

Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street Traffic Calming

Feedback Report - Engagement Summary
July 27, 2023



Contents

Contents	2
1 Engagement Summary	3
1.1 City Project Team	3
2 Summary of Engagement Activities.....	4
2.1 Public Drop-in Session	4
2.2 Online Survey.....	4
2.3 Email and Phone Correspondence	5
2.4 Marketing Techniques	5
3 Summary of Feedback	5
3.1 The main themes from engagement included:.....	6
4 Limitations.....	6
5 Next Steps	7

1 Engagement Summary

To address ongoing speeding concerns on Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street, the City engaged with the community to gather input on proposed additional calming measures.

The Silverwood Heights Neighborhood Traffic Review (NTR) was completed in 2018 and identified a number of traffic calming measures in the Silverwood Heights neighborhood. To address speeding concerns, horizontal traffic calming measures (median islands and curb extensions) were installed on both Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street. Recent traffic data and ongoing resident concerns indicate speeding is still an issue for both streets.

Both roadways are major collector streets located within the Silverwood Heights neighbourhood. Proposed traffic calming measures include the addition of temporary median islands and curb extensions, making several temporary median extensions and median islands permanent, and installing speed cushions.

The community and identified stakeholders who may be affected by the proposed additional traffic calming measures were invited to provide feedback through an online survey and in-person open house meeting. The results of this engagement will inform the project plan by providing resident concerns and comments on the proposed traffic calming measures.

1.1 City Project Team

Mariniel Flores-Vongkhamchanh
Brandi Gartner
Karen Grant

Project Manager
Public Engagement Consultant
Marketing Consultant

2 Summary of Engagement Activities

The objective of this engagement was to **inform** and **consult** with residents about the proposed traffic calming measures on Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street. Specific engagement goals included:

- Develop and maintain positive relationships with the community and stakeholder groups.
- Follow the City of Saskatoon's Public Engagement Principles.
- Gather feedback on the potential traffic calming measures intended to reduce speeding on Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street.
- Provide clear and transparent communication about project timelines, how the process may impact stakeholders and partners, and how input was used to influence the project.

Engagement activities for the Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street traffic calming project included an Engage webpage that hosted project information and updates, an online survey for residents, and an in-person public open house event. Flyers were delivered to residents in the Silverwood neighbourhood with information about the open house event held on May 25, 2023, information about the project, and a link to the online survey. Overall, feedback was received from approximately 205 residents through the survey, emails, and conversations with the project team.

2.1 Public Drop-in Session

An in-person public open house session was held on Thursday, May 25, 2023 in the Brownell School gymnasium. The intended audience for the open house was residents who would likely be most impacted by proposed traffic calming measures on Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street. The open house details and flyer were posted on the project's Engage webpage, so interested members of the public outside of the local neighbourhood could access the invitation.

This come-and-go session enabled residents to talk with City staff to ask questions and provide feedback on the proposed measures. Paper copies of the public survey were also available at the event.

During the session, 19 community members attended and 10 provided feedback through the paper version of the survey. Feedback during the open house ranged from requesting further understanding of the proposed traffic calming measures, clarification on the next steps for the project, and access to alternative methods to provide feedback (other than the paper or online survey methods).

2.2 Online Survey

Administration conducted a self-administered online survey from May 10, 2023 to June 30, 2023.

The intended audience included those who would likely be most affected by proposed traffic calming measures along Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street. Stakeholders include those who live directly on the two roadways as well as surrounding streets that connect directly to Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street. A link to the online survey was available on the project's Engage webpage, allowing interested members of the public outside of the direct neighbourhood with access to the survey.

2.3 Email and Phone Correspondence

The project's Engage webpage includes contact information for site visitors to send comments or ask questions directly with the project team. There were five emails and one letter received from residents and five phone calls. The majority of correspondence were in favour of slowing traffic and several mentioned safety concerns, but they expressed concerns about the cost and winter maintenance with the use of horizontal calming measures.

2.4 Marketing Techniques

The survey was promoted through neighbourhood flyers, the City's social media, as well as the project's Engage webpage. Additionally, posters with a QR code linking to the online survey were posted at 28 neighbourhood mailboxes.

