

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Cuesta traffic tables
Date: Monday, July 12, 2021 10:10:50 AM

Dear City of Los Altos,

I live close to Cuesta Drive, midway between downtown Los Altos and downtown Mountain View. I was shocked when the new traffic tables were installed at how difficult it became to drive down Cuesta to downtown Los Altos. I am used to regular speed bumps, those don't bother me, but these are very different. It is so unpleasant to drive down Cuesta that I have now changed my shopping/dining habits and choose to go to Mountain View or other areas to do my errands and shopping/dining because of those traffic tables.

Sincerely,

Wendy Sarathy

Wendy Sarathy
[ObiCoach](#)
[ObiCoach on Facebook](#)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Cuesta speed bumps - please remove or reduce significantly
Date: Monday, July 12, 2021 9:50:47 AM

Hi,

I live in Los Altos Hills and use Cuesta Dr. several times per week, at least, to get to Mountain View and the East Bay via route 237.

The speed bumps that were installed there are way, way too large. It's necessary to slow down well under the 25 mph speed limit to get over them. They are more disruptive and just ridiculous than any other speed bumps I've seen.

I understand that Cuesta has houses along it, but it's also an important traffic artery that many of us can't really avoid using to get from place to place. The people who live on the street knew this when they moved in.

Please consider removing the bumps or significantly reducing them in size. If they were similar in size to those on the Mountain View section of Cuesta, that would be acceptable and still cause cars to go 25 mph.

Thanks,
Dennis

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Traffic Tables Cuesta
Date: Monday, July 12, 2021 7:18:35 AM

City Council

I have lived in the area of Cuesta almost my entire life. I remember when Cuesta Park was built.

Cuesta has always been a major street to allow local traffic to get from the downtown Los Altos Area and foothill expressway into the Blossom Valley area . it's an important artery for emergency services to support access to ElCamino Hospital and the residents of Cuesta knew this when they purchased their homes...

There has been high traffic on this road since 1960... should be no surprise to anyone

Kevin Dettner

[REDACTED]

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From: [Jonathan Chang](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 – July 13, 2021
Date: Monday, July 12, 2021 7:00:23 AM

Dear Los Altos City Council,

As you consider Agenda item 8 regarding the speed tables on Cuesta Dr, please know that they are too large. I'm a resident of Los Altos and have never seen speed tables like these. These are not properly done and are ending up in ruining the asphalt. You can see this for yourself. Drive the portion of road to feel the size and walk it to see the damage. They will require significant maintenance in the future. The engineer did not do this properly and they should not be signed off on. Moreover, any speed and traffic mitigation tests need to be redone after folks get back to work en masse. Traffic studies during the pandemic are based on pandemic traffic, which is not reflective of reality. You will have damaged vehicles and roads because of these tables. On my walks, I've already been noticing more and more car debris on the road as vehicles are damaged driving over these speed tables. Make the road usable, not an obstacle course. It's a bad look for our city to have such inconsistent and janky roads. I'm embarrassed as a Los Altos resident that our roads are like this and that my tax dollars have gone toward such poor quality work. Please know I'm not against traffic mitigation, when done properly. These bumps are NOT done properly and signing off is letting the engineers and contractors get away with incredibly poor work that will only result in even more wasted dollars for the city and the residents.

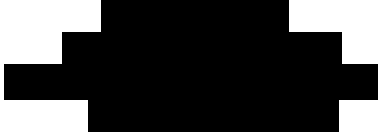
From: [REDACTED]
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 – July 13, 2021
Date: Sunday, July 11, 2021 10:19:24 PM

I have lived in Los Altos Hills all my life — 66 years. Cuesta has been a convenient way to get to friends houses and a few shopping locations for me. Not any more, and I presume that was the reason for the “Traffic Calming Project.” I can understand trying to slow down traffic on that street. It makes sense; however, the “traffic tables” or “bumps” that were installed between El Monte and Springer are outrageous. Why are you trying to slow traffic down to 10-15 MPH on that street? Is it really necessary? The bumps are truly extreme; and it is interesting to note that the bumps on the rest of Cuesta are not nearly as bad, nor as frequent.

Please remove at least some of these bumps and make the remaining bumps more in line with other “traffic tables” in town.

