



Road calming in College Hill

1 message

Jada Flinn <jflinn83@yahoo.com>

Wed, Oct 4, 2023 at 6:58 PM

To: traffic.engineering@cincinnati-oh.gov

Hello,

I just wanted to take a moment and let someone know that I really appreciate the road calming measures that have been put into place in college hill.

I live on a dead end street off northbend right between Winton road and Hamilton and I have become very aware of how dangerous northbend road has become.

When I started to look into what can be done I had no idea you could calm a roadway down. And I had no idea college hill already had plans to put them in. I was worried it would be hard to pull off my street with the different set up but it has not been a problem at all. And I know these things can cause some traffic issues but so far I've only run into a few extra minutes a couple of times. Well worth the safer streets for my kids to walk/ride their bike to the college hill library.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and we appreciate the safer streets.

Jada Flinn

Sent from my iPhone.



College Hill Traffic Calming is increasing safety for my neighborhood

2 messages

Amanda Oetzel <dolphinwhaleshark@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 5, 2023 at 8:10 AM

To: traffic.engineering@cincinnati-oh.gov

Cc: trafficsafety@collegehillforum.com

My name is Amanda Oetzel, and I am a homeowner with kids in College Hill. Our beautiful home is on Oak Knoll, and my youngest attended Pleasant Hill Academy, our local public school, for two years, between 2021 and 2023. Given our drop off and pick up at school, I am very familiar with the issues on North Bend, and it was harrowing dropping our kids off in the morning and picking up in the afternoon. One of the reasons we did the magnet lottery for our kids, was to get them in a school on a safer street. Let that sink in: our neighborhood school, the beating heart of our community, is on a street so dangerous that cars run the lights, drive 80 miles an hour, and there have been pedestrian deaths.

Next to the school is the local library. What should be a hub for the local families, is too dangerous of a walk or bike ride to be a feasible outing. The traffic calming has changed our neighborhood for the better. Sure, it needs refining, but the benefits are already clear. I can walk my dog around our neighborhood and not risk life and limb. My kids can ride scooters to the library to check out more halloween books, and run around the park. The traffic calming has provided us with the safety we so greatly needed.

Those against it, well, I doubt they had to regularly explain what the ghost bike on Northbend near Edwood represented, because it was a regular conversation with my littles. It always ended with, "but why, mommy? Why would people speed and kill that man on his bike? Why would people do that?"

I wanted to respond, like Fred Rogers: "Look for the helpers!" But I couldn't because there weren't any.

Now there are, and the conversation goes like this, "Look kiddos, look at the work being done to keep us safe!"

I wrote to you because Cincinnati is wonderful, and while we work out some of the tough problems, residents are cheering. We are being cared for.

All the best,

Amanda Oetzel

1350 Oak Knoll Dr.

Cincinnati, Ohio 45224

Felicia Eschenlohr <feliciaeschenlohr@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 5, 2023 at 12:33 PM

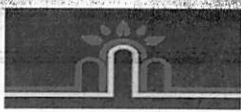
To: Amanda Oetzel <dolphinwhaleshark@gmail.com>, Traffic Safety Committee <trafficsafety@collegehillforum.com>

Amanda

You have our entire team in tears today.. thank you so much for sending this email.. we just want a safe neighborhood for all of us! The greater good of the community must outway people's me first mentality

Felicia

[Quoted text hidden]



Hamilton/Northbend Traffic Calming

2 messages

Brenda Mendenhall <brendam549@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 11:11 AM

To: traffic.engineering@cincinnati-oh.gov, citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov

Cc: trafficsafety@collegehillforum.com

To those governing,

I would like to express my thanks for your current and ongoing efforts to calm the traffic on Hamilton Ave. and Northbend Rd. in College Hill. I am very aware that it has caused some traffic congestion and other problems. I am so grateful for the slower traffic and appreciate that I can now walk to the business district (10 minutes from my house). Previously, I no longer walked to this destination because of speeding traffic. In addition, I enjoy a neighborhood bike ride that includes Northbend Rd. It's nice to be able to ride and not have to travel to the Loveland Bike trail. I support your current project trials and also future efforts to refine and improve the traffic calming.

Thank you.

