# Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan 

District:<br>Neighborhood:<br>Project Extent:<br>3<br>Audubon - Downriver<br>Wellesley Avenue Near Pauline Flett Middle School (At Hartley Street)<br>Estimate: \$1,531,000

Problem Statement: Residents of the Audubon - Downriver neighborhood raised concerns about safe routes to school along Wellesley Avenue near the new Pauline Flett Middle School at Hartley Street. In addition, the resident also raised concerns about potential cut through traffic on King Court and Royal Court to the school diverting from Assembly Street.

## Traffic Analysis

Within the study area, Wellesley Avenue west of Assembly Street and Hartley Street are classified as local streets with posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour. Assembly Street and Wellesley Avenue east of Assembly Street are classified as major arterial with posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour. Wellesley Avenue and Hartley Street both provide two lanes with on-street parking, without striped shoulder or dedicated bike lanes. Assembly Street to the north provides four lanes, and two lanes with two-way-leftturn lane to the south, without bike lanes but marked shoulder is provided. The sidewalk network in the study corridor is predominately complete, however there is no sidewalk west of Hartley Street and eastbound west of North King Court ( 0.3 miles east of Hartley Street). On Wellesley Avenue, Hartley Street intersection is unsignalized with a yield sign on the south leg and a stop sign on the north leg. Assembly intersection is all-way stop controlled with red light flashers. There is no crosswalk provided ay Hartley Street, the nearest crosswalk is located 0.44 miles to the east at Assembly Street.

The following tables show the estimated 2022 daily traffic volumes and $85^{\text {th }}$ percentile speeds on Wellesley Avenue west of Rustle Street ( 0.6 miles east of Hartley Street). The daily volume on Wellesley Avenue was 3,984 vehicles west of Rustle Street. The highest $85^{\text {th }}$ percentile speed was 35 miles per hour ( 5 miles per hour greater than the posted speed limit)

2022 Estimated Daily Traffic and $85^{\text {th }}$ Percentile Speeds on Wellesley Avenue

| Direction | \# Lanes | $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ Estimated Daily Traffic <br> (Vehicles per day) ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $\mathbf{8 5}^{\text {th }}$ Percentile Speed <br> $(\mathbf{m p h})$ | Posted Speed <br> $(\mathbf{m p h})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| West of Rustle Street |  |  |  |  |
| EB | 1 | 2,132 |  |  |
| WB | 1 | 1,852 | 35 | 30 |
| Both Dir. | 2 | 3,984 |  |  |

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## Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan

There are no crashes recorded at the intersection of Wellesley Avenue and Hartley Street. The table below shows the severity and types of crashes occurring on Wellesley Avenue from Hartley Street and Rustle Street ( 0.65 miles) over the last five years (excluding intersection crashes at the east and west ends). There was a total of 16 crashes on Wellesley Avenue, including four injury crashes. Collision related to moving vehicles and stationary objects or vehicle were the most common crash type (representing 37 percent of all crashes).

Crashes on Wellesley Avenue (2017 to 2021)

| Crash Type | Crash Severity |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Fatal | Minor Injury | Possible Injury | Property Damage Only | Unknown |  |
| Rear End | - | - | 1 | 2 | - | 3 |
| Angle | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 5 |
| Turning | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Stationary Object or Car | - | - | - | 1 | 6 |  |
| From Same Direction | - | - | - | 11 | - | 1 |
| Total | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 16 |  |

Multiple driveways are located on Wellesley Avenue near Assembly Street, with the closest driveway 70 feet to the south, 110 feet to the east, 160 feet to the west, and 350 feet to the north of Assembly Street. Such characteristic will likely encourage traffic cut through to local neighborhood to avoid delay at the intersection. The figure below shows the existing PM peak hour traffic volumes at the Wellesley Avenue and Assembly Street intersection, based on a traffic count from July 12, 2017, factored up to 2022.