Thank you...Jan

~~~~~  
Jan Clayton



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Please Revise Cuesta Calming Tables  
**Date:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 9:29:44 PM

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Please reconsider the current traffic calming measures on Cuesta between El Monte and Springer.

Just today, when deciding where to go for lunch, we chose not to go to downtown Los Altos from Mountain View in large part because of the excessive speed bumps and stop signs that we would have to traverse on Cuesta.

While I understand the desire to have traffic move more slowly, the number of the tables/bumps should be decreased, and the slope of the tables should be made less acute. (Look at all of the scrapes in the asphalt just beyond each bump!)

Please reconsider the Cuesta Avenue calming project.

Emma Wong  
Mountain View, CA

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 – July 13, 2021  
**Date:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 9:01:34 PM

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I appreciate that the residents of Cuesta Drive would like to remove their street from the main commute thoroughfares. I imagine residents along El Monte, Shoreline Drive, and even El Camino Real would like to do much the same. Unfortunately, doing so would make it rather difficult to get - well - anywhere. Los Altos has already recognized that traffic is increasing with time, per the research done on the Foothill expansion. The new speed humps come off as an immature and passive-aggressive attempt to hold back this increase - really, five oversized 10MPH bone-rattlers and two stop signs to deal with a problem quite adequately solved just a couple of blocks down the road with two better-designed bumps?

The town has only just finished an expensive but necessary repair to El Monte to correct a similarly short-sighted decision to reduce the westbound traffic lanes approaching Foothill.

Yes, I commuted down that road twice a day before the Pandemic. I could have chosen to live elsewhere just as Cuesta residents could have chosen not to buy houses on a busy street. But I made my choice on the assumption the speed bumps would not be there - and so did they. I don't see why I should be paying for the consequences of their choice.

Nate Calvin  
Los Altos resident

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 – July 13, 2021  
**Date:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 8:35:15 PM

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Dear Los Altos City Council,

I am writing to strenuously object to making the traffic tables on Cuesta Drive permanent. While I understand the implementation of traffic calming measures and generally support them, these tables are significantly higher than needed (they are absolutely higher than a regular street curb and just as abrupt), and are a true nuisance, as well as a potential safety hazard for emergency vehicles. As someone who often walks at night (especially during the COVID era), I often walk on Cuesta and have tripped over the unmarked/unpainted edge of the speed tables where they overlap and spill over onto the pedestrian path. I understand that this arterial road could possibly benefit from some traffic calming measures like regular sized speed humps or the types of road narrowing used on El Monte, but given the significant downsides to the tables as constructed, I urge you to consider removal of this failed experiment and instead embark on a thoughtful exploration of safer alternatives.

Sincerely,  
Brittany Stevens

PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 – July 13, 2021 8. Project Acceptance for Cuesta Drive Traffic Calming Project TS01022: Adopt Resolution No. 2021-XX accepting completion of the Cuesta Drive Traffic Calming Project TS-01022 and authorize the Engineering Services Director to record a Notice of Completion as required by law. (J. Sandoval) Item 8: Report

=====  
Brittany E. Stevens, Ph.D.  
=====



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 – July 13, 2021  
**Date:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 8:14:46 PM

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One more try -- apologies for multiple e-mails.

----- Forwarded Message -----

**Subject:** Cuesta speed bumps  
**Date:** Thu, 8 Jul 2021 14:06:19 -0700  
**From:** Polly Siegel [REDACTED] >  
**Reply-To:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [council@losaltosca.gov](mailto:council@losaltosca.gov)

Hi city council,

I wanted to write in to see if there is something you can do about the speed "bumps" (really, mountains) that were added on Cuesta Drive in between El Monte and Springer Road as a traffic calming measure. They are at least twice as high as other speed bumps in the area, and are in my opinion dangerous.

In our car, I have to slow down to < 10 MPH to get over them without scraping the bottom of the car. At that speed I'm fearful I'm going to get rear-ended because the speed is so much less than the 25 MPH stated speed limit of the road. The pavement just past each speed hump on both sides of the road has been gouged by cars slamming into the pavement. (I can send pics).

