



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: James Webster, Interim Chief of Police
Date: March 24, 2023
Ref: Presentation – Traffic Update - Pritchard Street

BACKGROUND:

The residents in the 100-200 block of Pritchard Street have made the City aware of traffic concerns on their street. On February 27, 2023, several residents came before the Council and voiced their worries over safety issues. These concerns have been anecdotally confirmed by the Council and law enforcement by visual observation.

A traffic study on Pritchard Street was requested.

ANALYSIS:

The portion of Pritchard Street in question lies in the 100-200 block. The northern end of the road intersects with Main Street and the southern leg intersects with West Church Street. It appears as though individuals are utilizing this portion of Pritchard Street as a cut through from North Hughes Blvd. to West Ehringaus Street.

The Police Department conducted a traffic study on Pritchard Street from 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 9, 2023 to 8:59 a.m. on Thursday, March 16, 2023.

The counter was positioned at 213 Pritchard Street, facing north towards southbound traffic.

The data revealed the following information:

1. Speed Limit= 25 mph
2. Average Speed= 26.00 mph

3. 85th Percentile for speed= 31.0 mph
4. 85th Percentile vehicle count= 9,305
5. Total vehicle count- 10,947 (Incoming 5,997) (Outgoing 4,950)

Average daily peak time= 0700-0800 am 400-500 pm

Vehicle Size= Small	160	1.5%
Medium	10649	97.3%
Large	138	1.3%

What is the 85th percentile for speed?

The 85th Percentile is the maximum speed that 85% of drivers will not exceed on a given road if there were no stop signs, speed limits, or traffic signals. It's seen as the safest speed on the roadway because 85% of the vehicles are naturally at that speed or below it. The majority of drivers drive safely because it is in their own self-interest to remain safe.

After reviewing the data, we can conclude that we have two issues with traffic on Pritchard Street.

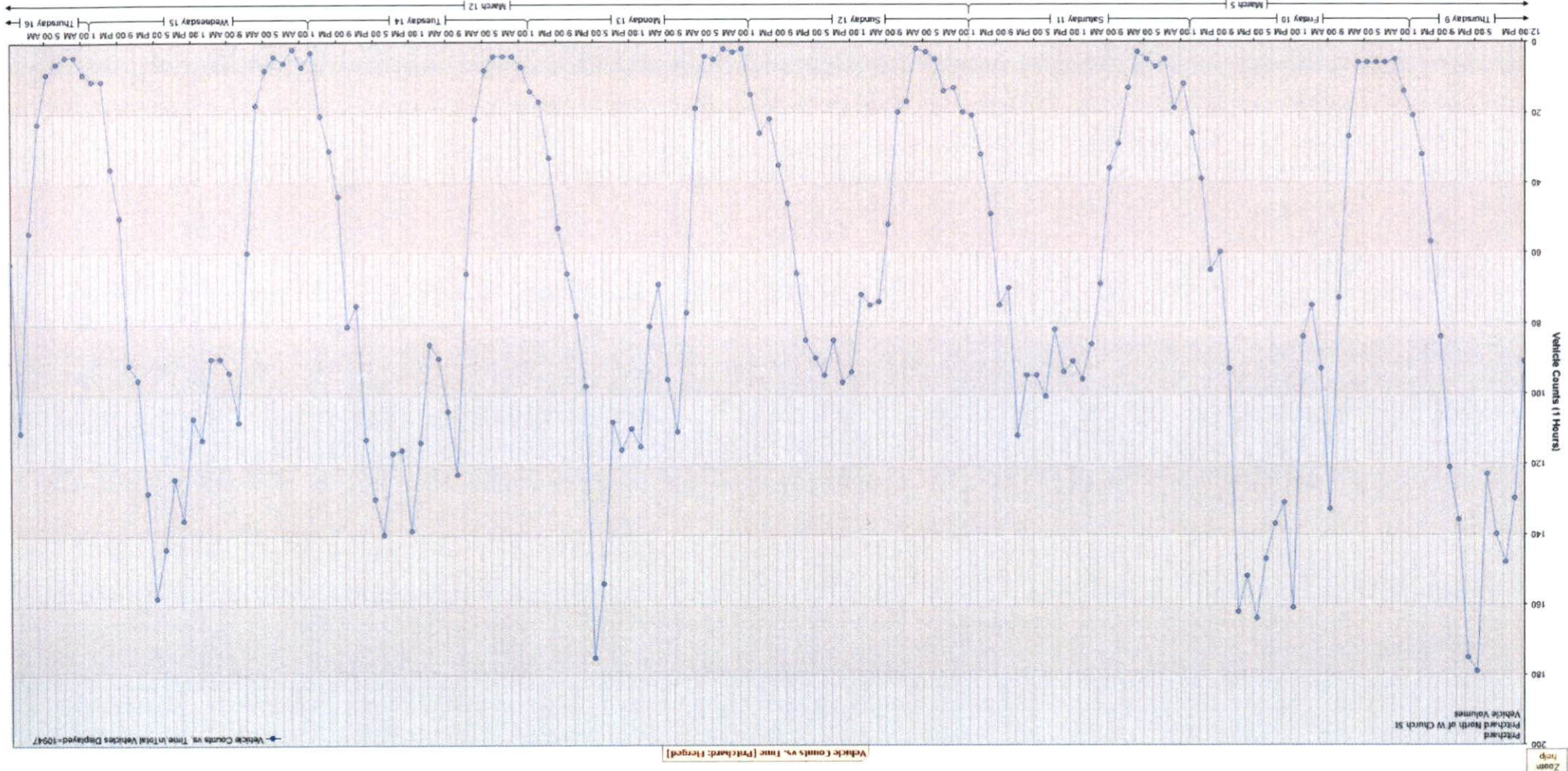
1. The data supports that most vehicle operators (85%) feel comfortable driving on Pritchard Street at 6 mph over the posted speed limit. Although 6 mph over the speed limit is speeding, it normally would not constitute a speeding violation for citation purposes.
2. The second issue is one of volume. The study revealed that Pritchard Street is used as a cut-through street from North Hughes Blvd. to Ehringaus Street. The data revealed that nearly 11,000 vehicles including 138 large trucks traveled on Pritchard Street in a one-week period.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This presentation is to furnish Mayor and Council with accurate data for decision-making purposes. The above mentioned traffic issues on Pritchard Street (speed and volume), will require design change and/or traffic calming measures to influence speed and volume.

