1/29/2020 Zimbra

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County street improvements

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Subject: County street improvements

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All,

Great news! The County has chosen Howard Ave to use as their pilot for creating a traffic calming program!

They currently do not do traffic calming on County streets, but would like to have a means of doing so for the many streets that need speeds reduced for safety. They expect to install speed cushions like those on North Park (which is a City-owned street in the segment with speed cushions), which are designed to be compatible with buses and emergency vehicles. Part of the reason they are starting with Howard is that Maxwell provides an alternative route and because of the proximity to schools. There are no funds identified for the project at present, so there is not currently a timeline. I'll keep you posted. The County will be looking to 4J and our families for support, as they expect there will be a minority of people unhappy with the change and hope to have a base of support for the project.

On a related note of improvements in the area, the County will soon begin outreach for the design of an improved crossing of Maxwell Ave at North Park and a short segment of sidewalk on the east side of North Park between Maxwell and Howard. This project is funded and is scheduled to be built in the summer of 2021.

Together, these improvements will continue to chip away at the lack of facilities for students using active transportation for their trips to Howard, Kelly and North. I'm still working hard to get a sidewalk on one side of Howard Ave and a separated space on Grove St for students to walk to school. The County is open to both and it's a matter of funding and their capacity to deliver the projects. Please be in touch if you'd like to discuss any of this.

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