The speed humps slope into the non-existent shoulder on a road, so that on a bike you're forced to go over them at an angle. In the shade, the speed humps are invisible, and someone is going to crash their bike as a result of hitting the speed hump.

I have written into the city twice, and the response has been that better warnings will be painted on the road. But the speed humps are just way too high and that needs to be fixed. I'd heard from someone that the contractor made a mistake in the installation (seems likely, but is just hearsay).

I would like to request that you:

1. Redo the speed humps so that they are the same dimensions (height, width, length) as the Cuesta speed bumps between Springer and Miramonte. In other words, reduce the height dramatically.
2. Pave the shoulders along the entire length of the road, so that cyclists have safe passage and don't have to worry about crashing when they hit the hidden sloped pavement of a speed bump that encroaches onto the almost non-existent shoulder.
3. Paint the speed bumps so they're visible from far away, even when hidden by the shaded trees.

4. Change the two stop signs into either yields or car-triggered stop lights (or just remove them). Those stop signs were put in as a traffic calming measure, and with the speed bumps, they're not needed any more. (Do the same on University Ave while you're at it... all the cyclists in this area will thank you.)

Thanks for listening! I plan to attend the upcoming council meeting should this be on the agenda.

Respectfully,

Polly Siegel



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** objection to "traffic Tables" on Cuesta  
**Date:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 7:48:06 PM

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Cuesta is a major artery in the Los Altos Community. It is a major access route to El Camino Hospital for emergencies.

The "speed Bumps" as built make it impossible to safely travel at any speed greater than 15 MPH.

The "traffic Tables" (aka speed bumps) are grossly out of proportion to others in the community (example Clark between El Camino and Almond) and grossly impede traffic and are dangerous to go over in an emergency (to get to the hospital).

They should be withdrawn, or reduced in size so vehicles can safely drive the speed limit.

Bruce and Kathy Beck  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Traffic Tables on Cuesta. Agenda item 8.  
**Date:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 7:45:35 PM

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To the Los Altos City Council,

The traffic tables between Springer and El Monte on Cuesta Road are not appropriate. They are bad for low cars, hurt the traffic flow more than necessary and is a nuisance for us living a few blocks away in Paco Drive. If speed is a concern then place speed breakers similar to what exists between Miramonte and Springer on Cuesta just a few hundred feet away. These tables are helping no one and shouldn't have been implemented this way in the first place.

I fear this becoming an unnecessary election issue when more important matters should be the focus of this Council.

Thanks,

-Rajiv Patel

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Cuesta humps  
**Date:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 5:27:10 PM

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Dear City Council,

I am writing to urge you to redesign the traffic slowing humps on Cuesta drive. They are too large, too steep, and a danger to drivers. I routinely drive several different cars and motorcycles on Cuesta and with all of them I have to slow to well below the speed limit to safely get over the humps, and even then they are a big jolt.

There is no getting around that Cuesta is an arterial street for Los Altos. It should be designed accordingly.

-- Rich Acuff  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 – July 13, 2021  
**Date:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 5:08:14 PM

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Regarding: 8. Project Acceptance for Cuesta Drive Traffic Calming Project TS01022: Adopt Resolution No. 2021-XX accepting completion of the Cuesta Drive Traffic Calming Project TS-01022 and authorize the Engineering Services Director to record a Notice of Completion as required by law. (J. Sandoval)

The speed tables along Cuesta can cause substantial damage to vehicles the way they are installed. It is impossible to drive the speed limit and drive over them without being thrown around your vehicle and or destroying your suspension. These speed tables AND stop signs are an exaggeration of what is needed to slow traffic. The residents on Cuesta purchased their homes knowing it IS a primary route through the area, and are now trying to change that. Destroying vehicles along this route simply offloads some traffic to Covington, where the next calming project will be required. This does not effect my route, but I am required to cross these twice daily, and will cause early wear on my vehicle. I will be forwarding maintenance bills to the city when they come in.

Please fix these speed tables, by lowering and rolling them more, or removing them completely.

Thank you,

Troy Towner

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 – July 13th  
