area needs a dedicated parking lot or expansion of one of the school parking lots.
The existing speed indication sign (speed board) should remain and an additional one posted at the north end and they should be maintained.
'This issue has been going on for so long and it seems be caused by a few very local ppl and not representative of most and is waste of taxpayer dollars to still be talking about this' Data Simply does not justify and significant changes
School zone speed limit and cross walk flashers. That's all required.
You aren't listening to the local community, why even have these feedback sessions if you are just planning to ignore them all along.
Placement seems odd, not near either school entrance
These proposed changes look very costly and will likely not make a significant impact.
Stops should be replaced with roundabout to increase average speed to compensate for traffic calming measures. It is also better for cyclists.
Safety for kids is number one
Hopefully people will opt to use other routes. Otherwise we will have car lines in front of our house

Based on observations from my house, the measures to date (speed bumps, signs and line markers) have had little or NO effect on the traffic speed, and have done absolutely NOTHING to reduce the traffic volume.

Why put in all these safety measures when there are already speed cushion and speed limit to everyone to follow

I'm not a fan of speed cushions, but if there needs to be one, you've chosen the best location for it.

Will speed cushions survive the City's snow removal equipment?

I am just concerned cars will maneuver around speed cushions to maintain speed.

Please do NOT install the rubber posts along Forest Valley Dr or Meadowglen Dr. They pose a hazard when forcing cars or trucks through narrow channels. Some people with even small cars have difficulty getting through due to their inability to drive.

Location of splash pad is terrible