Our traffic calming policy indicates several traffic calming treatments from road markings to raised crosswalks. After consulting the policy, it would appear that a speed lump would be the most appropriate treatment. Speed lumps are similar to speed

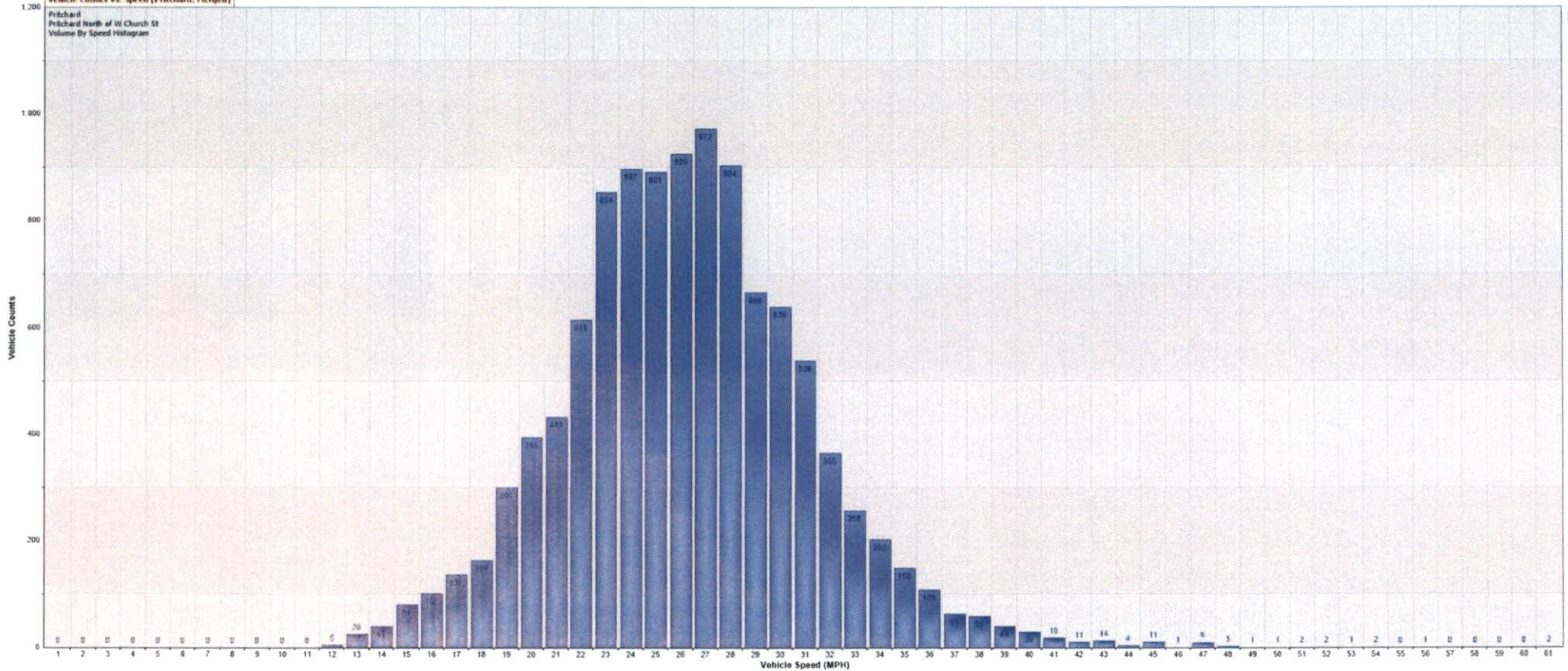
humps with the exception of allowing emergency traffic to traverse without reducing speed. Speed lumps aid in speed reduction and reducing cut through traffic.



Vehicle Counts Vs. Speed [Pritchard: Herged]

Pritchard
Pritchard North of W Church St
Volume By Speed Histogram

10,947 Counts



Percentile Counts Vs. Speed for [Pritchard: Hinged]

Pritchard
Pritchard North of W Church St
85th Pct Speed=31.0 MPH
Vehicles in data=19947
3/9/2023 10:00:00 AM to 3/16/2023 8:59:59 AM

