

4/5/2021

Columbia Heights Traffic Commission:

Attn: Jared Finkelson, Commission Member
Stacy Nekora, Commission Member
Joe Schluender, Commission Member
Amáda Márquez Simula, Council Liaison

C/O: Kathy Young, Assistant City Engineer – kyou@columbiaheightsmn.gov

Traffic Commission Members,

On behalf of myself and several immediate neighbors, I would like to submit the below request for consideration by the Commission Members for traffic calming within the City of Columbia Heights on Stinson Blvd NE south of 45th Ave NE down to Silver Lake Beach.

Request:

Residents of Stinson Blvd NE are requesting the assistance and insight from the Traffic Commission Members to help reduce the risk of accident from vehicles traveling at high rates of speed between 45th Ave NE and Silver Lake Beach on Stinson Blvd NE.

We are requesting increased traffic calming measures for this stretch of Stinson Blvd NE.

Residents have observed consistency of vehicles traveling at high rate of speed up and down Stinson Blvd NE. There is a blind crest at the top of the road near 45th and as such vehicles have limited view of approaching vehicles from the opposite direction. Furthermore, on weekends during the summer, with vehicles parked along the road there is even less visibility of pedestrians crossing the road or walking down to the beach after parking their vehicles.

Vehicles are also observed often traveling the wrong way at the south end of Stinson where it splits into two 1-way sections. Southbound vehicles are often traveling too fast to navigate the right hand turn at the turn and have to brake heavily to stop. Northbound vehicles are often observed racing up the street from the beach traveling the wrong way. It is a recipe for a head on collision.

There are several families with young children at the south end at the bottom of the hill. To add, there are many families with young children who visit the park and walk up and down the street to parked vehicles etc.

Considerations for use of increased signage, solar powered “current speed” signs, a reduced speed limit, Children at Play signs or any other modern low intrusive options available to reduce the speed of vehicles traveling north or south along Stinson Blvd NE. As a worst case scenarios, perhaps a speed bump at the south end of Stinson before it splits (south of 4320 driveway) may be a final option if the above options do not impact the problem.

We are also open to other suggestions the Commission Members may have.

Thank you, sincerely

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