

October 2, 2025

Dear City Council and Transportation Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the current traffic calming proposals. The following three traffic calming items were proposed for Rockwood in the May 2024 Traffic Calming Master Plan:

Rockwood Blvd at 10th Ave/Sumner Ave Restripe and Pedestrian Improvements (RW3a)	\$688,000.00
Grand Blvd from 9th Ave to 16th Ave Road Diet (RW2)	\$1,208,000.00
Grand Blvd from 17th Ave to 29th Ave Road Diet (RW4a)	\$1,315,000.00

The first item is currently in progress; we requested this improvement. However, we are dismayed as to how the two items on Grand Boulevard totaling over \$2.5M got on the Rockwood list since we never asked for these changes. Rockwood residents who attended the 2023 Issues Workshop listed 13 items for improvement; these issues included sidewalks, crosswalks and speeding. Road diets were not on the list, but somehow the consultants decided that's what we really wanted.

A recent survey of Rockwood residents resulted in an even split for and against the road diet. Some concerns mentioned about the road diet include:

- There will be gridlock at rush hour twice a day.
- The gridlock will be worsened by frequent bus stops unless bus turnouts are included in the plan.
- Traffic will be diverted to Rockwood Blvd and SE Blvd.

If the Rockwood Neighborhood Council actually has a say in how traffic calming funds are dispersed in Rockwood, we would much prefer that this \$2.5M be spent on things we actually asked for such as crosswalks, speedbumps and speeding mitigation.

Rockwood Traffic Calming Priorities

- ***Priority Areas***
 - East 16th Avenue between Rockwood Blvd. and Southeast Blvd.

- Because of the short distance, high volumes of cars “cut through” on East 16th Ave to go between Rockwood Boulevard and SE Boulevard.
- This stretch of 16th Avenue is 1.5 blocks; there is no stop sign at Arthur.
- This high volume of non-neighborhood traffic occurs all day in both directions.
- **Proposed Solutions:**
 - Speed Bump Between Rockwood Blvd and Arthur St.
 - Stop Sign at 16th and Arthur St.
- South Garfield Road from Rockwood Blvd to 29th Avenue.
 - The existing speed bump is too small and does not slow traffic.
 - Traffic speeds up between 25th Ave and 29th Ave.
 - Signage stating a 25 mph speed limit may be incorrect.
 - One resident suggested that the speed limit on Garfield Road is actually 20 mph all the way from Rockwood to 29th Avenue.
 - **Proposed Solutions:**
 - Increase the size of the existing speed bump.
 - Add another Speed Bump and Stop Sign between 25th Ave and 29th Ave.
 - Repaint 20 MPH on Garfield Road just south of Rockwood Blvd.
 - Investigate accuracy of speed limit signage on Garfield Road.
- **Crosswalks**
 - Rockwood is bordered by three arterials: Grand Blvd, East 29th Ave and SE Blvd.
 - **Rapid Flash Crosswalks** are needed on all three of these roads.
 - There are no crosswalks within the two miles from Lincoln Park north to I-90.
 - Numerous pedestrians cross at 16th and 17th to get to the Perry District.
 - Schoolchildren cross at 13th and 14th to get to Grant Elementary School.
 - **Proposed Solutions:**
 - Rapid flash crosswalk at 21st and Grand.
 - Rapid flash crosswalks at 29th and Arthur and 29th and Pittsburgh.
 - Rapid flash crosswalks on SE Blvd at 13th Avenue, 16th Avenue, Rockwood Blvd, and at Lincoln Park.
 - Note that the 27 x 27 proposal crosses SE Blvd at 16th Avenue.
- **Speed Mitigation**
 - Speeding is an issue on all three arterials surrounding Rockwood.
 - Speeding is also an issue on Rockwood Blvd, South Garfield Road, East 16th Avenue, East 17th Avenue.

- **Proposed Solutions:**
 - Ticket-issuing speed cameras on all three surrounding arterials.
 - Increased traffic patrols on all three arterials and Rockwood Blvd.
- **Volume Mitigation**
 - The volume of cars traveling on SE Boulevard increases annually.
 - This results in more drivers using Rockwood Blvd and Garfield.
 - The Grand Blvd road diet will result in additional traffic on SE Boulevard.
- **Sidewalks**
 - Rockwood has numerous stretches of broken sidewalks.
 - **Proposed Solution:**
 - In consultation with the Rockwood neighborhood council, utilize traffic calming funds for sidewalk repairs and sidewalk infill.

Thank you very much for considering this input from the Rockwood Neighborhood Council.

Kind Regards,

Bill Doley
Chair, Rockwood Neighborhood Council