**Date:** Sunday, July 11, 2021 4:54:04 PM

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Dear City Council,

I'm asking that the council not approve the Cuesta calming project, because our measurements found that the bumps were built at twice the height that was specified by the city. I have shared my measurements and photos of the equipment used with Mayor Fligor.

The vendor would be collecting \$700K of taxpayer's money for a job that was not done according to what was decided by the government and citizens. On the contrary, the bumps are not even a consistent height. While the spec was 4.25 inches, the bumps near El Monte are 8.5 inches and the ones near Springer 5.5 inches.

This mistake has had a major impact on my life as I have a nerve injury and these bumps, the highest I have ever experienced, have made my main route to town inaccessible due to the pain it causes me.

In fact, the Cuesta bumps really should be 3.5 inches. That's what was decided with full community input before the city staff decided to raise the spec to 4.25 inches during construction contrary to the proper community input process. While there was a belief that larger bumps are more effective, the city's own data shows they are not. The bumps on Arboleda are 3.5 inches and the city's data shows they have slowed traffic by a greater percentage than the ones on Cuesta.

We have specs and processes for a reason and the city should withhold payment until the project is fixed. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Best,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [tim@losaltosca.gov](mailto:tim@losaltosca.gov)  
Subject: Fwd: Public comments agenda item #8 meeting July 13,2021  
Date: Saturday, July 10, 2021 9:20:20 AM  
Attachments: [img001.png](#)

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For information about volunteer opportunities in the San Francisco bay area, please visit the Bay Area Volunteer Information Center at [www.volunteerinfo.org](http://www.volunteerinfo.org)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Tim Taylor <[REDACTED]>  
Date: Sat, Jul 10, 2021 at 9:08 AM  
Subject: Public comments agenda item #8 meeting July 13,2021  
To: <[PublicComments@losaltosca.gov](mailto:PublicComments@losaltosca.gov)>

Council members,

I have contacted you previously about the inappropriate speed humps on Cuesta Drive and have asked you and the engineering staff to investigate the matter and actually measure the heights of the humps which are unnecessarily high. Unfortunately, the only response I received was from the engineering department which refused my invitation to re-measure even though the heights stated by them are nowhere near correct. They have ignored their own plans for the project and have significantly misstated the actual heights. All you or anyone else has to do is go out and measure them.

I am sure the humps have slowed traffic, 10" high humps would slow traffic, but the existing humps are far higher than they need to be and not at all in line with those in other areas of Los Altos.

I am including below some of my previous correspondence with you and the engineering department. I regret I cannot participate at the scheduled meeting - I will not be available at that time, but would be glad to respond to email if you have any questions.

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Re: Follow up on phone call and would like to hear from you



Tim Taylor <[REDACTED]>

May 21, 2021, 1:33 PM

to Jim



Hi Mr. Sandoval,

Mr. Rodriguez contacted me very promptly and I appreciate that from both of you.

We did have a long discussion about the Cuesta Drive Traffic Calming project. He did confirm that the specifications on the approved plans called for 3 1/2" speed tables or humps. After a couple of tables were put in it appeared to him that they were not going to be as effective as hoped for, so a seat of the pants decision was made to increase the height up to 4 1/4 inches or a bit more, and he maintains that all the 5 humps were installed at this height with minor variations - "maybe 4.15" to 4.3" were his words. He said the heights were checked by the City as well as by a consultant hired by the City whose name may have been "Isman". He was not sure of the consultant's name and said that I needed to contact you in writing (which I am doing) so you could have the legal department determine if the name of the consultant and paving firm could be divulged.

When Mr. Rodriguez reviewed my email which gave detailed and accurate measurements of the actual heights of the speed tables which were predominately 5, 6, 7, and 8 inches in height and nowhere near the 4 1/2" he believed existed, he responded that he was not interested in measuring again, it had already been done, he had no authority to do so, and that no changes were possible under any circumstances as this was City "policy".

