



May 8, 2023

**To:** The residents of South 7<sup>th</sup> street

Thank you for expressing your concerns about speed and safety of South 7<sup>th</sup> Street to both the Planning Commission and the City Council. In coordination with the City engineer, police, and public works, the City implemented data signs to capture speed and traffic data in addition to conducting additional patrols. Data signs remained in place for a minimum of 1 month to capture data that is statistically significant to guide future discussions on traffic calming devices.

From February 9 to March 11, 2023, data signs captured data as follows:

- Location: S7th and E. Washington
  - Captured Northbound traffic; Average speed 9.5 mph;
  - Total # of vehicles 10,322; total # of violators 8 (.1%)
- Location: S7th at Taft
  - Captured Southbound traffic; Average speed 14.4 mph;
  - Total # of vehicles 5,345; total # of violators 13 (.2%)

For the time period of March 22 to April 27, 2023, one data sign was relocated to gather additional information and captured the following data:

- Location: S7<sup>th</sup> at Wilson Street
  - Captured Northbound traffic; Average speed of 7.8 mph;
  - Total # of vehicles 11,423; total # of violators 1 (.05%)

Further, the City Council went door to door in the area and asked residents of South 7<sup>th</sup> Street a set of survey questions. For those that were not home, a door hanger was left with a link to the same survey online. A summary of the survey results follows this letter.

Council received and reviewed the data collected from the speed signs, as well as, the results of their door-to-door survey at their May 2, 2023 City Council meeting. Council discussed the data and recommendations with Chief Martinez and staff. Based upon those discussions Council decided that the following will be next steps:

1. Carlton Police Department will continue their patrols in the area. If you have any information regarding a reoccurring safety situation, please contact Chief Martinez at [kmartinez@ci.carlton.or.us](mailto:kmartinez@ci.carlton.or.us).

2. The speed signs are activated to provide a visual display to ensure travelers and residents are aware of speeds.
3. The Police Department will conduct a traffic and safety informational and educational session to the residents of Carlton, including the residents of South 7<sup>th</sup> street.
4. The Police Department will work with neighbors to establish cameras at the intersection of Washington and S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street to capture and monitor vehicle traffic for stop sign violations.

We appreciate the efforts of the South 7<sup>th</sup> street residents for bringing awareness to the safety concerns in their neighborhood. We are tentatively looking at July 28<sup>th</sup> for the traffic and safety informational session. Please stay tuned for future information regarding time and location.

Thank you,

*The City of Carlton*

Attachments:

- Survey Results
- Survey Commentary

# South 7th Street Survey Results 2023

What do you see as the main safety issue on South 7th Street, needing priority attention?			
Pedestrian Safety	Bicycle Safety	Speeding	Other
4 (14%)	0 (0%)	20 (69%)	5 (17%)*

Total Online Surveys:	12
Total In-Person Surveys:	19
	31

Total Homes along S. 7th      48

Which of the following traffic calming features would be your first choice to see implemented on 7th Street?				
Crosswalks	Bike Lanes	Speed Bumps	Additional Signage to slow drivers	Other
1 (3%)	0 (0%)	12 (39%)	14 (45%)	4 (13%)**

Would you support the temporary installation of a safety strategy on South 7th Street to see if it has the desired effect prior to a permanent installation? This would allow the City to try a strategy and if it does not achieve the desired outcome, try other strategies until the desired outcome is reached.	
Yes	No
26 (90%)	3 (10%)

\*Other Concern: Amount of people vs. traffic that building more homes will create

\*\*More of a police presence to issue speeding citations

# South 7<sup>th</sup> Street

## Survey Commentary 2023

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A survey was developed for those that live on and/or near South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, to discuss what issues they have been having and what steps might be taken to resolve issues. The following question was posed, and a summary of responses can be found below:

**Your City Council has received comments of concern from several neighbors regarding vehicle speed and safety on S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street. What has been your experience? Do you have specific concerns regarding vehicle speed and safety on S. 7<sup>th</sup> St.?**

- ❖ 100% of residents surveyed expressed concern for speeding vehicles
  - 20% also witnessed vehicles ignoring STOP signs
  - 60% cited construction worker vehicles and concrete trucks as speeding offenders in the early mornings and late afternoons
  - 20% of residents reported witnessing fellow neighbors speeding and running STOP signs
- ❖ It was stated by 32% of residents, that drivers that speed and run stop signs currently, will continue to do so unless more tickets are issued to encourage behavior change. A stronger police presence was suggested/requested
- ❖ 90% of the residents would like to see this resolved in steps – start by adding more signage. If that doesn't work, have police patrol the south end of the street. Then, as a last resort, add some speed bumps
- ❖ Some of the types of signs that were suggested were speed signs as well as signs indicating that children are at play, and caution signs
- ❖ 90% of concerns voiced, was about the amount of kids on the street vs. the amount of speeding vehicles and that the problem will only continue as more homes are being built. More homes = more families & kids and more construction/traffic down the street
- ❖ STOP signs at the 4-way intersection of Washington St & 7<sup>th</sup> St was mentioned by 48% of the residents surveyed
- ❖ In addition to extra signage, police presence, and speed bumps – it was suggested by a couple of residents, that parents watch their kids more closely outside and teach them about safety around cars (i.e. don't play in the street) to help maintain safety
- ❖ 21% of residents surveyed suggested that the City decrease the speed limit to 20 mph down 7<sup>th</sup> Street due to the high volume of children in the area, and post signs clearly
- ❖ It was brought to our attention that some of the residents have been confronting those that are speeding and/or running STOP signs. Residents should instead report these incidents to law enforcement so as not to escalate the situation
- ❖ While speed bumps are a popular suggestion, there were also notes made that they were not wanted “excessively” down 7<sup>th</sup> St – and possibly only as a last resort should the additional signage not be effective. There was also a question if temporary speed bumps could be installed