

STAFF REPORT*CITY OF OCEANSIDE*

DATE: November 14, 2007

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Public Works Department

SUBJECT: **APPROVE THE PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF THREE SPEED HUMPS ON MORSE STREET BETWEEN STEWART STREET AND ALVARADO STREET**

SYNOPSIS

Staff and the Transportation Commission recommend that the City Council approve the installation of three sets of speed humps on Morse Street between Stewart Street and Alvarado Street.

BACKGROUND

In February 2005, speed humps were installed on California Street in response to traffic concerns. The average daily traffic count was approximately 3700 vehicles per day (VPD) with a critical speed of 36 MPH. After installation of the speed humps on California Street, traffic increased on Morse Street by approximately 300 VPD. Staff has received requests from the residents on Morse Street to have speed humps installed in order to decrease the vehicular speeding that seems to have accompanied the increase in traffic. Former Transportation staff met with residents on Morse Street and a petition was circulated in December 2005/January 2006 to have traffic-calming implemented on Morse Street. However, speed humps were not installed and other actions were taken to increase driver awareness of the speeding issue.

Early attempts for traffic-calming on Morse Street occurred in January of 2000 when the speed limit was reduced from 30 MPH to 25 MPH. In December 2006, a white edge line was striped on both sides of Morse Street from Alvarado Street to Stewart Street. Most recently, in August 2007, the existing 25 MPH speed limit signs were replaced with larger (36-inch by 45-inch) 25 MPH speed limit signs.

The police department had been notified by staff of the speeding issues on Morse Street requesting that they patrol the area, and a speed radar trailer had been set up on Morse Street to increase driver awareness of the speed limit. However, residents continue to be concerned about the vehicular speeding on Morse Street and have contacted City staff requesting that more action be taken to slow traffic.

ANALYSIS

Morse Street is approximately 1700 feet in length with three T-intersections between Alvarado Street and Stewart Street (see Exhibit A). This two-lane road is 44 feet wide west of Nevada Street and 40 feet wide east of Nevada Street. Parking is allowed on both sides of the road. There are short sections of noncontinuous sidewalk at various locations on Morse Street. Residential homes have driveway access from Morse Street and from Alvarado Street to Stewart Street.

The 24-hour average daily traffic is approximately 600 VPD for the westbound direction and approximately 1000 VPD for the eastbound direction. Morse Street is a collector street and there is an existing traffic signal at the intersection of Morse Street and Coast Highway. Morse Street is controlled with stop signs at Stewart Street. All other intersections on Morse Street are controlled on the side street with stop signs. The median speed is approximately 30 MPH and the critical speed is approximately 35 MPH. The median speed is the speed which 50 percent of traffic is traveling, or below and the critical speed limit is the speed at which 85 percent of traffic is traveling, or below.

Staff reviewed the traffic collision history for Morse Street between Stewart Street and Alvarado Street. In the time period of January 1, 2004 to September 30, 2007, there was one reported collision that involved a primary collision factor of “driving under the influence”. No collisions were reported that involved speeding.

There is a list of criteria that staff looks at to help determine if speed humps will be appropriate at a location. Examples of criteria taken into consideration are width of road, average daily traffic, whether there is existing sidewalk, etc. Points are assigned to each criterion and a total of 75 points out of 100 points is needed to warrant the speed humps. Morse Street obtained 75 points. Also, 76 percent of the residents on Morse Street and Horne Street signed a petition (see attached) in favor of the speed humps on Morse Street. As part of the process to install traffic-calming on a street, at least 67 percent of the residents needed to sign the petition.

The type of speed humps proposed by staff will allow wide-wheelbase emergency vehicles to straddle the humps (called speed lumps). Speed lumps are used by the City of San Diego and have been installed on Carey Road, Sherbourne Drive, and Coco Palms Drive. The speed humps on California Street are similar to speed lumps except they are constructed of rubber instead of asphalt. Each speed lump will have signs and pavement markings to warn the motorist (see Exhibit B). The Fire Department has reviewed the proposed speed humps and prefers the “speed lump” design.

FISCAL IMPACT

The installation of three speed humps supplemented with signs and striping on Morse Street will cost approximately \$21,000. Funds in the amount of \$100,000 were allocated in FY 07-08 in the Neighborhood Traffic Improvement Program (212.755231.5702), with a current unallocated balance in the account of \$32,000. There is also an unspent carryforward amount of \$94,000 from FY 06-07. Therefore, sufficient funds are available for this project.

COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT

At their October 16, 2007 meeting, the Transportation Commission reviewed and approved the proposed speed humps. At the meeting, four residents spoke in favor of the speed humps on Morse Street.

CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS

City Attorney analysis does not apply.

RECOMMENDATION

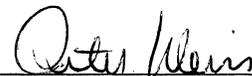
Staff and the Transportation Commission recommend that the City Council approve the installation of three sets of speed humps on Morse Street between Stewart Street and Alvarado Street.

PREPARED BY:

SUBMITTED BY:



Paul J. Pace
Transportation Operations Engineer



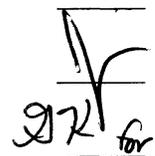
Peter A. Weiss
City Manager

REVIEWED BY:

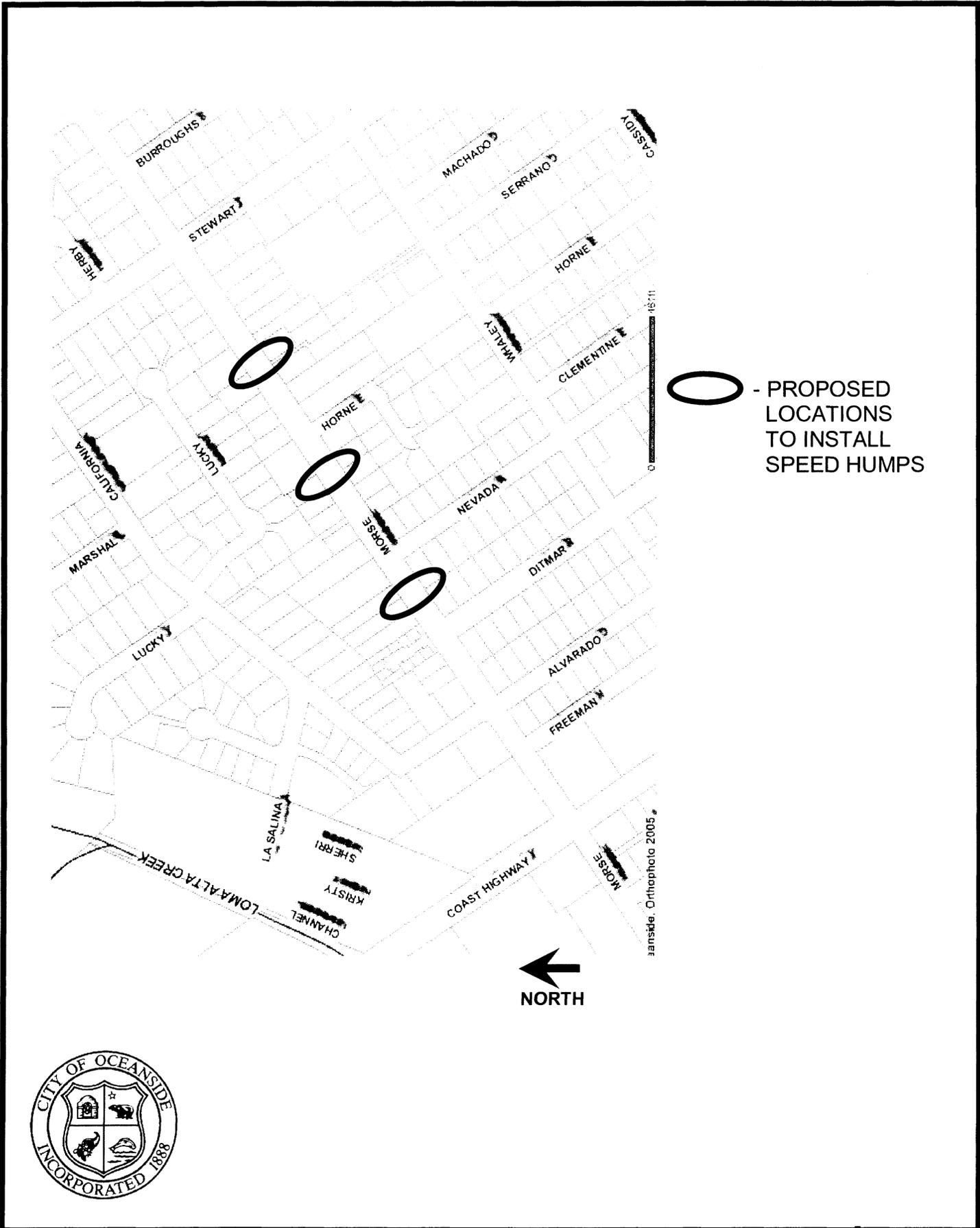
Michelle Skaggs Lawrence, Deputy City Manager