It was clear that Mr. Rodriguez has invested a huge amount of time on this project and is deeply concerned about the wishes of the residents on Cuesta and about the protection of the children on their way to a nearby school which is as it should be. However, it appears from our conversation that this concern has mostly excluded consideration of what may be best and appropriate for the thousands of autos, trucks, and emergency vehicles which pass on this public street through this main City thoroughfare every day. He did acknowledge that mine was not the only email expressing concern about height and frequency of the speed tables, but he felt the existing humps were working, could not be changed, and new signage was being paid and contracted for which would preclude further work. Mr. Rodriguez said after much discussion that "the bottom line, Mr. Taylor, is that you have missed the April 28th deadline - it is too late now". I trust there is no deadline on being safe and sensible, and doing what is best for the City, its residents, and those who use its streets.

I believe it is reasonable to request that this matter at least be reviewed, that on the ground measurements be taken, and that a more reasonable traffic calming approach be considered that may include humps not exceeding 4 1/2 inches which the Engineering department maintains are already extant. I would also ask that you, council members, or any one else concerned simply drive a few blocks away to Almond Avenue which is a longer street than Cuesta Drive and which actually has two schools on the street and experience for yourselves the two bumps on Almond compared to the 5 oversized closely spaced humps on Cuesta. The Almond Ave has humps ranging from 3 1/2" up to nearly 5" and flat areas on the humps that are up to twice the length of those on Cuesta.

Thanks again for your consideration.

Kent Taylor

For information about volunteer opportunities in the San Francisco bay area, please visit the Bay Area Volunteer Information Center at [www.volunteerinfo.org](http://www.volunteerinfo.org)

On Thu, May 20, 2021 at 2:35 PM Jim Sandoval <[jsandoval@losaltosca.gov](mailto:jsandoval@losaltosca.gov)> wrote:

Hi Mr. Taylor,

I have asked my Interim Transportation Services Manager to respond to your request since he has managed this project and the numerous pre- and post-construction public meetings the City has hosted for the Cuesta Dr. Traffic Calming Project. If you don't hear from him by Monday, please let me know.

Regards,

Jim





Jim Sandoval, P.E. | Director | City Engineer  
Engineering Services Department | City of Los Altos  
1 N. San Antonio Road | Los Altos, CA | 94022  
Ph (650) 947-2780 | Fx (650) 947-2732  
[jsandoval@losaltosca.gov](mailto:jsandoval@losaltosca.gov)

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**From:** Tim Taylor <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 20, 2021 2:18 PM  
**To:** Jim Sandoval <[jsandoval@losaltosca.gov](mailto:jsandoval@losaltosca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Follow up on phone call and would like to hear from you

Here is the email discussing my concerns about the Cuesta Traffic Calming situation. I am hoping that you may be able to respond as no one else has and no one has returned my phone calls.

Thanks,  
Kent Taylor

to transportation, council, gwantanaabe, tqquach

To all concerned,

I have raised my concerns and that of many others about the ridiculously high speed tables (humps or bumps) on Cuesta Drive with the Department of Engineering (Gaku Wantanabe was very helpful) as part of their Traffic Calming endeavor. What I learned was concerning, to say the least:

1. I was told that nothing was going to be done about them and that the plan was to wait and see.
2. I was told that the approved detailed specifications called for 3 1/2 inch humps or tables but that in some cases it was decided to go with 4 inches and that this 4" measurement was measured and verified by Engineering.
3. I carefully and accurately measured (see photo) the actual rise and found it to be as high as 8 inches in some instances. Starting at El Monte the measured rises on each side of the humps were 5" and 6", 6" and 7", 4" and 8". 4" and 7", 6" and 6", with slight variations depending on placement of the measuring device.
4. The actual measurements show that the called for specifications on the approved detailed plans were totally ignored and the field work was never measured upon completion.
5. When asked how these measurements conformed to Federal, State, or local requirements or specifications, I was told that the Engineering department was unfamiliar with any guidelines, when, in fact, a quick internet search will show several. For example, Alameda County calls for 3 1/2". In fact, further down Cuesta, past Springer, the City's speed humps were gradual and about 2" to 3". In Palo Alto I measured humps ranging from 2 to 3 1/2 inches. We have all experienced speed humps, but those on Cuesta Drive are like no other.
6. While taking the above measurements, several vehicle drivers stopped to tell me about their impressions of the humps. The impressions volunteered ran from "dangerous, stupid, too close together, ridiculous, unsafe, and very irregular". In fact, studies have shown that speed bumps Slow response time of emergency vehicles, may divert traffic to parallel residential streets, can increase noise and pollution for residents living immediately adjacent to the speed bumps, dangerously divert driver's attention, cause damage to vehicles and their occupants

While there may be advantages to slowing traffic on Cuesta - these closely grouped and oversized (more than double the recommended heights) humps are not the way to achieve that goal. Something needs to be done about them soon.