3 Summary of Feedback

A total of 191 survey responses were received (181 through the online survey form and an additional 10 paper surveys completed during the come-and-go open house session).

In terms of respondents' residence, the distribution was as follows:

- Live on Adilman Drive/Goerzen Street 24% (45)
- Live in Silverwood Heights Neighbourhood 68% (130)
- Live in another neighbourhood in Saskatoon 7% (14)
- Other (blank) 1% (2)

Participants were mixed in their support of the proposed traffic calming measures. A majority of residents living in the Silverwood Heights neighbourhood had some concerns with the proposed traffic calming measures for Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street. 60% identified that they had concerns with the measures proposed for Adilman Drive while 49% indicated they were concerned with the measures proposed for Goerzen Street. Overall support for the recommendations was identified for Adilman Drive (33%) and Goerzen Street (41%).

Concerns were heard regarding winter maintenance, the effectiveness of horizontal and vertical traffic calming measures, impacts to emergency response, damage to vehicles, and cost. Support for traffic calming measures included safety, reduced vehicle noise, and better movement/turning in the neighbourhood. Residents of Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street were slightly more likely to believe that safety and traffic speed was a concern.

A significant portion of participants provided alternative recommendations including better signage for drivers and pedestrians, enhanced enforcement and periodic speed traps, and additional locations along the roadways to install traffic calming. Additional themes from comments are detailed below.

3.1 The main themes from engagement included:

Safety

The top theme noted by participants who supported the traffic calming measures was neighbourhood safety. Respondents identified pedestrian safety, difficulty turning, reported near misses and potential accidents in their responses as reasons for supporting traffic calming. Feedback from residents living on Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street provided slightly greater support for recommended traffic calming due to safety concerns when compared to responses from residents representing Silverwood Heights or other neighbourhoods. Additional locations to install traffic calming for increased safety were identified by several residents.

Several respondents noted that they supported vertical measures rather than the horizontal recommendations, indicating that they do not believe that horizontal measures work or that vertical measures are more effective. Alternatively, there were a high number of respondents who oppose the recommendations, specifically the vertical measures, referencing further safety concerns during winter driving and reduced sight lines.

Alternative Recommendations (enforcement, signage, etc.)

Several responses described residents' frustration with the recommended traffic calming measures, identifying their preference for alternative measures. Several residents recommended speed cameras and enforcement, such as speed traps, as more targeted speed control measures. Others recommended walk lights and other signage to support safety. Additional comments included the street design as a contributing factor to speeds, noting that the width of the street promotes faster traffic.

Winter Maintenance Concerns

Many respondents expressed concern for challenges posed by the proposed traffic calming measures for street maintenance, particularly for winter snow removal. Residents who identified road maintenance concerns identified safety concerns when maneuvering horizontal traffic calming measures during icy conditions. They also identified the increased challenges for snow removal and additional costs for replacing temporary traffic calming measures.

Other Concerns

Several respondents commented that permanent traffic calming creates inconvenience and potential vehicle damage for the majority of road users as a solution to slowing a smaller number of drivers who speed. Additional concerns regarding vertical traffic calming measures include the potential for slowing emergency response times by police, ambulance and fire. Bike safety was raised as a concern where horizontal traffic calming measures require bikes to merge with vehicle traffic. Noise concerns were mentioned both in support of measures that could result in lowering racing and motorcycle noise but also unsupportive where vertical traffic calming measures would increase braking and noise from large vehicles.

4 Limitations

This engagement was focused on the residents of Silverwood Heights, focusing on Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street, as follow up to the initial engagement and recommendations from the Neighbourhood Traffic Review process. Surrounding neighbourhoods and other stakeholders may have an interest in traffic calming in general.

Both online and in-person options were offered as part of this engagement process to try and accommodate participation. Some residents may not have been comfortable or available to attend the in-person engagement session. Some participants may have limited access to internet or technology that presented challenges in completing the online survey.

5 Next Steps

A summary of engagement results will be shared with the Project Team to determine next steps for traffic calming along Adilman Drive and Goerzen Street.