Joseph Arranaga, Acting Deputy Public Works Director

Scott O. Smith, City Engineer



Attachment: Exhibit "A" (Location Map)
Exhibit "B" (Speed Lump)
Petition



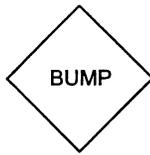
○ - PROPOSED LOCATIONS TO INSTALL SPEED HUMPS



PROJECT

MORSE STREET SPEED HUMPS

EXHIBIT
A



W8-1
30" X 30"



MODIFIED W17-1
30" X 30"



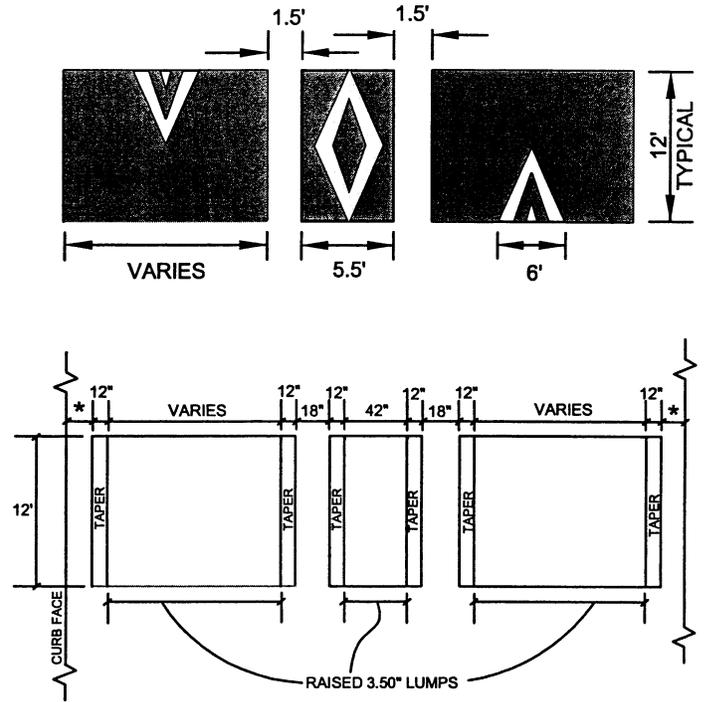
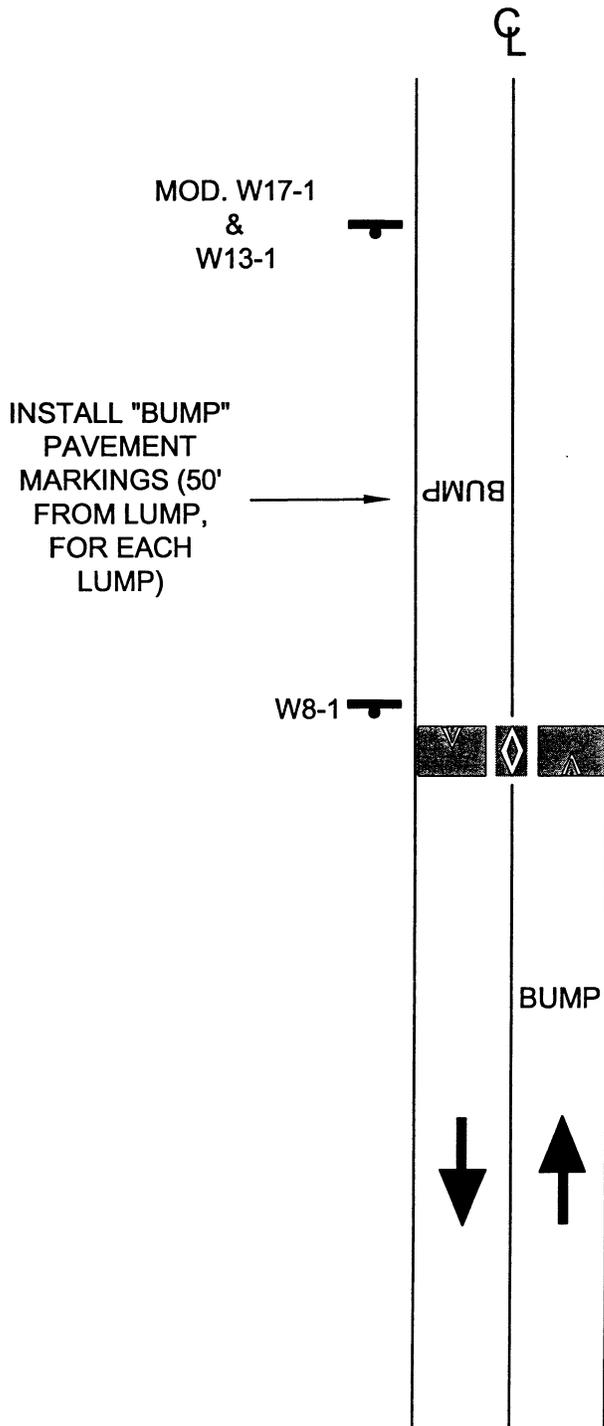
W13-1
24" X 24"