PM Peak Hour Traffic at Wellesley Avenue and Assembly Street

## Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan

The need for enhanced pedestrian crossing treatments across Wellesley Avenue at Hartley Street and Assembly Street were analyzed based on the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 562. ${ }^{1}$ This report uses four main criteria to identify appropriate crossing treatment: peak hour pedestrian volumes, conflicting vehicle volumes, conflicting vehicle speed, and crossing distance/number of travel lanes to be crossed. Based on the findings, marked crosswalks are preferred treatment if there are 20 or more pedestrian crossings during the peak hour. Although pedestrian data is not available, it is assumed the 20 or more pedestrian crossing threshold is met given the middle school and the surrounding urban neighborhood on Wellesley Avenue. The study corridor west of Rustle Street has existing conditions of moderate traffic (shared facility) per the Bicycle Facility Classification in the City's Bicycle Master Plan. The segment has a future plan of bike lane implementation per the Bicycle Master Plan.

## Recommended Solution:

The following traffic calming elements are recommended to improve pedestrian safety and reduce the potential for cut through traffic in the neighborhood.

The installation of curb extensions and marked pedestrian crossing is recommended on Wellesley Avenue at Hartley Street and Royal Court to narrow the roadway and provide a safer crossing. Curb extensions are expected to decrease the $85^{\text {th }}$ percentile speed by three miles per hour ${ }^{2}$.

The installation of sidewalks on the south side of Wellesley Avenue between King Court and Hartley Street is recommended to provide a safer environment for people walking and support the safe route to school program.

The Royal Court approach to Wellesley Avenue is located across from the school driveway and should be restricted to right-in/right-out traffic movements with a center raised median to discourage school related trips cutting through the neighborhood.

The King Court approach to Wellesley Avenue should be considered for restricted right-in/right-out/leftout traffic movements with a center raised median to restrict northbound and southbound through movements at the intersection and discourage school related trips cutting through the neighborhood. The north leg of the intersection (Independence Drive) provides access to the VA Medical Center and should be considered in the design of access restrictions.

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## Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan

## District: 3 <br> Neighborhood: <br> Project Extent: <br> Audubon - Downriver <br> Northwest Boulevard from T.J. Meenach Drive to Assembly Street <br> Estimate: 573,000 <br> Problem Statement: Residents of the Audubon - Downriver neighborhood raised concerns over speeding and pedestrian crossing safety along Northwest Boulevard from T.J. Meenach Drive to Assembly Street ( 1.69 miles). Specifically, the residents expressed the crossing difficulties due to width of Northwest Boulevard.

## Funded Improvements:

The following improvement projects are funded:

- marked crosswalk on Northwest Boulevard at I Street and Lacrosse Avenue
- installing a pedestrian hybrid beacon on Northwest Boulevard north of Audubon Elementary, replacing old overhead crosswalk light


## Traffic Analysis

Northwest Boulevard within the study area is classified as major arterial with posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour. The roadway from Assembly Street to Audubon Street ( 1.26 miles east of Assembly Street) provides two lanes with a two-way-left-turn lane, and the roadway from Audubon Street to T.J. Meenach Drive contains four lanes. Along the study corridor, Alberta Street (1.59 miles east of Assembly Street) and T.J. Meenach Drive are intersections controlled with a traffic signal and protected crossings. Striped crosswalks and warning signs are provided at Audubon Street and Milton Street, and a marked crosswalk is provided at E Street. The nearest controlled crosswalk from Assembly Street is located 525 feet north/west at Wellesley Avenue (outside of study area), and the next nearest crosswalk is located 1 mile east at E Street. Speed feedback signs were installed on Northwest Boulevard between H Street and E Street

The table below shows the estimated 2022 daily traffic volumes and $85^{\text {th }}$ percentile speeds on Northwest Boulevard along the study corridor. As shown in the table, the highest daily volume on Northwest Boulevard was 11,844 vehicles west of $G$ Street. The highest $85^{\text {th }}$ percentile speed was 40 miles per hour ( 10 miles per hour greater than the posted speed limit).

# Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan 

2022 Daily Traffic and $85^{\text {th }}$ Percentile Speeds on Northwest Boulevard

| Direction | \# Lanes | $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ Estimated Daily Traffic <br> (Vehicles per day) ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $\mathbf{8 5}^{\text {th }}$ Percentile Speed <br> $(\mathbf{m p h})$ | Posted Speed <br> $\mathbf{( m p h )}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| West of G Street |  |  |  |  |
| EB | 1 | 6,431 |  |  |
| WB | 1 | 5,413 | 33 | 30 |
| Both Dir. | 3 | 11,844 |  |  |
| West of Rustle Street |  |  |  |  |
| EB | 1 | 6,404 | 40 | 30 |
| WB | 1 | 5,398 |  |  |
| Both Dir. | 3 | 11,802 |  |  |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ Traffic data collected in June 2022.

The table below shows the severity and types of crashes occurring on Northwest Boulevard from Assembly Street to T.J. Meenach Drive from 2017 through 2021(excluding intersection crashes at the east and west ends). There were 44 total crashes, including 15 injury crashes. Angle collision were the most common crash type (representing 34 percent of all crashes.

Crashes on Northwest Boulevard, between Assembly Street and T.J. Meenach Drive (2017 to 2021)

| Crash Type | Crash Severity |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Fatal | Major Injury | Minor Injury | Possible Injury | Property Damage Only |  |
| Rear End | - | - | - | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| Angle | - | - | 3 | 4 | 8 | 15 |
| Turning | - | - | 1 | - | - | 3 |
| Sideswipe | - | - | - | 1 | 10 | 4 |
| Stationary <br> Object or Car | - | - | - | - | 2 | 12 |
| From Same <br> Direction | - | 0 | 5 | 10 | 29 | 2 |
| Total | 0 |  |  |  | 44 |  |

The need for enhanced pedestrian crossing treatments across Northwest Boulevard was analyzed based on NCHRP Report 562, using collected crossing data at various locations on the corridor. Based on the findings, active or enhanced pedestrian crossing treatments would be appropriate given the high existing traffic volumes and speeds on the study corridor. The study corridor was evaluated to determine the best placement for an enhanced pedestrian crossing with consideration for fronting land use, location of bus stops, estimated crossing demand and spacing from existing protected crossings. F Street was selected to connect the adjacent restaurants and bus stops to the nearby neighborhoods.

## Recommended Solution:

The installation of a marked pedestrian crossing with rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB) is recommended at the east leg of the Northwest Boulevard/F Street intersection. The existing marked crossing at E Street (one block east) should be removed due to its lack of protection.

It is recommended that speed feedback signs be added on Northwest Boulevard near Rockwell Street to alert drivers of the posted speed limit.

## Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan

The three-lane section of Northwest Boulevard between Assembly Street and Audubon Street/Alice Avenue has a curb-to-curb width of approximately 48 to 50 feet which would allow for a restriping improvement to reduce vehicle lanes to lower travel speeds and provide wider bike lanes on the corridor. The cross-section would provide at a minimum two 6 -foot-wide bike lanes, two 11 -foot-wide vehicle lanes and a 14 -foot-wide center turn lane.


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## Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan

## District: 3 <br> Neighborhood: <br> Project Extent: <br> Audubon - Downriver Wellesley Avenue and Alberta Street Estimate: \$64,000

Problem Statement: Residents of the Audubon - Downriver raised concerns about pedestrian-vehicle conflicts at Wellesley Avenue and Alberta Street intersection.

## Traffic Analysis

Wellesley Avenue within the intersection is classified as major arterial and Alberta Street is classified as minor arterial, both with posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour. Wellesley Avenue provides four lanes with a raised median and Alberta Street contains two lanes with a two-way-left-turn lane. Marked shoulder and bike lanes are not provided within the network. The intersection is signalized with marked pedestrian crossings, as shown below.


## Wellesley Avenue and Alberta Street Intersection

The table below shows the 2022 daily traffic volumes and $85^{\text {th }}$ percentile speeds on Wellesley Avenue around the study intersection. The highest daily volume on Wellesley Avenue was 13,067 west of Belt Street (east leg of the intersection). The highest $85^{\text {th }}$ percentile speed was 40 miles per hour ( 10 miles per hour greater than the posted speed limit) west of Milton Street.

## Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan

2022 Daily Traffic and $85^{\text {th }}$ Percentile Speeds on Wellesley Avenue

| Direction | \# Lanes | $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ Estimated Daily Traffic <br> $\left(\right.$ Vehicles per day) ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | $\mathbf{8 5}^{\text {th }}$ Percentile Speed <br> $(\mathbf{m p h})$ | Posted Speed <br> $(\mathbf{m p h})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| West of Belt Street |  |  |  |  |
| EB | 2 | 7,119 | 37 |  |
| WB | 2 | 5,948 | 31 |  |
| Both Dir. | 4 | 13,067 | 34 | 30 |
| West of Milton Street |  |  |  |  |
| EB | 2 | 4,613 | 39 | 31 |
| WB | 2 | 3,977 | 40 | 30 |
| Both Dir. | 4 | 8,590 |  |  |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ Traffic data collected in May 2022.
The table below shows the severity and types of crashes occurring at Wellesley Avenue and Alberta Street intersection from 2017 through 2021. There were 19 total crashes, including four injury crashes. Rear-end collision were the most common crash type (representing 32 percent of all crashes).

Crashes at Wellesley Avenue and Alberta Street Intersection (2017 to 2021)

| Crash Type | Crash Severity |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Fatal | Minor Injury | Possible Injury | Property Damage Only | Unknown |  |
| Rear End | - | - | 2 | 4 | - |  |
| Angle | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 |  |
| Turning | - | - | - | 3 | 2 |  |
| Sideswipe | - | - | - | 2 | - |  |
| Stationary Object or Car | - | - | - | - | 2 |  |
| Pedestrian/Bike | - | 1 | 2 | 12 | - |  |
| Total | 0 | 2 |  | 2 | 1 |  |

The figure below shows the existing PM peak hour traffic volumes at the Wellesley Avenue and Alberta Street intersection, based on a traffic count from May 17, 2017, factored up to 2022.


PM Peak Hour Traffic at Wellesley Avenue and Alberta Street

## Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan

## Recommended Solution:

The signal timing at the Wellesley Avenue and Alberta Street intersection should be updated to provide a leading pedestrian interval (LPI) to provide pedestrians the opportunity to enter the crosswalk at an intersection 3 to 7 seconds before vehicles are given a green light indication. Pedestrians can better establish their presence in the crosswalk before vehicles have priority to turn right or left.



## Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan

## District: 3 <br> Neighborhood: <br> Project Extent: <br> Audubon - Downriver Northwest Boulevard and T.J. Meenach Drive Intersection Estimate: \$86,000 <br> Problem Statement: Residents of the Audubon - Downriver raised concerns over pedestrian and bicyclist crossing safety at Northwest Boulevard and T.J. Meenach Drive intersection. As shown in the figure below, this study intersection is a skewed intersection, where the north leg connects to Cochran Street and Cleveland Avenue is located 70 feet to the south on the west.



Northwest Boulevard and T.J. Meenach Drive Intersection

## Traffic Analysis

Northwest Boulevard and T.J. Meenach Drive (south leg) within the study area are classified as major arterial and the north leg of the intersection (Cochran Street) is classified as minor arterial, all with posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour. Cleveland Avenue is classified as local street with posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour. Northwest Boulevard to the west provides four lanes and contains an additional two-way-left-turn left to the east. T.J. Meenach Drive provides four lanes while Cochran Street is one-way street and provides two lanes. Cleveland Avenue provides two lanes with on-street parking. There is no marked shoulder or bike lanes around the study intersection. Sidewalks are provided on Northwest Boulevard but not consistent on T.J. Meenach Drive and Cochran Street, with the mixed of paved, unpaved, separated, and curb tight sidewalks. A dedicated right turn channel is provided on the south leg of the intersection.

## Spokane Traffic Calming Master Plan

The table below shows the 2022 daily traffic volumes and $85^{\text {th }}$ percentile speeds on Northwest Boulevard around the study intersection. As shown in the table, the highest daily volume on Northwest Boulevard was 28,904 vehicles west of Belt Street. The highest $85^{\text {th }}$ percentile speed was 41 miles per hour (six miles per hour greater than the posted speed limit).

