

# Lorraine Road emails referenced by Commissioner Baugh

**From:** [Amy Charron](#)  
**To:** [Vanessa Baugh](#)  
**Subject:** Lorraine Road speed limit  
**Date:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 2:23:12 PM

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Good afternoon,

I would like you to review the speed limit on Lorraine Rd., South of Green Brook Boulevard to University Boulevard which is 35 miles an hour. The supporters of this petition would like it increased to 45 mph, similar to the adjacent University Boulevard. This portion of Lorraine Road does not have school zones, and is not a residential street. have enclosed a petition that so far has 90 supporters. Please let me know the next steps, thank you Amy Charron, M.D.

[https://www.change.org/p/vanessa-baugh-mymanatee-org-lorraine-speed-limit-45-mph?recruiter=799027054&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=copylink&utm\\_campaign=share\\_petition&utm\\_term=share\\_petition](https://www.change.org/p/vanessa-baugh-mymanatee-org-lorraine-speed-limit-45-mph?recruiter=799027054&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_term=share_petition)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jenny Pfeiffer](#)  
**To:** [Vanessa Baugh](#)  
**Subject:** Keep Lorraine Rd 35mph Please  
**Date:** Thursday, September 28, 2017 6:20:50 PM

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Hello,

I see that there is a petition going around to raise the speed limit on Lorraine Road from 35 to 45mph. I would like to add a voice on the other side of those signing the petition.

My children, age 8 and 10, bike from our home near Adventure Park in Greenbrook to McNeal Elementary School every morning and afternoon. There are a large number of both elementary and middle school students that cross Lorraine Road twice a day. I believe keeping a low speed limit up to the school zone will help the crossing guards keep themselves and the children more safe.

In addition, having driven down Lorraine Road often over the 10 years we have lived in Greenbrook, I can tell you there are a lot of runners and bikers along this route. I see no reason to raise the speed limit to 45 (meaning most will travel at 55mph) on this road that traverses residential and school areas. If there is a petition to keep the 35mph limit, I would like to sign it. Those who would like to drive faster can take the interstate instead of a road right through my neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration and everything you do for our county!

Jennifer Pfeiffer

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Jennifer A. Pfeiffer  
941-209-9842  
[jennyandjeffp@gmail.com](mailto:jennyandjeffp@gmail.com)

**Michael W. Anuszewski Jr.**

**6554 Field Sparrow Glen**

**Lakewood Ranch, Fl. 34202**

**[Fd1007@verizon.net](mailto:Fd1007@verizon.net)**

**941-727-8138**

**County Commissioners**

**Manatee County Florida**

**Date: Sept. 29, 2017**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**My name is Mike Anuszewski and I write to you today as there is a storm brewing involving my community.**

**I live in The Fields community off of Greenbrook, 1 block west of Lorraine Rd.**

**My wife, son and I relocated here upon the retirement of my wife from the Fire Dept. in Baltimore County, Md. I have been retired for 8 years from the Fire Dept. in Howard County, Md. where I served as a firefighter EMT for 28 years as a career person and 4 years prior to my employment was a Volunteer FF/EMT in the same county.**

**We relocated here in August of 2017, after many trips here over the past year. We were looking into schools, crime, housing, traffic etc... All of the things many homeowners look at if they are responsible parents before relocating.**

**We were intrigued with the overall area (Bradenton, Sarasota) from the pristine beaches, to the lower crime rate (we are from the suburbs of Baltimore), the wonderful schools and dedication of the teachers and staff.**

**Our home, while smaller then what we had in Maryland is a beautiful place, in a quiet neighborhood where my son can ride his bike or walk to school. The view over our lake behind the house is impressive when the sun sets in the evening.**

There is an app in our community called NEXTDOOR, which one of my friendly neighbors insisted I join.

I did so and had been enjoying the information I was getting from the community until the other day.

Ms. Baugh, you were involved in some of the conversation. I will explain more.