I would appreciate a detailed response to these comments and this request from interested and appropriate parties of the City of Los Altos. I would be happy to provide additional information and meet onsite with the appropriate officials.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this pressing matter.

Kent Taylor

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Traffic tables on Cuesta  
**Date:** Monday, July 12, 2021 10:57:28 AM

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I do not believe or support the idea of making the Traffic Tables on Cuesta permanent. I firmly believe they should be removed.

I know from personal experience that the current Traffic Tables greatly delayed our emergency vehicle from getting my wife to El Camino in the most timely manner; because of the current tables, they had to slow down significantly to avoid any jarring of the patient they were transporting in said emergency.

Thank you for your consideration.

Douglas W. Gruehl  
[REDACTED]

July 12, 2021

**VIA EMAIL**

Los Altos City Hall  
1 North San Antonio Road  
Los Altos, CA. 94022

Re: Public Comment on Agenda Item #8  
Project Acceptance for Cuesta Drive Traffic Calming Project  
July 13, 2021 City Council Meeting

Dear Mayor Fligor, Vice Mayor Enander, Council Members Lee Eng, Meadows and Weinberg:

I am a resident of Los Altos and write to express my opposition to the Cuesta Drive Calming Project.

According to the Complete Streets Commission's web site, "Complete Streets are streets for everyone." [CSC](#) Unfortunately, the extreme speed tables and associated measures installed on Cuesta take away an important part of shared infrastructure from residents of Los Altos and others in our community who use this important connector route. For the reasons set forth below, I request that the City Council remove the traffic tables from Cuesta and direct the Complete Streets Commission ("CSC") to find a more reasonable solution that ensures all voices of residents and non-residents who use this route are heard, and not just a small, vocal group who seek to prioritize their interests over the hundreds of people who rely upon and use this important route.

1. The Data Used by CSC to Support the Speed Tables Is Fatally Flawed and Should Not Be Relied Upon to Support Permanent Installation

The installation of the speed tables during the Covid lockdown, when people are working from home and not commuting, means that any data collected during Covid is simply inadequate to justify any conclusions about the impact or effectiveness of the speed tables and associated measures.

With the pandemic, normal commute patterns and volumes have been significantly reduced. Therefore, the traffic data report that has been used to justify the speed tables cannot reflect normal commute traffic. While the report acknowledges this flaw, it nonetheless leaps to the conclusion that the

goals are being achieved. However, when normal commuting resumes, the detrimental impact on commuters and spillover effect will be magnified in ways that this report does not address. Many commuters who may not even be aware of this project will no doubt raise this issue with the City once they discover the extremely negative impact these speed tables and other measures will impose on them.

2. A Few Residents Should Not Be Allowed to Privatize an Important and Vital Connector Street between Los Altos and Mountain View

The only residents benefited by this extreme, so-called traffic-calming solution live in the immediate vicinity of Cuesta. Everyone else who uses Cuesta to enter or leave Los Altos is penalized with potential damage to their vehicles, a posted 25 mph speed limit that is not achievable, and what has been described by a resident on NextDoor as a “jarring experience.” Aside from the vocal advocacy of a few, it is not clear why this particular route would receive extreme traffic calming measures, like the speed tables, when other busier streets in Los Altos do not.

In addition, the current speed tables are diverting traffic to other streets per comments made on NextDoor. Traffic is spilling over onto streets that were never intended to be a connector street like Cuesta. When normal commuting traffic volumes resume, will the solution be to add speed tables and other extreme traffic-calming measures to those streets as well?

Please do not allow a few vocal residents to convert an important, shared connector route, that they knew about when they purchased their properties, into a street that is so impassable that the only people who will want to use it are those who live on or nearby that street.

3. The Speed Tables are Disproportionate and Dangerous

Here is how the speed tables on Cuesta are being described by residents on NextDoor: “ridiculous,” “way out of normal proportions,” “miserable solution,” “absurdly high,” “unnecessary,” “disaster,” “wondered what was going on with ridiculous high bumps in middle road...DANGEROUS!!!” etc.

The Federal Highway Administration’s primer on traffic calming devices suggests that the speed tables are inappropriate particularly at the extra 4.25-inch height that was approved ex post facto after the planned 3.5 inch height was approved for Cuesta.