2022 Daily Traffic and $85^{\text {th }}$ Percentile Speeds on Northwest Boulevard

| Direction | \# Lanes | $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ Estimated Daily Traffic <br> (Vehicles per day) | $\mathbf{8 5}^{\text {th }}$ Percentile Speed <br> $\mathbf{( m p h )}$ | Posted Speed <br> $\mathbf{( m p h})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| West of Belt Street ${ }^{\text {a }}(0.3$ miles east of study intersection) |  |  |  |  |
| EB | 2 | 14,637 | 42 |  |
| WB | 2 | 14,267 | 40 |  |
| Both Dir. | 5 | 28,904 | 41 | 35 |
| West of Audubon Street ${ }^{\text {b }}(0.4$ miles west of study intersection $)$ |  |  |  |  |
| EB | 1 | 7,340 |  | 30 |
| WB | 1 | 4,096 | 34 |  |
| Both Dir. | 3 | 11,436 |  |  |

[^2]The table below shows the severity and types of crashes occurring at Northwest Boulevard and T.J. Meenach Drive from 2017 through 2021. There were 25 total crashes, including 14 injury crashes. Rearend collision were the most common crash type (representing 48 percent of all crashes).

Crashes at Northwest Boulevard and T.J. Meenach Drive Intersection (2017 to 2021)

| Crash Type | Crash Severity |  |  |  |  | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Fatal | Major Injury | Minor Injury | Possible Injury | Property Damage Only |  |
| Rear End | - | - | - | 6 | 6 | 12 |
| Angle | - | - | - | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Turning | - | - | - | 2 | - | 2 |
| Sideswipe | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Stationary Object or Car | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| From Same Direction | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Pedestrian/Bicycle | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 |
| Total | 0 | 0 | 1 | 13 | 11 | 25 |

The following figure shows the existing PM peak hour traffic volumes at the Northwest Boulevard and T.J. Meenach Drive intersection, based on a traffic count from June 7, 2017, factored up to 2022.


## PM Peak Hour Traffic at Northwest Boulevard and T.J. Meenach Drive Intersection

Skewed intersections tend to limit user sight distances and require longer pedestrian crossing distances. It is more than 100 feet to cross Northwest Boulevard at this intersection. The crossing distance on the south leg is reduced by the channelized right turn lane. There is no marked crosswalk on the east leg, crossings are provided on the west leg only. Treatments need to be implemented to improve the intersection performance given the high crash rate. The City of Spokane has a planned construction project to add sidewalk on Cochran Street north of the intersection.

## Recommended Solution:

The signal timing at the intersection should be updated to provide a leading pedestrian interval (LPI) to provide pedestrians the opportunity to enter the crosswalk at an intersection 3 to 7 seconds before vehicles are given a green light indication. Pedestrians can better establish their presence in the crosswalk before vehicles have priority to turn right or left. The planned sidewalk on Cochran Street will likely increase pedestrian crossing demand at the study intersection.

There are numerous intersections and driveways closely spaced to the Northwest Boulevard and T.J. Meenach Drive intersection that can contribute to vehicle conflicts with pedestrians and cyclists. The alley intersection with Cochran Street is spaced very close to Northwest Boulevard and should be considered for closure to vehicles.

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[^0]:    ${ }^{a}$ Traffic data collected on April 19, 2012. Traffic volumes were grown at a $1.0 \%$ annual growth rate, to estimate 2022 traffic conditions.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ NCHRP Report 562: Improving Pedestrian Safety and Unsignalized Crossings. National Cooperative Highway Research Program, 2006. https://nacto.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/NCHRP-562-Improving-Pedestrian-Safety-at-Unsignalized-Crossings.pdf
    ${ }^{2}$ Engineering Speed Management Countermeasures: A Desktop Reference of Potential Effectiveness in Reducing Speed. Federal Highway Administration. July 2014.

[^2]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Traffic data collected in June 2022.
    ${ }^{\text {b }}$ Traffic data collected in August 2014. Traffic volumes were grown at a $1.0 \%$ annual growth rate, to estimate 2022 traffic conditions.

