

2023 Wakefield Forest Traffic Calming – Frequently Asked Questions

What are the details of this project?

This project includes the installation of Traffic Calming islands on Mt. Holyoke Road between Trentwood Road and Zollinger Road as well as neighborhood entrance islands on Brandon Road just north of Zollinger Road and on Mt. Holyoke Road just north of Zollinger Road. This project will also include infrastructure making the one-way section of Trentwood Road at Northwest Boulevard permanent and will include a pedestrian crossing of Northwest Boulevard utilizing Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs). CESO, Inc. is performing the design work.

Why is a roundabout proposed at Mt. Holyoke Road and Trentwood Road?

The roundabout is a potential solution that has been discussed since neighborhood meetings were held in 2020 to discuss traffic calming. Based on resident feedback from these meetings, the City proceeded with design of traffic calming measures for the Wakefield Forest neighborhood that included the roundabout. Due to resident feedback at the time, an analysis was performed to determine if the intersection met the warrants for the installation of additional stop signs. Since the warrants were met, stop signs were installed on what was intended to be an interim basis until the traffic calming elements could be designed and constructed.

After seeing the operation of the intersection with the stop signs in place, the majority of recent resident feedback has been in support of leaving the stop signs as a permanent solution rather than installing the roundabout.

With this in mind, and considering that the intersection of Trentwood Road and Mt. Holyoke Road is functioning adequately and the stop signs are warranted, the City will **not** be installing a roundabout at this intersection with the Wakefield Forest Traffic Calming project.

Can the crosswalks at Mt. Holyoke Road and Trentwood Road be moved closer to the stop signs?

The sidewalks constructed in 2022 were designed in coordination with the Traffic Calming which included the roundabout, thus their location was set farther back. With the roundabout no longer being considered, the location of these crosswalks and ramps will be re-evaluated and adjusted if necessary.

Why won't the City install an all-way stop at Kirkley Road and Mt. Holyoke Road?

All-way stops are used at the intersection of two roadways containing similar traffic volumes. The intersection must, however, meet at least one of the

three criteria established in the Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices(OMUTCD). These criteria include items such as traffic volumes of the two intersecting streets and accident history. The intersection of Mt. Holyoke Road and Kirkley Road does not meet any of these criteria; therefore, an all-way stop cannot be installed. The intersection of Trentwood Road and Mt. Holyoke Road met the criteria established in the OMUTCD therefore an all-way stop was installed.

Adding four-way stop signs may seem like it would slow drivers down and make the streets safer, but additional stop signs do not necessarily increase safety. In fact, in some cases, especially when they are not really needed, the overuse of signs can lead to them being ignored by drivers. Studies have shown that when stop signs are placed at intersections where they are not really needed or warranted, some motorists become careless about stopping, which can lead to other motorists or pedestrians having a false sense of security.

The pedestrian crossing at Fishinger Road does not seem safe and the location does not make sense.

Having a pedestrian crossing across Fishinger Road adjacent to the Wakefield Forest neighborhood is a request that has been presented to the City in the past. With this in mind, we know that while a pedestrian crossing is desired, safety is paramount. The City is working closely with our consultant, CESO, Inc., to determine how best to accommodate a crossing and still address the safety concerns.

Will the new sidewalk on North Star Road connect to the existing sidewalk south of Zollinger Road?

While not part of the traffic calming project, the City is working on this sidewalk configuration to provide a more direct pedestrian pathway. This will include appropriate signage regarding the new crosswalk on Zollinger Road.

Will the City restrict left turns from Trentwood Road onto Northwest Boulevard?

Restricting left turns at this intersection is not being considered in this Traffic Calming Project. As with all projects, the City will continue to monitor the traffic upon completion of the project and if this restriction is warranted in the future, the City would consider implementing it.



Will similar traffic calming be installed on North Star Road as well?

The traffic calming project proposed here is the result of the City and the Kingsdale developers working with residents of the Wakefield Forest neighborhood. In the early stages of this project, the City, in conjunction with the residents and the developer, established the scope of the traffic calming needed in the neighborhood. While North Star Road is physically close to our proposed improvements, it is outside the scope of this project. The City remains open to feedback and is committed to safe streets for all of our residents.

What are the next steps?

The City is incorporating the feedback from the public meeting and will complete the design of the Traffic Calming improvements. Once complete, the project will be bid and a public meeting will be held prior to construction.