Apparently, sometime in 2015, there was a move to increase the speed limit on Lorrain Rd. south of SR70 to University P/W from 35mph to 45mph. apparently it was moved to keep it at 35, something I was glad to see with schools on each end of that stretch of roadway.

This move has surfaced again with a petition to increase the speed limit to 45mph.

I, as well as others on the NEXDOOR app voiced our displeasure and have now been attacked verbally as being fallacious and inappropriate. While at no time did we say anything inappropriate of other than disagree with the increase speed proposed.

As a retired public safety official, I have seen my share of crazy, stupid and deadly traffic accidents.

People are exceeding the 35mph speed limit by as much as 20mph (my wife paced someone for a ¼ mile of open road, yes, dumb I know and she admitted so) but she had been doing 35 from University P/W northbound and was passed on the left by a lady in a black BMW. All of this was in the area just north of Willis Elementary.

Today, I had someone pass me as he gave me a gesture with his finger in a blue f150 p/u in an area near the speed warning sign Northbound north of Willis Elementary. His speed would not post just said SLOW DOWN!

My arguments for NOT INCREASING are as follows:

1. If people are exceeding now at 50-55mph, they will increase their speed more if the limit is raised to 45mph.
2. The roadway from Greenbrook to University, while 2 lanes in each direction has no shoulder to pull over to if you break down, thus leaving the potential for an accident with disabled vehicles in lane of travel.
3. There are a few areas (such as Country Club Area) with access from both sides of the roadway. There are blind spots for left turns in both directions. A traffic light would aid this potential crash area.

4. One argument posted on NEXTDOOR was there are sidewalks and curbs. While this is true I have had 2 construction worker fatalities (struck by a vehicle leaving the roadway over a curb at 50+mph. These were 2 separate incidents where workers were working in the median strip. Another involved a pedestrian jogger, on a paved pathway, 30-40 ft. off of the road. Similar to our sidewalks.
5. There are the two well marked school zones on Lorraine (at Nolan M/S and McNeal E/S Greenbrook area) and (in the area of Willis E/S). There will be too much speed coming north on Lorraine to the area of Greenbrook. One argument on NEXTDOOR is the use of the crossing guards. Well they cannot stop a speeding car.

I saw a vehicle at the intersection of Greenbrook and Lorraine blatantly ignore the posted signage of NO RIGHT TURN ON RED WHEN PEDESTRIANS ARE IN CROSSWALK! I have had horns blown at me as someone was in a hurry to get someplace.

The number of people that exceed the 35mph speed now is ridiculous. If it is increased we are looking at some real issues with injury and property damages are going to increase.

People in the morning and afternoons especially are in a hurry to return from work and do not care about anyone or themselves.

Another comment frequently shared to push this initiative is the fact that the Sheriff's Dept. uses this area as a "CASH COW" for the county.

I always refute that as safety is a priority. I came from an area with red-light cameras and speed cameras are used. If folks just obeyed the laws they would have no basis to need the radar, cameras etc....



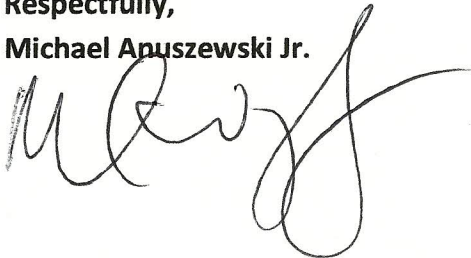
**I plead with all of you, for the sake of all of our community to ignore this request when it comes forth and maintain the 35mph limit, at least thru the residential areas. It is out of PURE SAFETY that I ask you to do this.**

**Please feel free to contact me via the methods above. I am willing to testify should a hearing arise on this matter. Being new I am learning the county and state government policies so if someone could drop me an email or a phone call I would make myself available.**

**Thank You and Good Day!**

**Respectfully,**

**Michael Anuszewski Jr.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Anuszewski Jr.", written in a cursive style.

