

Government of the District of Columbia

Department of Transportation



Wednesday, February 12, 2020

Ms. Silvia Pinkney

Re: Traffic Safety Assessment: T Street, NE between Lincoln Road and 2nd Street, NE

Dear Ms. Pinkney,

Thank you for your request for a traffic safety assessment in the 100 block of T Street NE between Lincoln Road NE and Summit Place NE. This letter summarizes the results of a study conducted by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to understand the extent of the issues identified in the request and to determine if the issues warrant mitigation of existing conditions. The findings of the study are summarized in the following sections.

Basis of Study

A traffic engineering evaluation of the study block of T Street NE and surrounding area was conducted utilizing DDOT's traffic engineering and traffic calming criteria, which were established from nationally-recognized standards and practice, including guidance from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Factors considered in this evaluation include traffic volume, crash statistics, roadway geometry, vehicle parking maneuvers, pedestrian use, and the overall operating conditions of the study area.

Multiple sources of data were reviewed as part of this investigation. Field observations were performed during school arrival and dismissal on Thursday, January 9, 2020. Vehicle speed and volume data were collected mid-block along the 100 block of T Street NE and the unit block of R Street NE for a period of 48 consecutive hours beginning at 12:00 AM on December 4, 2019. Additionally, turning movement counts were performed at the intersections Lincoln Road NE with R Street NE and T Street NE on December 17, 2019 and the intersection of 2nd Street NE and T Street NE on December 5, 2019 and on January 21, 2020. Lastly, Metropolitan Police Department crash reports were also reviewed to assess safety concerns in the area.

Study Findings

The investigation of current conditions on 100 block and 200 block of T Street, NE, as well as a review of all the data obtained, resulted in the following findings:

- This block is classified as a collector street based on DDOT's 2016 Street Functional Classification System.

- It is an east/west-oriented, two-lane, bidirectional street between Lincoln Road NE and 3rd Street NE.
 - It is a one-way eastbound street between Lincoln Road NE and Summit Place NE from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM on weekdays (holidays excluded).
- The block is approximately 1,200 feet long and approximately 29 feet wide (curb to curb) with on-street parking on both sides (residential, open, and pick-up/drop-off areas).
 - The statutory speed limit is 25 mph and signed as 15 mph when children are present.
 - There is an existing speed hump mid-block, located approximately where the vertical hill of the street crests. This is adjacent to the entrances of both Langley Elementary School and The Summit at St. Martins.
- Pick-up and drop-off activity were significant throughout the block for both schools as well as The Summit at St. Martins.
 - Multiple vehicles violated the time-based, one-way restriction on T Street NE.
 - Vehicles, particularly health services vehicles, were observed to double park when completing pick-up or drop-off for residents at The Summit.
 - As a result of pick-up/drop off activities and double parking, queuing occurred along T Street NE. Parking restriction for pick-up/drop zone installed in front of Langley Elementary School and The Summit at St. Martins residential building by DDOT Safe Routes to school team.
- A crossing guard was stationed at the intersection of Summit Place NE and T Street NE; however, vehicles often ignored the crossing guard's direction to enforce the one-way restriction.
 - Collected speed data indicated that traffic speeds on both T Street NE and R Street NE are appropriate based on posted speed limits.
- Traffic volume data indicates the following existing conditions:
 - 1,726 vehicles travel along T Street NE per day.
 - 3,736 vehicles travel along R Street NE per day.
- Under a theoretical full-time restriction of T Street NE to a one-way, eastbound street between Lincoln Road NE and 2nd Street NE, traffic volumes are expected to be the following:
 - 1,140 vehicles travel along T Street NE per day.
 - 4,322 vehicles travel along R Street NE per day.
- Crash data does not indicate safety concerns along the study block; however, there is a pattern of side-swipe crashes which are indicative of difficult bi-direction travel conditions.

Conclusions & Recommendation

This study finds that the existing conditions present in the 100 block of T Street NE warrant mitigation.

Observations and crash data analysis indicate that there are points of vehicle-vehicle conflict which are worsened by the habitual violation of the one-way restriction of T Street NE from Lincoln Road NE to Summit Place NE. Furthermore, a review of traffic volumes and conditions indicate that the study area network is capable of accommodating a full-time, one-way restriction of T Street NE without significantly impacting street volumes or circulation. The queuing which is already present along R Street NE is representative of expected conditions, and provides acceptable conditions when considering the circulation and safety improvements which result from a full-time, one-way conversion of T Street NE.

