MEETING DATE: 3/27/2024

ITEM NO: 3

ADDENDUM

DATE: March 26, 2025

TO: Complete Streets and Transportation Commission

FROM: Nicolle Burnham, Parks and Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Blossom Hill Road Traffic Improvement Summary of Improvements

(Attachment)

REMARKS:

Attachment 1 contains public comment received before 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.

Attachment Received with this Addendum:

1. Public Comment

PREPARED BY: Nicolle Burnham

Parks & Public Works Director

From: Janki Bhatt

Sent: Sunday, March 23, 2025 10:31 PM

To: Nicolle Burnham < NBurnham@losgatosca.gov >

Subject: Re: Blossom Hill Rd speed limit

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Thank you for your response, Nicole, we have noticed the reduced speeds have been posted again and couldn't be happier!

For the upcoming CSTC meeting on Thursday, March 26th, 2025, we wanted to submit some additional hazardous traffic situations in the adjacent areas, with the hopes that this helps bring awareness to the risks and CSTC can take these into consideration as part of making our community safer for cars, cyclists and pedestrians around Blossom Hill Park and Blossom Hill Elementary School along the Walk 'n Roll Suggested School Route.

First of all, we would like to thank you for the traffic improvements near Blossom Hill Elementary school and Blossom Hill Park that were made last year. We live on Old Blossom Hill Rd and have noticed that the improvements have been very effective in slowing down traffic during school hours and making the roads to school safer for our children, cars and cyclists. As residents in this area, and parents who walk our child to school everyday, we appreciate the Town's efforts in fixing the safety issues along school routes.

Seeing how much of a difference the improvement has made in the general safety of the area, we would like to bring awareness to the following additional safety concerns in the areas adjacent to this improvement project, which are part of the Walk 'n Roll Suggested School Routes, and have mainly children walking/biking to school:

- 1. We have observed drivers zoom onto Old Blossom Hill Rd from Blossom Hill Rd with a last minute change of lanes from Blossom Hill Rd (marked in red) instead of using the "right turn only" lane starting at Atwood Ct, and also not adhering to the reduced speed limit of 25 MPH on Old Blossom Hill Rd. This creates unsafe areas in the residential community on Old Blossom Hill Rd as well as for cyclists in the bike lane along eastbound Blossom Hill Rd. The sign indicating the right only lane starts before Atwood Ct, which most people don't notice. (See example of this in Video 1) Suggestion: Putting in lane dividers for the right only lane from Atwood Ct would help prevent last minute lane changes and sharp blind left turns onto Old Blossom Hill Rd, potentially preventing this hazardous situation to cars, bikers and pedestrians. Additionally, adding a speed bump on Old Blossom Hill Rd would prevent speeding in this residential zone.
- 2. We have frequently observed cars making sharp blind left turns from westbound Blossom Hill Rd onto eastbound Old Blossom Hill Rd (marked in yellow), causing dangerous situations for vehicles and bikes from oncoming eastbound traffic on Blossom Hill Rd as well as westbound traffic from Old Blossom Hill Rd merging onto Blossom Hill Rd (as seen in the intersection between the pink, purple and yellow arrows overlapping with the bike lane. See examples of this in Videos 3 and 4). Suggestion: Putting in lane dividers at the junction of Old Blossom Hill and Blossom Hill Rd and adding a "No Left Turn" sign on Blossom Hill Rd for the Westbound traffic to turn onto Old Blossom Hill Rd could potentially prevent this hazardous situation. Additionally, we would like the CSTC to consider the option of closing this entry point of Old Blossom Hill Rd altogether, as there is another entrance where Linda Ave and Old Blossom Hill Rd intersect with Blossom Hill Rd, which is a much safer junction.
- 3. We have observed cars making a left turn at very high speeds, sometimes not stopping at the stop sign while turning left from Old Blossom Hill Rd onto westbound Blossom Hill Rd (marked in pink) creating unsafe situations especially with eastbound and westbound traffic on Blossom Hill Rd, and due to the sharp angle to view westbound traffic on Blossom Hill Rd (as seen in the intersection between the pink, purple and blue arrows overlapping with the bike lane. See examples of this in Videos 2 and 5).
- 4. There are no signals or stop signs on Blossom Hill Rd between Union Rd and the Hillbrook Rd crosswalk, which is more than a mile long stretch. This is one of the reasons in our observation which is causing people to speed during non-traffic hours once the school zone ends, both eastbound and westbound. Traffic congestion during school drop-off hours has helped prevent speeding for westbound traffic, but people still speed on the eastbound side after the Hillbrook crosswalk, creating unsafe conditions even during traffic hours along the Walk 'n Roll Suggested School Route. We would encourage the CSTC to come up with a way to enforce speed limits, either by adding speed bumps, stop signs, speed traps or cameras.



We have attached some videos capturing all of the above hazardous situations to help highlight the concerns mentioned above.

- Video 1 shows someone circumventing the right only lane and driving in the bike lane trying to enter Old Blossom Hill Rd while there were cars on both sides of the Old Blossom Hill Rd, creating an unsafe situation especially with a pedestrian walking their dog.
- · Video 2 shows the green pickup truck speeding while turning left onto Blossom Hill Rd from Old Blossom Hill Rd.
- Video 3 shows a westbound truck on Biossom Hill Rd taking a sharp blind left turn onto the wrong lane of Old Blossom Hill Rd.
- · Video 4 shows another westbound vehicle on Blossom Hill Rd taking a sharp bling left turn onto Old Blossom Hill Rd.
- Video 5 shows a vehicle not stopping at the stop sign on Old Blossom Hill Rd while turning left onto westbound Blossom Hill Rd.

As you can see in the videos, all of the above described conditions create very unsafe situations for cyclists, cars and pedestrians in the area, and we kindly request the CSTC to consider solutions for the safety of this area as it is part of the Walk 'n Roll Suggested School Route and many children (including our own) walk/bike to Blossom Hill Elementary and Raymond Fisher Middle School on these roads.

We appreciate your consideration, and we look forward to appropriate actions to make this town a safer place! Please let us know if you would need any additional information/videos, or if you would like to use any of the attached for any published public record.

Thanks, Janki Bhatt & Gaurang Upasani