**From:** [Thomas Hickey](#)  
**To:** [Vanessa Baugh](#)  
**Subject:** Petition to raise speed limit of Lorraine  
**Date:** Friday, September 29, 2017 7:32:05 AM

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Dear Vanessa,

There is a petition being signed to get the speed limit raised on Lorraine between University and 70. I believe this would be a mistake and is being promoted by selfish people who are in way too much of a hurry. Local residents ride their bicycles and walk their dogs along this nice stretch of Lorraine and those of us that live close to Lorraine, already have enough road noise. Raising the limit will increase traffic and very likely reduce safety. Additional traffic lights would be needed ( at least one at Players) at taxpayer expense. I hope the speed limit will remain 35.

Kind Regards,  
Tom Hickey

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Thomas P. Hickey  
Tom Hickey Consulting LLC  
14213 Bathgate Terrace  
Bradenton, FL 34202

Mobile: 614-348-5093

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**From:** [Amy Charron](#)  
**To:** [Vanessa Baugh](#)  
**Subject:** 35 miles an hour on Lorraine Road  
**Date:** Friday, September 29, 2017 12:46:02 PM

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[https://www.change.org/p/vanessa-baugh-mymanatee-org-lorraine-speed-limit-45-mph?recruiter=799027054&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=copylink&utm\\_campaign=share\\_petition&utm\\_term=share\\_petition](https://www.change.org/p/vanessa-baugh-mymanatee-org-lorraine-speed-limit-45-mph?recruiter=799027054&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_term=share_petition)

Sent from my iPhone

Good afternoon, as of today, our petition is now 163 signatures. We would like to see the speed limit on Lorraine Road between University Boulevard and Green Brook Boulevard increased to 45 mph.

Please let me know how many signatures we need an order for this to get the county's attention. Thank you, Amy Charron



**From:** [Rick Libro](#)  
**To:** [Vanessa Baugh](#)  
**Subject:** Lorraine rd speed limit  
**Date:** Friday, September 29, 2017 1:27:19 PM

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The 35 mph speed should be changed on this road. The speed is so slow that no one actually drives that speed. Why so low on a 4 lane rd. Please help to change

Rick Libro  
14235 Sundial Place  
Lwr

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Stella Lineburg](#)  
**To:** [Vanessa Baugh](#)  
**Subject:** Raising the Speed limit  
**Date:** Friday, September 29, 2017 1:29:59 PM

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I live in Greenbrook East and use Lorraine Rd daily. Increasing the speed limit to 45 would be beneficial, as I use University daily. I mainly travel south to most activities and shopping. Thanks for your consideration in this matter.

Stella Lineburg  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [ricki.rubin@gmail.com](mailto:ricki.rubin@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Vanessa Baugh](#)  
**Subject:** Speed Limit Lorraine  
**Date:** Monday, October 02, 2017 12:26:42 AM

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Commissioner Vanessa,

I am writing because I have heard that the county is considering raising the speed limit on Lorraine Rd to 45. I am writing to ask you to vote yes on raising the speed limit to 45. I live in Greenbrook and drive down Lorraine every day and almost NO ONE driving down Lorraine drives 35. Believe it or not, It is very difficult to drive 35. I personally try to go the speed limit but always find myself and others going faster. Not that we want to speed but it is like driving an open road with nothing around it. All the homes are either behind a gate or have a high berm and shrubs. Changing the speed limit to 45 will be a positive for our community.

Thanks You,

Ricki Rubin

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [brent.rubin](#)  
**To:** [Vanessa Baugh](#)  
**Subject:** Lorraine Road  
**Date:** Monday, October 02, 2017 11:47:39 AM

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Dear Commissioners:

I am writing because I have heard that the county is considering raising the speed limit on Lorraine Rd to 45. I am writing to ask you to vote yes on raising the speed limit to 45. I live in Greenbrook and drive down Lorraine every day and almost NO ONE driving down Lorraine drives 35. It is very difficult to drive 35. I personally try to go the speed limit but always find myself and others going faster. Not that we want to speed but it is like driving an open road with nothing around it. All the homes are either behind a gate or have a high berm and shrubs. Changing the speed limit to 45 will be a positive for our community.