DIRECTION
OF
TRAVEL

BUMP

PAVEMENT
LEGEND
HEIGHT = 8"



* BEGIN LUMP AT EDGE OF GUTTER. IF NO GUTTER, BEGIN 1' FROM CURB FACE

PROJECT NAME

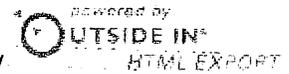
SPEED LUMP SUPPLEMENTED WITH SIGNING
AND STRIPING

EXHIBIT

B



Print - Close Window



PETITION REQUESTING TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

ON:

Morse Street

We, the undersigned residents of the Morse Street area do hereby request the City of Oceanside, California for the installation of traffic calming devices (speed cushions or stop signs) and other devices. By signing below, we understand and support the installation of the traffic calming devices. We understand that there may be related signing and street stenciling installed in front of our house. We also understand that installing the speed cushions, stop signs and/or other traffic calming devices may produce some noise and increase emergency response time to our home.

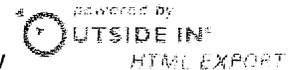
Neighborhood Representative:

Date	Signature (Head of Household)	Address
12/18/05	Monica Galt	920 Morse St.
12/18/05	Terryann Lowy	912 Morse St 760
12/18/05	Joey Dietzmail	920 Morse St 760
12/18/05	Ernie Graham	932 Morse St 760
12/18/05	[Signature]	1000 Morse St
12/18	Carol Laine	1107 Morse St 619
12-18	BURT STARK	1100 Morse 760
12-18	[Signature]	1110 Morse St 760
12-18	[Signature]	1112 Morse St 740
12/18	[Signature]	1111 Morse St 760
12/18	[Signature]	1105 Morse St
12/18	Garry Hansen	1017 Morse St
12/18	[Signature]	1015b Morse St.
12/18	Roger B. [Signature]	1009 Morse St
12/18	Aileen Karmes	1003 Morse St
12/18	[Signature]	919 Morse St
12/18	[Signature]	915 Morse St
12/18	Janet [Signature]	810 Morse St.
12/18	[Signature]	816 Morse St
12/18	[Signature]	605 Morse St.

(17)



Print - Close Window



PETITION REQUESTING TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

ON:

Morse Street

We, the undersigned residents of the Morse Street area do hereby request the City of Oceanside, California for the installation of traffic calming devices (speed cushions or stop signs) and other devices. By signing below, we understand and support the installation of the traffic calming devices. We understand that there may be related signing and street stenciling installed in front of our house. We also understand that installing the speed cushions, stop signs and/or other traffic calming devices may produce some noise and increase emergency response time to our home.

Neighborhood Representative:

Date	Signature (Head of Household)	Address
12/18/06	Carol Holden Logan	714 Morse St.
12/18/05	David Allan	710 Morse
12-18-05	MARSHALL POYLUKE	1605 Nevada
12/18/05	MARIE J. FARRIS	1004 MORSE ST
12/14/05	Blom Vorbeck	919 Morse Place
12-30-05	WAL	919 MORSE ST.
12-31-05	GREG CHERTAK	916 MORSE ST.
12-31-05	[Signature]	910 Morse St.
12-31-05	Michelle Conn	804 Morse St.
12-31-05	DEREK FRANCH	700 MORSE ST.
12-31-05	SEAN BIELAWSKI	1626 BROADWAY ST
12-31-05	Samira Padro	930 MORSE ST.
1-10-06	Sandra Sanders	911 Morse St
1-10-06	Wanda Dene	1015A Morse St
1-10-06	[Signature]	1006 MORSE ST.
1-10-06	Natalie P. Neres	1116 MORSE
1-10-06	Ariel McLeod	1120 Morse St.

(4)

