

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Roger L. Stancil, Town Manager

FROM: Lance Norris, Public Works Director  
Kumar Neppalli, Engineering Services Manager

SUBJECT: Response to a Petition Concerning Several Traffic Engineering Matters in Southern Village

DATE: November 23, 2009

### PURPOSE

This report is in response to a petition from a citizen concerning several traffic engineering matters in the Southern Village neighborhood. Please see the area map provided in Attachment 1.

Enactment of the attached ordinance would authorize installation of all-way stop control at the intersection of Edgewater Circle and Graylyn Drive.

Town staff will install the stop signs and high visibility crosswalks if approved. The Town will hire a private contractor to install the raised crosswalk on Aberdeen Drive.

### BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

At its October 12, 2009 meeting, the Town Council received and referred a petition (Attachment 2) from a citizen requesting the following items:

- 1) Installation of a raised crosswalk at the existing mid-block crosswalk on Aberdeen Drive;
- 2) Installation of all-way stop control at the intersection of Edgewater Circle and Graylyn Drive; and
- 3) Installation of high visibility crosswalks at the intersections of Edgewater Circle/Graylyn Drive and Edgewater Circle/Brookgreen Drive.

Staff responses and recommendations to the above requests are provided below.

- 1) Installation of a raised crosswalk at the existing mid-block crosswalk on Aberdeen Drive:  
The existing mid-block crosswalk on Aberdeen Drive is used by many school children. The crosswalk is located on a greenway and is also used by many walkers in the area. We agree with the petitioner that installation of a raised crosswalk may increase visibility for pedestrians. The raised crosswalk is expected to cost approximately \$4,500.

- 2) Installation of all-way stop control at the intersection of Edgewater Circle and Graylyn Drive: Edgewater Circle and Graylyn Drive are maintained by the Town and the posted speed limit is 25 mph on both streets. Edgewater Circle is designated as a “through” street at its intersection with Graylyn Drive, and vehicles currently continue through the intersection without being required to stop. Graylyn Drive is designated as a “stop” street, and vehicles are required to stop at the existing stop sign before continuing through the intersection. Town staff visited the site and evaluated conditions at different times of the day. We observed approximately equal traffic volume entering the subject intersections from all directions. We also observed a significant number of school-age children using the nearby bus stops and crossing the intersection in the morning and afternoon.

Town policy for the placement of stop signs and assignment of speed limits (Attachment 3) provides guidance and consistency in responding to requests for the installation of stop signs and the assignment of speed limits on public streets.

We considered the stop sign request at the intersection of Edgewater Circle and Graylyn Drive in terms of the following criteria outlined in the Council’s policy:

#7) Intersection with existing irregular stop sign placement, where additional sign(s) would improve safety.

We think that the installation of the requested stop signs could mitigate potential conflicts and confusion for vehicular traffic, and could improve pedestrian safety at and in the vicinity of these intersections.

- 3) Installation of high visibility crosswalks at the intersections of Edgewater Circle/Graylyn Drive and Edgewater Circle/Brookgreen Drive: These intersections are heavily used by the school children. We think that the visibility of the pedestrians can be increased by installing the high visibility crosswalks at the requested locations.

## **CONCLUSION**

We think that the installation of the requested raised crosswalk, stop signs, and high visibility crosswalks could mitigate potential conflicts for vehicular traffic and could improve pedestrian safety at and in the vicinity of these intersections. If the additional stop signs are authorized by the Council, we would include “Stop Ahead” warning signs and stop bars on all approaches to the intersection.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

We recommend that the Council enact the attached ordinance authorizing installation of all-way stop control at the intersection of Edgewater Circle and Graylyn Drive.

Town staff will install the stop signs and high visibility crosswalks if approved. The Town will hire a private contractor to install the raised crosswalk on Aberdeen Drive.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Area Map (p. 5).
2. Petition (p. 6).
3. Town's Policy on Placement of Stop Signs (p. 7).