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Mayor Dave Bronson

January 16, 2024

RE: Streets That Have Qualified for Traffic Calming Assistance (Updated with 2023 Data)

TO: Mayor Bronson, Anchorage Assembly Members, State Legislators, and Anchorage Community Councils:

The Traffic Engineering Department is pleased to provide the Community Councils with an updated list of the streets that have qualified for traffic calming assistance. This update is based on the traffic data collected in 2023.

Accompanying this cover letter is a list of street segments that were evaluated and qualified for traffic calming assistance due to the presence of significant speeding. The list is sorted based upon the Community Council area to allow members of the Councils and the public to review the data more efficiently—and to also see the results on roadways throughout the Municipality. There is also a list of streets that have been studied but did not meet the criteria to qualify for a traffic calming project.

This information is based on field-measured studies. The criteria used to determine program eligibility is an 85th percentile speed of at least 6 miles per hour over the posted speed limit and Average Daily Traffic (ADT) volume greater than or equal to approximately 500 ADT, with an allowance for engineering judgment. The 85th percentile speed is commonly used nation-wide to evaluate driver behavior. Projects that have been funded for construction were removed from the Qualified Projects list. Streets studied in 2023 that did not meet the criteria are highlighted and will be eligible for re-evaluation after three years.

This list will be posted on the Department's Traffic Calming webpage, for future reference.

It is anticipated that each Community Council will rank these proposed traffic calming projects against one another and against other Capital Improvement Priorities for their area. The Traffic Engineering Department will be available to assist the Councils in prioritizing these projects; however, it is expected that the Councils take the lead role since they are in a better position to assess the desires of the community.

The Traffic Engineering Department has included a column for our internal rankings of the severity of these problems to provide a somewhat objective measure to assist in weighing the relative merit of competing projects across the entire Municipality. These internal

rankings consider speeds, volumes, school zones, pedestrian generators, sidewalks, street lighting, and equity. In most cases, the rankings have been slightly updated from last year due to the addition of new priorities and the removal of funded projects from the list.

The Traffic Engineering Department will attempt to determine the optimal solution for each street on this list. Factors that will need to be considered in this optimal solution will include, but are not limited to; roadway classification, posted speed limit, traffic volume, existing and desired 85th percentile speeds, street width, block length, presence/absence of sidewalks and bicycle facilities, on-street parking utilization, grades, presence of pedestrian generators such as schools and parks, Muni bus routes, primary emergency access routes, collisions, history, land use, neighborhood character, economics, quality of life, and politics.

It is important to keep in mind that the Traffic Engineering Department has a minimal amount of funds that may be leveraged in the next year to address speeding on a fraction of these streets. Some of the highest priority streets will require additional capital funding to be secured to be addressed. Many of these streets will only be economically feasible to fix during the next anticipated street maintenance or reconstruction project. Some could be accelerated with grant funding to the Community Councils from the state.

The Community Councils should familiarize themselves with the streets on this list so that when a maintenance or reconstruction project is proposed by another agency in the future, they can advocate for traffic calming to be incorporated into that effort.

The Traffic Engineering Department would also like to mention projects anticipated to be completed within the next year: including installation of a

- Raised crosswalk at Lore Rd & Petersburg St near Whisper Faith Kovach Park
- Sidewalk, marked crosswalk, and lighting near Scenic Park Elementary.
- Radar speed feedback sign on Edwards St. near Ptarmigan Elementary
- Raised Crosswalk on 100th Ave near the Campbell Lake public access easement.

Please feel free to contact me with and comments, questions, or concerns.

Kristen Langley

Associate Traffic Engineer / Manager Traffic Safety Section

CC:

Mayor Dave Bronson
Municipal Manager Kent Kohlhase

District 1 Assembly Member Christopher Constant

District 1 Assembly Member Daniel Volland
District 2 Assembly Member Kevin Cross
District 2 Assembly Member Scott Myers
District 3 Assembly Member Anna Brawley

District 3 Assembly Member Kameron Perez-Verdia

District 4 Assembly Member

District 4 Assembly Member

District 5 Assembly Member

District 5 Assembly Member

District 5 Assembly Member

District 6 Assembly Member

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Airport Heights Community Council Chair Chelsea Ward-Waller

Basher Community Council Chair

Bayshore Community Council Chair

Bear Valley Community Council Chair

Birchwood Community Council Chair

Cheri Lipps

Debbie Ossiander

Campbell Park Community Council Chair

Nicole Cupp

Chugiak Community Council Chair

Downtown Community Council Chair

Eagle River Community Council Chair

Eagle River Valley Community Council Chair

Eklutna Valley Community Council Chair

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Hillside Community Council Chair Carmela Warfield

Huffman/O'Malley Community Council Chair

Midtown Community Council Chair

Mountain View Community Council Chair

North Star Community Council Chair

Northeast Community Council Chair

Northeast Community Council Chair

Northeast Community Council Chair

Ron Meehan

Old Seward/Oceanview Community Council Chair

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Portage Valley Community Council Chair

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Sand Lake Community Council Chair Liz Vazquez Scenic Foothills Community Council Chair **Daniel Clift** John Thurber South Addition Community Council Chair South Fork Community Council Chair Stephen Romanelli Spenard Community Council Chair Meg Mielke Taku/Campbell Community Council Chair Sarah Alexander **Tod Butler Tudor Area Community Council Chair** Turnagain Community Council Chair Vacant

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House District 16 Representative Jennifer Armstrong

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House District 19 Representative Genevieve Mina House District 20 Representative Andrew Grav House District 21 Representative **Donna Mears** House District 22 Representative Stanley Wright House District 23 Representative Jamie Allard House District 24 Representative Dan Saddler District E Senator Cathy Giessel District F Senator James Kaufman District G Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson Matt Claman District H Senator District I Senator Loki Tobin District J Senator Forrest Dunbar District K Senator Bill Wielechowski

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