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Subject: Speeding Problem on Portland Avenue

I have resided in the 1400 block of Portland Avenue for over 25 years. I can attest to the fact that speeding on our street has Always been a problem, even before our population explosion. Certainly, it has only grown worse over the years. I have witnessed six collisions within 100 yards of my home, including a T-bone and a rollover. I estimate that those who exceed the speed limit of 25 mph Easily reach 40-50 mph. Evenings are especially hazardous as our street is dark and poorly lit.

During this time frame, I have met several times with City of Bend traffic officials concerning this serious problem. No action was ever taken. Bend Police do occasionally patrol our street on weekdays. I have observed that some of the highest speeds seem to occur during times of less traffic which is primarily early mornings, evenings & weekends. However, the Bend Police dept.explained to me that during those times they do not have the resources for our street as they are occupied with more important issues.

Last fall, street & traffic officials and consultants held an informative event at a local school. They presented a comprehensive plan to address these problems and invited those residents in attendance to ask questions and offer our own thoughts and comments. While we were disappointed that the addition of speed bumps would not be considered, we were encouraged that, it appeared, at least something would be done. Regarding speed bumps, we were advised that emergency response vehicles needed an unencumbered roadway. Never mind that from our experience, the primary route for emergency response vehicles is Newport Avenue, not Portland Avenue. We also pointed out that Olney Avenue (Portland Avenues extension east of Wall St.-a direct route to the hospital) has speed bumps; the justification for those deterrents was that they were installed prior to the current traffic congestion.

Of the list of things noted in the plan at last falls event, only two have been implemented and only one of those is still in place. Improvement #1: We understood that permanent speed radar signs would be placed at strategic locations; instead, they were in place just a short time and then they disappeared. Improvement #2: Make the roadway appear narrower by eliminating parking on the north side of the street and add a bike lane. The result however, I believe, with the newly painted bike lane & symbols, has made the roadway appear Wider and it seems to encourage even Greater speeding.

Is it going to take a fatality for the City of Bend to take real action to address this problem? Has Portland Avenue once again been passed by for the multitude of perhaps more 'glamorous' projects? How can I support a \$190 million transportation bond with this poor track record?

It is not just my opinion but many of my neighbors as well, we are all in agreement....put in speed bumps! It's not rocket science but a relatively easy and cost effective way to slow down speeding drivers.....it would work! Oh-and regarding the Olney Avenue speed bump justification, during the summer of 2019 those very same speed deterrents were removed during roadwork And replaced with an upgraded design.at an increased cost, no doubt.

I look forward to a response to my concerns regarding this long-term, on-going and worsening problem.

Thank you.

Randal Noyes