Based on this information, and the observed conditions of the 100 block of T Street NE, DDOT will perform the following:

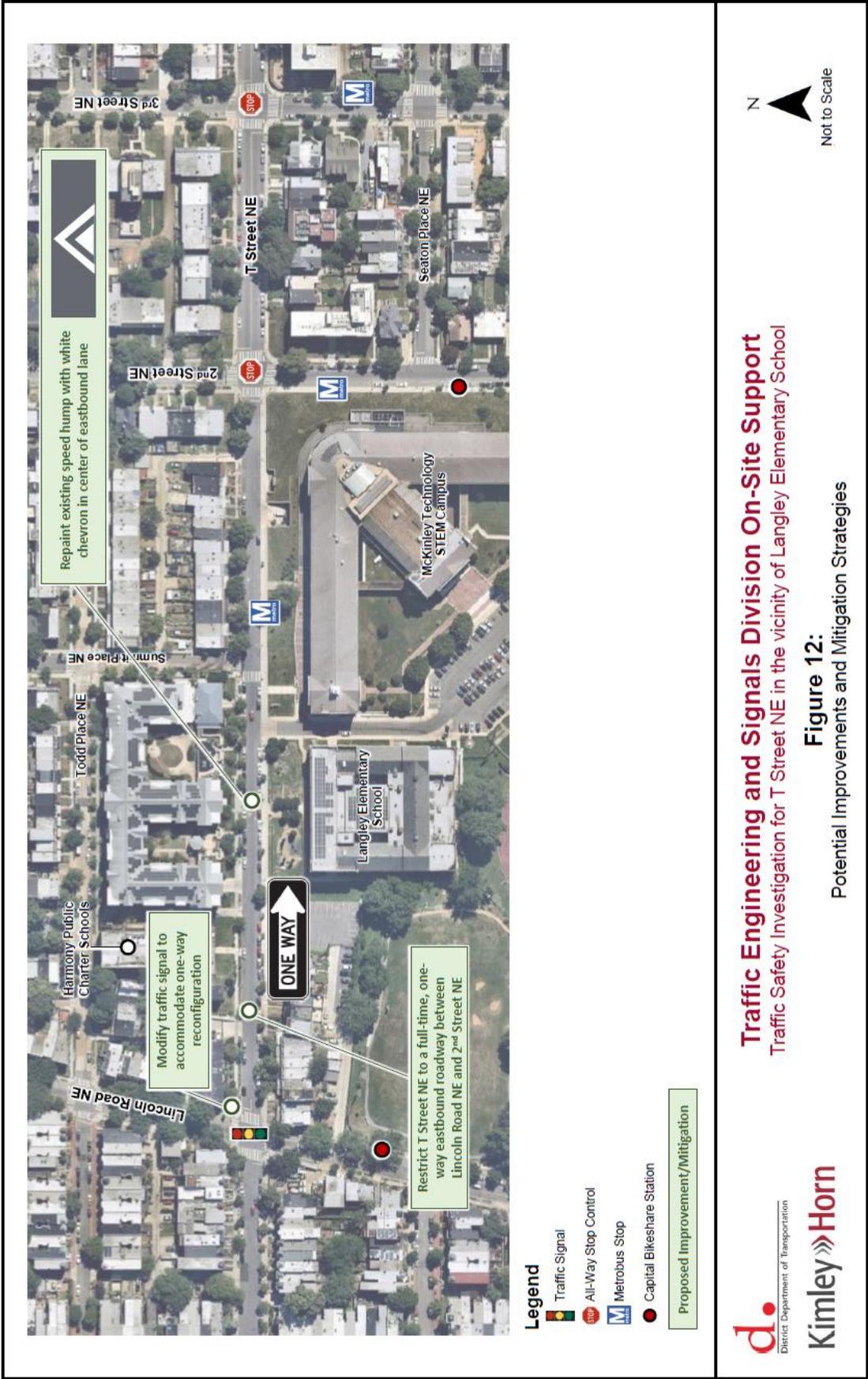
- Restrict T Street NE to a one-way, eastbound roadway between Lincoln Road NE and 2nd Street NE at all times.
 - Modify traffic signal at the intersection of T Street NE and Lincoln Road NE to accommodate the one-way conversion and install all appropriate signage.
 - Install 8-foot parking lanes on either side of T Street NE from Lincoln Road NE to 2nd Street NE to define the designated travel-way.
- Refurbish the existing speed hump at the crest of the vertical grade and install a white chevron marking in the center of the hump for eastbound traffic.
- Modify all signage and pavement marking along 100 Block of T Street, NE and 200 Block of T Street, NE at adjacent intersections to accommodate East, one-way travel.

Thank you, again, for your request. If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 671-4607 or via email at connie.wheeler@dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Connie Wheeler
Transportation Operations Administration
District Department of Transportation (DDOT)



Traffic Engineering and Signals Division On-Site Support
 Traffic Safety Investigation for T Street NE in the vicinity of Langley Elementary School
Figure 12:
 Potential Improvements and Mitigation Strategies