

02/02/2023

HPRB Meeting

Valley Street Traffic Calming Discussion Notes

- Resident states he believes there are two issues he wished to address on the topic. One being that most people that he sees are distracted on their phones, texting, etc. The other issue the resident had was with the data that was recorded by the police department. He states that even though the average recorded speed on Valley Street was relatively low, there are two times during the day that traffic on the street is brought to a standstill, which he believes causes the average radar speed to be brought down. He states that the February 2022 data shows that there was more speeding on Valley Street, because there were more police on the street checking for speeding during that time.
- Resident states he believes there is a large disparity between where on Valley Street you record the speed data, and also what time they were recorded.
- Resident reiterates the previous point that he sees many drivers on their phone while driving. He also states that he believes making the crosswalks more visible would help decrease speeds on Valley Street. He also suggests using signs to direct travelers towards exit 14 instead of Valley Street.
- Resident states that she walks on Valley Street regularly and would like to see another crosswalk installed. She also would like to see more police enforcement on Valley Street between Russell Road and Cummings Street.
- Resident states that her car has been hit two separate times while parked on Valley Street. She states that she believes that larger trucks are a root of the problem. She would like to see more police enforcement of vehicle standards given in Virginia state law as well as Abingdon town code. She also suggests that town staff coordinate with apple maps, google maps, etc. to reroute traffic away from Valley Street.
- Resident states that she would like to see all crosswalks include curb extensions to offer more visibility of pedestrians trying to cross the street.
- Resident states that the area between Russell Road and Cummings Street tends to have a lot of speeding.
- Resident suggests creating a bypass around Abingdon in the future and allowing Main Street and Valley Street to be walkable streets with bicycles and golf carts as acceptable modes of transportation.
- Resident suggests that whatever mitigation techniques the town decides to use, those techniques are applied to the entire street instead of just a few specific sections.