Brenda Mendenhall

College Hill

College Hill Traffic and Pedestrian Safety <trafficsafety@collegehillforum.com>

Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 3:16 PM

To: Brenda Mendenhall <brendam549@gmail.com>

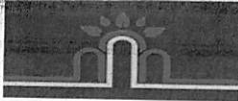
Brenda

Thank you so much for this feedback! I agree with you that it is so lovely to be able to walk to the business district to visit all of our awesome restaurants and shops. It is so much quieter on North Bend and Hamilton as well. Hopefully, we will be able to gather data over the next year and have this permanently repaved to a safer design for us all.

We REALLY appreciate your support!

Felicia Eschenlohr

[Quoted text hidden]



Traffic calming on North Bend Road and Hamilton Avenue

10 messages

Mark Patterson <bearxu71@icloud.com>

To: trafficsafety@collegehillforum.com

Fri, Nov 3, 2023 at 11:59 AM

We live on Devonwood Drive near the intersection of Thomwood Drive, so the primary access road for us to get to Hamilton Avenue is to go over Hollywood Avenue to turn left or right onto Hamilton Avenue.

Before the traffic calming on Hamilton Avenue, we would often take alternate routes to access Hamilton Avenue, such as going to Edwood Avenue to turn right on to North Bend and work out way to Hamilton Avenue from there; or use the light at Oak Knoll and Hamilton Avenue to turn left or right onto Hamilton Avenue. Cutting against four lanes of speeding cars to turn South on Hamilton Avenue from Hollywood was a very risky undertaking.

Now things are quite different. Two changes were made to make things better.

The first was the traffic light at Oak Knoll and Hamilton now changes to red more frequently which stops two of the four lanes for a bit to make it easier to make the left off of Hollywood onto Hamilton. This change was made maybe a month before the new traffic calming devices appeared on Hamilton Avenue.

The second change was the traffic calming devices which effectively have slowed traffic noticeably and reduced the number of traffic lanes from four to two.

We love the changes on Hamilton Avenue!! We hope those never change.

Road construction have the caused the bump-out on Hamilton Ave & Hollywood to be taken down. I presume the bump-out will be reconstructed when the final paving is done. The bump-out materials are lying in the tree line on Hamilton Avenue.

Regarding North Bend Road calming, we love the effect of slowing down the traffic dramatically. Having only two lanes is a huge effect on slowing things down.

I do wonder about the bike lane because it doesn't seem to be connected to anything at its beginning and end. Maybe there is a plan to eventually make the bike lane connect to to other bike lanes.

I wonder if the bike lanes should be converted to bump -outs to allow for more parking on the street and still keep traffic to two lanes. The extra parking may help visitors to the new apartment buildings and the new homes that will be built. Going to bump outs may also help emergency vehicles to more easily use North Bend Road during busy traffic times.

Another benefit to the traffic calming on both roads is that now it is much safer and quieter when walking alongside the previous four lanes of traffic. Being only a few feet from speeding cars was a deterrent to walking on these roads.

We also fully support the bump-outs in the business district. Slower traffic; more parking opportunities; quieter; better use of the sidewalk areas for businesses.

We think it would be helpful to have overhead hanging signs that clearly delineate the three lanes of traffic in all directions at the intersection of Hamilton and North bend. Some of the lanes are marked now but not all.

And finally we would like to thank you for all the time and hard work the committee puts in to make our neighborhood streets safer. Thank you very much!!

Mark Patterson

College Hill Traffic and Pedestrian Safety <trafficsafety@collegehillforum.com>

To: Mark Patterson <bearxu71@icloud.com>

Cc: traffic.engineering@cincinnati-oh.gov, citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov

Fri, Nov 3, 2023 at 12:21 PM

Mark - **Thank you so much** for taking time out of your day to send these kind, supportive words about the traffic calming in College Hill. I'm going to keep my reply short, but know that your words will be shared with the College Hill team *and* the individuals I'm CC'ing on my reply.

I couldn't agree with you more. We often hate the idea of "restricting," but this is a case of "addition by subtraction." By no longer providing several lanes for speeders to weave in and out of cars, they are forced to respect the safety of our neighborhood and follow the car ahead of them (doing the speed limit). There's a reason why the cars start speeding again when they leave the traffic calming measures in place in College Hill.

As for the suggestions (signage, bike lane, bumpouts) - thank you! I'll bring this up in our next meeting. We have talked about these things before, but we certainly should be talking about it more.

Neighborly Yours,
Mark Ventura