Thanks Brent Rubin 14911 Bowfin Terrace LWR 34202

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



## MANATEE COUNTY FLORIDA

September 26, 2017

Manatee County School Board Chairman Charlie Kennedy  
School District of Manatee County  
215 Manatee Avenue West  
Bradenton, FL 34205

Dear Chairman Kennedy.

On behalf of the County Commission, I extend our sincere appreciation to you for the outstanding support role Manatee County School District played during Hurricane Irma and Manatee County's largest ever emergency evacuation. As they have proven to be in the past, Dr. Greene and School District personnel were invaluable partners throughout the storm and in the days leading up to it. Many thanks to those who opened and staffed the shelters. That action ensured the safety of 25,000 people and thousands of pets who sought security in the temporary shelters that are our community's school facilities.

Those large numbers of people, however, were only a portion of the thousands who live in areas that were placed under mandatory and voluntary evacuation orders. In the two days that passed from the time the initial evacuation notice was sent and the storm's arrival, our shelters reached 70 percent capacity. Had conditions warranted, evacuation orders may have expanded prompting many thousands more to leave their homes for shelters.

In an emergency, hurricane shelter space is a precious commodity and the County Commission believes there is a mounting need for additional shelter space to accommodate Manatee County's fast-growing population. Further complicating our shelter situation is the historical pattern of hurricanes as referenced in the 2017 Florida Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program's Evacuation Analysis (<http://www.wfrpc.org/programs/evacuation-study>). The report recognizes typical hurricane movements (south to north) and that evacuees seek shelter to the north.

A community's shelter space requirements are dictated by the Florida Division of Emergency Management and updated bi-annual in the Statewide Emergency Shelter plan. The most recent version of this report, the 2016 Statewide Emergency Shelter Plan (<http://www.floridadisaster.org/Response/engineers/SESPlans/2016SESPlan/>) encompasses the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council's (TBRPC) geographic area for its study. The report states that the TBRPC area has a surplus of general population shelter capacity and a deficit in special needs shelter capacity.

Board of County Commissioners  
1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, FL 34205  
[www.mymanatee.org](http://www.mymanatee.org) \* Phone: 941.745.3700 \* FAX: 941.745.3790

**PRISCILLA W. TRACE • CHARLES B. SMITH • STEPHEN R. JONSSON • ROBIN DISABATINO • VANESSA BAUGH • CAROL WHITMORE • BETSY BENAC**

*District 1*

*District 2*

*District 3*

*District 4*

*District 5*

*At Large*

*At Large*

However, that plan uses dated population numbers, putting Manatee County's population at 331,525. The most recent U.S. Census estimate puts Manatee County's population closer 375,000 residents. The Emergency Shelter Plan also states that the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council (SWFRPC) area to our south has "extreme deficits in shelter capacity." In other words, if hurricanes continue to expand in frequency and intensity, the likelihood grows that residents to the south will flee north. Many will stop in Manatee County for shelter where space, we know, is already limited. (Please see attached local media reports regarding shelter shortage in Manatee County.)

The storm brought with it many important lessons, but none were more evident than the critical role emergency shelters have in a coastal community like ours. I hope you will agree with the Manatee County Commission's determination that additional shelter space is needed in our community.

I write to ask for the School Board's support in creating more shelter space for Manatee County residents. To that end, we ask for a postponement of design and construction for the new middle and elementary schools planned in Parrish. We understand plans for the new North County High School have progressed to a point that hurricane hardening will bring additional expense. However, there is still time to build the new middle and elementary schools to hurricane shelter standards.

