

Yellowstone County



COMMISSIONERS
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Re: *Black Rock Estates – Safety Measures*

We are in receipt of your emails dated March 26, 2024 and May 8, 2024 regarding your additional requests that speed humps be installed in the Black Rocks Estate Neighborhood. As discussed in previous communications, Yellowstone County has conducted multiple traffic studies, and previously retained Sanderson Stewart, an engineering firm, to conduct a comprehensive safety assessment for the neighborhood.¹

Upon review of the findings provided by Sanderson Stewart, it has been recommended that alternative safety measures be considered at this time, rather than the installation of speed humps. Specifically, the Sanderson Stewart Report has identified several actions deemed more suitable to address the safety concerns within the area:

1. Improving sight distances through vegetation maintenance;
2. Installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Pavestone Trail and Beringer Way;
3. Pedestrian Warning Signs and Crosswalks potentially at the following locations:
 - a. the intersection of Pavestone Trail & 52nd Street West;
 - b. the intersection of Pavestone Trail and Beringer Way;
 - c. the intersection of Pavestone Trail and Evening Shadow Lane; and
 - d. the intersection of 52nd Street West with Evening Shadow Lane.
4. The use of dynamic speed feedback signs along 52nd Street West; and
5. The use of rapid flashing beacons at crosswalk locations.

The County believes that some or all of these options would be effective in addressing the safety concerns you have raised. The Sanderson Stewart Report has recommended implementing the first three measures initially, with a subsequent evaluation to identify any further safety requirements. It is also important to note that the installation of speed humps is unprecedented on similar roads within the county.

¹ The Sanderson Stewart Study, dated August 10, 2023, is attached.

If you believe that your neighborhood would like to implement some or all of the measures outlined above, the Public Works Department can send out a survey ballot to the residents. This survey ballot will outline the different options, along with projected costs, allowing the neighborhood to vote on what improvements they would like to have if any. If more than 50% approve of the expenditures, Public Works will arrange for the improvements.

Please do not hesitate to contact the County with any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

John Ostlund, Chairman
Yellowstone County Commissioner

Date _____

Mark Morse, Member
Yellowstone County Commissioner

Donald W. Jones, Member
Yellowstone County Commissioner

Attachment: Sanderson Stewart Study