



## **Riedel Road Community Meeting Minutes February 05, 2024**

Nestor Flores - Chief, Traffic Engineering Division, AACO  
Erik Terry - Area Engineer, Traffic Engineering Division, AACO  
Sgt. Regina Collier, - Anne Arundel County Police Traffic Safety  
Cpl. Tom Middleton - Anne Arundel County Police, Traffic Safety, Western District  
Brian Kemmet - Councilwoman Julie Hummer's Office  
Lisa Woolcock - Director, Crofton Downs  
Heather Taylor, Briarleigh HOA  
Cynthia Sobolewski, Crofton Farms HOA  
Roberta McCartney, Board of Directors, Crofton Mews  
Erin Aldrich Gray - HOA Chapman Farm  
Eden Casterline - Crofton Square Condominium No.2/ Coventry 2 COA  
Danielle Richard - Resident  
Chuck See - Resident  
Brooke Doerfler - Resident  
Krista - Resident

### **Nestor Flores**

- Presented slide deck with traffic study data. Slide deck as well as recording of the meeting is posted on the Riedel Road Community website located here:  
<https://www.aacounty.org/public-works/highways/riedel-road-johns-hopkins-road>
- Nestor presented an update on the implementation plan for traffic safety measures, including the progress on upgrading crossing signs, reducing speed limits, and the installation of speed cameras. The team also discussed potential solutions for traffic issues on Russett Green and Riedel Road, including the installation of concrete curbing, converting a section of Riedel Road into a boulevard style and feel, and the construction of a roundabout on Riedel where it meets Johns Hopkins. The team agreed to schedule meetings every other month to keep everyone informed about progress and to continue with virtual meetings for now.
- Discussed sponsoring a study in coordination with the Bureau of Engineering to evaluate Riedel Rd to be updated to a boulevard feel with a grass median in the middle lane
- Will provide 3-4 dates for a community walk-through of Riedel Road in late February or early March.
- Confirmed that Eric Terry, Traffic Engineer for the western portion of the County, will complete the traffic analysis for Johns Hopkins Road by the end of March, weather permitting.
- Confirmed that we will continue to schedule virtual meetings every other month, starting April 9th from 6-7 PM.

- Will investigate the possibility of installing temporary traffic calming devices (flex curbs) on Riedel Road.
- Will investigate the feasibility of a roundabout at the intersection of Riedel Road and Johns Hopkins Road.
- Will work on getting signage for the bike lanes on Riedel Road.
- Discussed the progress on upgrading crossing signs, coordinating with road operations to improve visibility, and the need for budget allocation for purchasing signs and devices.
- Discussed the ongoing work with SHA to reduce speed limits, particularly on John Hopkins Road
- We appreciate the feedback on the traffic cameras - It's great to hear one way or the other - if you don't like the cameras also speak up because we want to hear feedback from the community. There was a big push for the cameras to be installed, and we have County Council representation in the meeting this evening and they need to hear also that it is a community driven request, and it's good to hear stories one way or the other.
- Working with the County Police on a Traffic Safety Awareness Week campaign - will update the group at the next meeting - planning for the first week of April so there will be no spring break conflicts.

#### **Sgt. Collier**

- **Speed Cameras** - provided an overview of the speed camera project, noting that they currently have 27 cameras and are working on obtaining permits for 40 more.

#### **Cpl. Middleton**

- Will work on increased radar enforcement on Riedel Road, particularly near the golf course area - is keeping new officers apprised of the new developments along Riedel Road
- Discussed traffic awareness week - TED will work with the Police to implement a plan of action
- Noted that the new high school opening has created some parking problems behind the school.
- Stated speed camera on John Hopkins has been a huge success with keeping the speeds down, and we will continue to do enforcement along Riedel Road

## Community Comments

**Cynthia Sobolewski** - Suggests placing a speed camera near the golf course. I walked there, and no less than 4 cars at least, were going over 40, over 50, at least 50 miles an hour. *Cpl. Middleton will work on increased enforcement near the golf course.*

**Cynthia Sobolewski** - We need yellow delineators to protect bike riders in the bike lanes - vehicles do not stay within their lane and I don't think I would ever feel safe on a bike on Riedel without those poles. *Nestor responds we have done this on Jennifer Rd in Annapolis. This issue is maintenance - they get hit and knocked over quite frequently and people get upset that we aren't keeping them in the ground when we actually are, it's just that they get knocked down often. The median style poles as shown in the slide show will be tested on Riva Road to see how they last and we can consider this for Riedel bike lanes.*

**Lisa Woolcock** - For Cpl. Middleton - Have you pulled any trucks over or cars? I haven't seen it, and everyone that's contacted me has said we don't even really care about the speed limit, because we never get pulled over anyway. When the speed limit went down probably for the 1st week or so it seemed like everyone was going slower. But everyone's back up to their normal speed, at least on Riedel. Crofton Downs by the dry pond. There is an Ace Hardware delivery truck that has been using Riedel frequently and we don't even have one on that road. *Cpl. Middleton will put this at the top of his list for enforcement. Nestor also notes that the traffic awareness week will address specific situations such as the Ace Hardware truck. The challenging thing about enforcing the No Thru Trucks issue is it requires resources - either Cpl. Middleton or another officer to follow that vehicle - It went through the zone - And that's a violation but only if they are not making a specific delivery - then another officer will need to be available to watch for other trucks, and it does take a lot of resources - education will be important for the truck drivers and that falls under the traffic awareness week.*

**IF you put a round about on Riedel, where it meets with Johns Hopkins, wouldn't that help slow down speed?** *Nestor replies yes - There are 2 major benefits of roundabouts - one, it slows down traffic - two, it provides traffic control without stopping as a traffic signal would. Also provides environmental benefits as vehicles are not stalling waiting for a signal to cycle.*

**Erin Aldrich Gray** - Do you already have the data on how many cars are traveling on Johns Hopkins daily? That would be good to know to determine whether or not reducing the lanes would actually cause a bigger traffic problem.

**Danielle Richard** - Thank you for the speed camera. I live right off of Hopkins, it's probably 20 feet from my window. I've seen significant improvement in the traffic slowing down. I know that will change as the camera moves and it gets put back. For now I'm not hearing the cars, the big old race cars zooming by, and so really appreciative of that. *Nestor responds yes, and this is the data that we will use to make that decision. We are still looking at if it is feasible to reduce the lanes.*

**Does the community know that those white lanes on the sides are designated for the bikes?** *This will be addressed during Traffic Safety Awareness Week. We are also working on obtaining Bike Lane signage.*

**Danielle Richard** - Once a camera has been permitted, like the one on Johns Hopkins, how long is that permit good for? And do you have to redo any of that process? The camera's been making a big difference. *Sgt. Collier responds I believe if we got the permit for it. It was okay for us to put that camera there, back and forth whenever we wanted. As long as we're with the same vendor.*