We hope the School Board will join the County Commission this fall in requesting that the state use more accurate population statistics to make hurricane shelter space recommendations, and that the state consider modifying the geographic boundaries pursuant to which shelter capacity is analyzed. We also ask that you join us in a request for state funding to harden your new schools, so they may be built to accommodate evacuees in the future. We understand that local resources are scarce, and we believe that the issue of creating sufficient shelter space for Floridians in vulnerable areas should be a state responsibility.

We were fortunate to avoid a direct impact from Hurricane Irma, and that there was no need for heightened evacuation orders. But that storm underscored an important passage from the 2016 Plan that states, "*it is critical that new school facilities be appropriately designed and located to serve the required emergency function.*" The time to create additional hurricane shelter space is now.

Thank you again for your past and ongoing support of our community's needs and public safety pursuits.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA



Betsy Benac  
Chairman

## **Manatee County facing dire need for more hurricane shelters**

**By Dale White**

**Staff Writer**

Posted Sep 19, 2017 at 2:24 PM

Updated Sep 19, 2017 at 2:26 PM

**Three planned schools are not slated to be storm resistant.**

MANATEE COUNTY – When Florida updates its statewide emergency shelter plan in January, Manatee County expects to have a shortage of hardened public schools to accept hurricane evacuees, not just from within its borders but from counties to the south.

Yet, while the School Board intends to build a high school, middle school and elementary school in fast-growing Parrish, its construction plans do not call for any of those campuses to be storm resistant.

On Tuesday, the County Commission said it will appeal to state lawmakers to assist in the extra costs to harden future schools, which it believes will be warranted when the statewide evacuation plan undergoes its next biannual update.

Currently, the county has 25 public schools designated as shelters with a capacity of roughly 35,000. During Hurricane Irma, the school district opened 24 shelters and accommodated more than 25,000 evacuees. The shelters averaged being at 70 percent capacity.

“That’s a scary situation,” county planner John Osborne said, noting that only coastal Zone A and the mobile home parks were under a mandatory evacuation order and Zone B was put on voluntary evacuation.

According to the 2016 statewide emergency shelter plan still in effect, Manatee has surplus capacity in its shelters.

Given current state requirements, the School Board is not required to build more schools that meet shelter standards, County Administrator Ed Hunzeker said.

Yet county officials say that determination is based on low and outdated population projections by the University of Florida. They say the county may now have as many as 375,000 residents, a figure UF did not project happening until 2020.

The latest federal census figure for Manatee puts its population at more than 363,000.

County officials expect the updated statewide evacuation plan will show Manatee with a deficit of shelter space. They want to work with the School Board to find funding to make the schools to be built in Parrish meet shelter standards.

North River High School is the first of those three campuses to be built. The \$80 million, 334,000-square-foot campus is expected to open in August 2019.

Osborne said, on average, the additional costs of hardening a school is about \$2.9 million.

Patricia Petruff, an attorney for the School Board, previously told commissioners that hardening the new high school could cost an additional \$8 million to \$10 million.

School Board member Scott Hopes previously told commissioners that, if it can proceed with current construction plans for the high school, the school district could work with the county to harden the next campus to be built – an elementary school on Moccasin Wallow Road, less than a mile to the north.



Commissioners said they will convey their concerns to the School Board and appeal to state legislators to assist the school district with the extra expense of hardening campuses.

"The School Board is our partner in this," Commissioner Betsy Benac said.

Commissioner Robin DiSabatino said the county should also seek funding assistance from U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan, R-Longboat Key. Buchanan stayed at Manatee's Emergency Operations Center during Irma and is aware the need for adequate shelters, she said.

Osborne noted that demand for shelter accommodations in Manatee is not just based on the county's population. The county can expect to also take in evacuees from communities to the south, especially from areas with "low topography" such as Charlotte County. "People will leave and move to points north," Osborne said.

Commissioner Stephen Jonsson said the schools cannot deny people admission to shelters because they are not Manatee residents. "That's inhumane," Jonsson said.



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