According to the primer, speed tables are “[g]enerally not appropriate for a primary emergency vehicle route or street that provides access to a hospital or emergency medical services ...” Cuesta is a direct route to El Camino Hospital so it is not appropriate to have speed tables on this connector street. [https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/speedmgt/ePrimer\\_modules/module3pt2.cfm](https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/speedmgt/ePrimer_modules/module3pt2.cfm)

Also, residents on NextDoor are noting that one cannot drive at the posted speed limit. Here’s one resident’s comment: “I actually scraped my car with no modifications going 15 mph on those speed bumps! so much so, that it knocked a screw or clamp loose and my exhaust became loose. it dragged on the road and made sparks. went to a mechanic that charged me 180 to fix it.”

4. The City Council Should Direct CSC To Remove the Speed Tables and Revisit a Better, More Inclusive, Safer Solution that is Consistent with the City Council’s Prior Decision to Set a Speed Limit of 25 MPH on Cuesta

As a result of a 2013 Los Altos traffic study streets were recommended to have posted limits raised by 5 mph. By raising the speed limit to the speed at which most cars travel (i.e. 85th percentile), police can then use radar to ticket speeders on Cuesta. This is a solution that would be a win-win for everyone. [https://los-altos.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=7&clip\\_id=692&meta\\_id=35277](https://los-altos.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=7&clip_id=692&meta_id=35277)

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Janet Corrigan

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM 8 – July 13, 2021  
**Date:** Monday, July 12, 2021 1:16:02 PM

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The traffic tables on Cuesta are way too high and requires driving way below speed limit to safely cross them without bottoming out cars. I believe this is a safety issue.

I would much rather have more stop signs rather than these extremely high bumps.

Please fix this issue.

Perna

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Please approve Cuesta Speed Tables  
**Date:** Monday, July 12, 2021 1:55:01 PM

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Dear Council Members,

As a 15-year (plus) resident of Cuesta Drive, I want to express my sincere thanks to the City Staff, Complete Streets Commission and City Council for Cuesta Drive Traffic Calming project.

At the project completion meeting I do hope that the City will give "preferential consideration" to those of us that live on the street, as opposed to the complainers. While the tables are steep and high, I can say without hesitation that they are doing the job that needed to be done.

- Traffic has, for the most part, slowed to a safe(r) speed from El Monte to Springer
- High-speed traffic (especially late at night) doesn't stay high-speed for long ...
- Large truck (semi) traffic has all but disappeared (we have seen the occasional open dump trailer, but they're likely associated with the construction work on Foothill)
- The additional stop signs create enough gap that I can finally get out of my driveway without waiting half the morning for a break

I understand the frustration expressed by a small, but vocal, group of daily commuters but they are "only passing through". I am amused by their attempts to solve a problem that took us many years to solve - with suggestions we all worked through along the way. In any case - my family and I are very appreciative of the work, and satisfied with the results. We can't wait for the police to be able to re-establish a baseline speed and hopefully be able to enforce the speed limit using radar!

Thanks,  
Jaya  
482 Cuesta Dr  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Cuesta Speed Bumps  
**Date:** Monday, July 12, 2021 1:55:37 PM

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Hello -

I'd like to request all those high speed bumps either be removed or shortened. I live a few blocks off of Cuesta in Los Altos on Hawthorne Court.

The folks who bought homes on Cuesta knew it was an East/West commuter street similar to El Monte. Now if we drive down Cuesta, we have 2 stop signs and 4 - 5 speed bumps. This is over kill. They should be no higher than the speed bumps on Cuesta in Mountain View. I have an Audi All-Road and have to come to a complete stop to go over each of them or my car bottoms out. I now drive through other neighborhoods to get home - where they did not buy into a through fare like the folks on Cuesta. I am a retiree and no longer commute, but this is a pain. I feel for the side streets all the commuters now take - like me.

Please reconsider your decision on these speed bumps in light of what I've shared above.

Kind Regards,

Cheryl & Richard Herms  
531 Hawthorne Court  
Los Altos



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Cuesta Traffic Calming  
**Date:** Monday, July 12, 2021 1:57:32 PM

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Please approve the measures put in place.

Resident on Cuesta Drive: 482 Cuesta

Thank you.

Suresh Babu  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone