



UPPER MORELAND POLICE

300 Block of Forest Avenue

Speed Study

June 2020

Initial Complaint:

A collective of residents contacted the Township Manager's office regarding a concern for high rates of speed along the roadway.

Description of Area:

Forest Avenue is a local roadway that is restricted to 25 MPH. There are two sections of Forest Avenue. The section that the speed study was conducted runs from Division Avenue to Silver Avenue. This section of roadway is approximately 1,400-feet long and 30-feet wide with residential houses lining both sides of the street. Sidewalks are present on both sides of the street. This section of Forest Avenue rests between two sweeping curves in the roadway. Parking is authorized on both sides of the street.

Data Gathering Method:

Speed/volume counters were placed on the 300-block of Forest Avenue. Crash data was gathered and evaluated for a five-year period.

Hazardous Factors:

Evaluating the speed of vehicles, the volume of traffic, and the total number of crashes assists in determining the level of response necessary to address the public safety concern.

The speed of vehicles using this section of Forest Avenue indicated that 0.00% of vehicles met the threshold for enforcement. The 85th percentile speed for vehicles on this section of Forest Avenue is 16.63 MPH.

During the study period, 1,001 vehicles traveled on this section of Forest Avenue.

Crash reports do not indicate that there is an existing public safety hazard on this section of roadway.

Analysis:

At this time, speeding is not an issue on this section of Forest Avenue. The average speed is 14.06 MPH. The maximum speed obtained from the study was 31 MPH which is below the threshold of enforcement. The majority of residents that expressed concern for speed reside



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on or near the curve in the roadway. When standing along the roadway near the curve, it limits the observers sight distance. A vehicle traveling at the speed limit of 25 MPH is moving at 36.65 feet per second. These vehicles are perceived by the observer to be traveling at a greater speed due to the lack of sight to observe the vehicle coming from a distance. Allowing parking on both sides of the street likely creates a funnel like effect that actually decreases the speed of most vehicles that travel along the roadway.

Response:

This location does not require enhanced patrol at this time for speed enforcement or any changes in the roadway.