



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Montre' Freeman, City Manager
J. Phillip Webster, Interim Chief of Police

Date: April 21, 2023

Subject: Update - West Church Street Traffic Calming Community Meeting

BACKGROUND:

The residents in the 1200-1300 block of West Church Street made the City aware of traffic concerns on their street. Elected officials and City staff observed the traffic conditions and made anecdotal analysis. As a result, the police department conducted a traffic study on West Church Street from 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023 to 9:59 a.m. on Monday, March 27, 2023.

The result of this traffic study was presented to the Council on Monday, April 10, 2023. At that time, the department was directed to initiate a community meeting for the residents of the affected area of West Church Street. This meeting was in accordance with the Elizabeth City Neighborhood Traffic Calming Policy and Guidelines.

ANALYSIS:

On Thursday, April 13, 2023, Elizabeth City PD officers walked West Church Street and handed out notices of a community meeting to discuss potential traffic calming measures on West Church Street.

On Monday, April 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., community members, elected officials, and staff members of Elizabeth City met at Pete Hooker Park. In total, 23 community members participated in the discussion. Of the community members, 10 lived in the affected area of West Church Street, and the remaining 13 lived in other areas. The general consensus of those living in the affected area of West Church was the need for traffic calming measures. We also heard suggestions of increased traffic enforcement,

Police Department
City of Elizabeth City, P. O. Box 347, Elizabeth City, NC 27907-0347
Phone: (252) 335-4321 – Fax (252) 338-0128

and utilizing a speed table. Others voiced concerns of the calming devices increasing spill over traffic on other residential roads, use of inaccurate data, and the use of the wrong type of calming device. In addition, concerns were brought to our attention about noise concerns and the need to look at additional streets and intersections for appropriate signage.

Staff recommends moving forward with the installation of speed humps and/or lumps on West Church Street. These two treatments are the most appropriate given the goal of traffic calming on West Church Street. Speed humps in particular, are designed to reduce speed and cut through traffic. Speed lumps offer the same result but allow emergency equipment i.e., fire apparatus, to straddle the devices.

We also recommend the installation of appropriate signage and striping as deemed appropriate by Public Works.

The project will be reevaluated in six months to determine the effectiveness of the traffic calming treatments.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

For direction by the Council.



1200-1300 BLOCK W CHURCH ST, TRAFFIC STUDY

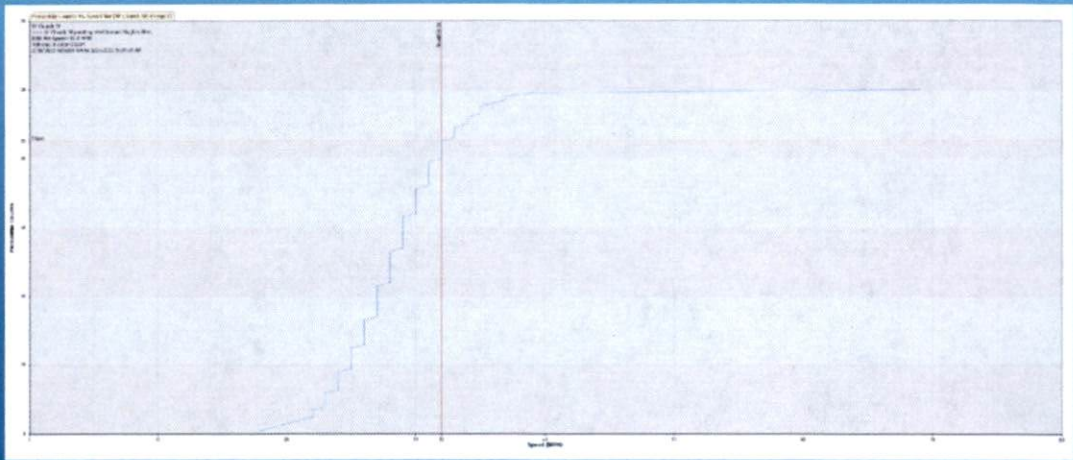
Monday, March 20, 2023- Monday, March 27,
2023.

