

Speeding Survey on the 800 Block of Santa Fe Avenue

A speed survey was conducted on the 800 block of Santa Fe Avenue for eleven days from Tuesday May 29 to Friday June 8 2012 at the written request of a resident of this block. The results of the survey are portrayed in the following table:

800 Santa Fe-2012

Average Daily Traffic Volume	3,932 vehicles
Average Speed	25.7 mph
85 th Percentile	29.3 mph

A three day survey took place on the same street on June 25, 2007. The results are below:

800 Santa Fe-2007

Average Daily Traffic Volume	2,360 vehicles
Average Speed	24.2 mph
85 th Percentile	28 mph

The results of the survey do not show consistent speeding according to the 85th percentile as stated by the current City of Albany traffic calming policy (which states that consistent speeding is determined by the 85th percentile measured at 30 mph or more). In both surveys, the 85th percentile speed measured below 30 mph. The survey also shows that traffic volume has increased by 66.6% between 2007 and 2012. This increase in traffic volume maybe due to the time of year the surveys were taken. The speed survey taken in 2007 was conducted when school was not in session as compared to the 2012 survey that was taken when school was still in session.

While this block does not qualify for a speed hump under the current standards, there are other options that could be implemented in order to calm traffic further. For instance, the Albany Active Transportation Plan recommends Santa Fe as a Class III facility between the Berkeley City Limit and Portland Avenue. This includes installing sharrows and bike boxes at signalized intersections. Another possibility is to decrease the length of the red curb on the north leg of the intersection and implement 90-minute parking, so that right turning vehicles from southbound Santa Fe onto Westbound Solano slow down when making the turn. Currently, it seems vehicles can make the turn at higher speeds. It seems that the existing red curb was to accommodate a bus stop for a route that no longer runs on Santa Fe Avenue. A more expensive solution would be to install bulb outs in the east-west direction at the intersections of Santa Fe/Solano, and Santa Fe/Washington.

The Commission may want to discuss this and other solutions with the residents of the 800 block of Santa Fe at a future meeting.