



Shorewood on the Sound Community Club

P.O. Box 47203

Burien, WA 98146

June 22, 2009

Mike Martin, City Manager
City of Burien
400 SW 152nd Street #300
Burien, WA 98166

Re: Stop Sign Use for Traffic Calming – Goat Hill

Dear Mr Martin

This is a follow up to our correspondence regarding the use of stop signs for traffic calming in Shorewood. It is understood the City is seriously considering the placement of stop signs at the intersection of 131st and Shorewood Drive in an attempt to slow traffic near the intersection of 130th and 14th, a distance approximately 1285 feet away. Our group strongly opposes that course of action.

We have reviewed a good deal of technical information on this and is summarized here:

- Stop signs are NOT speed control devices.
- Stop signs do not reduce traffic volumes.
- Unnecessary stop signs result in unacceptable levels of stop sign violations and lead to disrespect for all traffic signs.
- Unnecessary stop signs lead to increased speeding.
- All-way stop signs do not increase safety or reduce collisions at intersections.
- Additional stop signs lead to air and noise pollution, as well as increased fuel consumption.

Consequently, our Board of Directors adopted the following resolution:

It was Moved, Seconded and Carried that the Shorewood on the Sound Community Club oppose placement of new stop signs as traffic speed calming devices.

Other issues of concern and recommendations expressed by the directors were:

- Sight lines are poor on SW 130th and the road right of way should be cleared to property lines for safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles backing to an arterial right of way.
- Painted crosswalks may lead to a false sense of security for users.
- Speed bumps are very unpopular and should not be employed.
- Traffic circles were not seen as a solution.
- We do not agree with the disregard for the professionally prepared independent traffic study and the advice of the Burien Police Department.
- The use of "rumble strips" is an effective means of raising awareness to motorists.
- Better signage is needed in high traffic areas.

We, in Shorewood appreciate the time you and your staff have spent on this. If you feel it would be useful, we can appear before the City Council to discuss this as well.

Yours truly,

Gary Gibson
President
Shorewood on the Sound
Community Club