1. Speed Limit= 25 mph
2. Average Speed= 28 mph
3. 85th Percentile for speed= 32.0 mph
4. 85th Percentile vehicle count= 18,117
5. Total vehicle count= 21,314 (Incoming 10,807) (Outgoing 10,507)

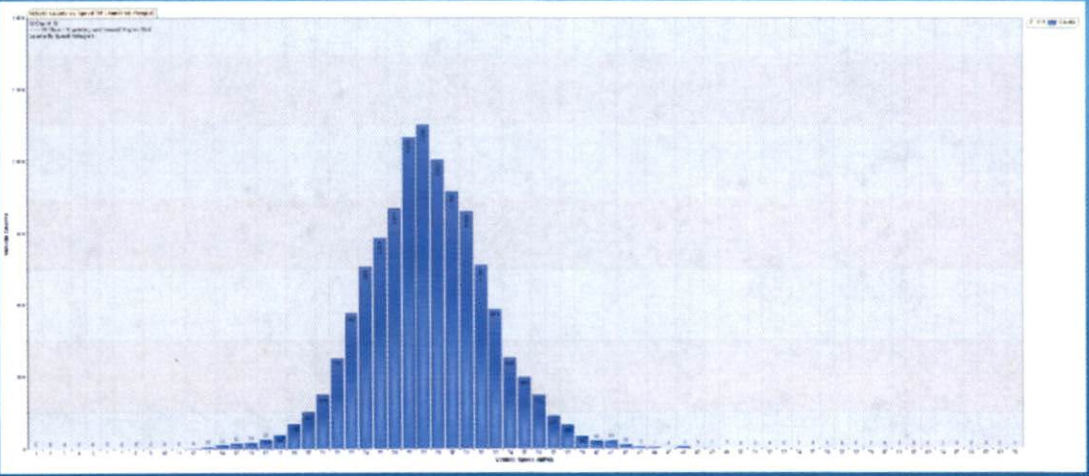
Average daily peak time= 1100-1200 am 400-500 pm

| | | |
|---------------------|-------|-------|
| Vehicle Size= Small | 121 | 0.6% |
| Medium | 20868 | 97.9% |
| Large | 325 | 1.5% |

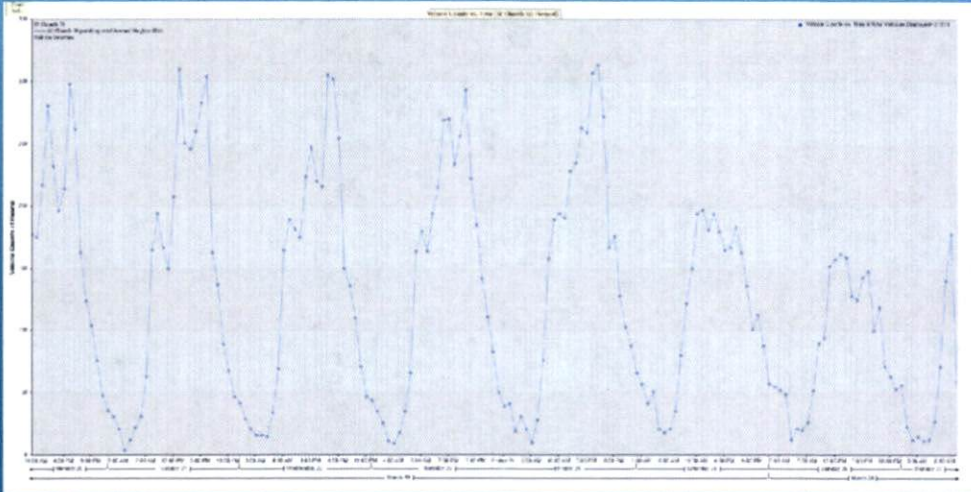
ANALYSIS



85TH PERCENTILE FOR SPEED



VEHICLE COUNT VS SPEED



VEHICLE COUNT VS TIME