



## Board of County Commissioners August 24, 2021 - Regular Meeting

### **SUBJECT**

AUTHORIZATION TO INSTALL SPEED TABLES ON TARA BOULEVARD BETWEEN TARA PRESERVE LANE AND LINGER LODGE ROAD

### **Category**

CONSENT AGENDA

### **Briefings**

None

### **Contact and/or Presenter Information**

Vishal S. Kakkad, PE, PTOE, RSP1, Traffic Engineering Division Manager, Ext. 7812

### **Action Requested**

Direct Public Works staff to install three speed tables on Tara Boulevard between Tara Preserve Lane and Linger Lodge Road.

### **Enabling/Regulating Authority**

Florida State Statutes: Chapter 316.006 - Jurisdiction to Control Traffic; Chapter 316.008 - Powers of Local Authorities

### **Background Discussion**

Over the years, staff has received requests for traffic calming, stop signs, and other related traffic control devices on Tara Boulevard to control the speeding vehicles.

The Board of County Commissioners has adopted traffic calming procedures that allow organized residential groups to request traffic calming. Upon collecting data, Public Works staff determines if the criteria to install traffic calming measures (such as, speed tables) are met. If the criteria are met, the community will need to provide support from at least 67% of the impacted homeowners in the area. Roads designated as thoroughfares in the County's Comprehensive Plan were in the past not considered for traffic calming measures. Tara Boulevard is designated as a thoroughfare (an urban collector) in the Functional Classification Section of the Manatee County Comprehensive Plan.

Public Works staff is preparing an update to the adopted Traffic Circulation Plan and, based on input from the Board and public, staff proposes to remove Tara Boulevard from Honore Avenue to Linger Lodge Road from the Plan. The section proposed for removal includes the planned bridge over the Braden River. While the existing section of Tara Boulevard from Linger Lodge Road to SR 70 will remain a collector roadway on the Traffic Circulation Plan, the road and land use characteristics support consideration of traffic calming measures.

Tara Boulevard is a 4-lane divided roadway from State Road 70 to Tara Preserve Lane and a 2-lane undivided roadway between Tara Preserve Lane to Linger Lodge Road. The posted speed limit on Tara Boulevard is 30 mph. Tara Boulevard is also designated to be used by golf carts through a County ordinance. The 2-lane section of Tara Boulevard has several horizontal curves. There have been some reported crashes in this section. However, over the years, residents have shared pictures of some unreported crashes causing property damage in this section as well.

Staff is evaluating a long-term capital improvement plan (CIP) project to accommodate the needs of all road users along Tara Boulevard while preserving the community's character and implementing a safe speeds approach. While several options are being considered and evaluated, as an interim measure, staff proposes to install three speed tables on Tara Boulevard between Tara Preserve Lane and Linger Lodge Road. Because this is a County-initiated traffic calming project, instead of the typical process to obtain support from 67% of the homeowners, staff requested and received a support letter (attached) from Tara Community Development District.

Upon the Board's approval, staff will install three temporary speed tables at the locations identified in the attached aerial map. The temporary speed tables will remain a minimum of 90 days to allow for citizens' input for the devices. After the trial period, and depending on the community feedback as well as the timing of the long-term project, staff will consider installing permanent speed tables. The permanent speed tables will be installed typically within six to eight weeks following the conclusion of the trial period.

The cost reported includes installation of three temporary speed tables (trial period) at \$4,500, and three permanent speed tables at \$19,500, for a total cost of \$24,000. Because there is no dedicated revenue in the current fiscal year's budget to install the speed tables, staff will re-allocate the operating budget to accommodate this request. The funds will be allocated from Traffic Operations (101-0020707) and Road Maintenance (101-0011200).

#### **Attorney Review**

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

#### **Instructions to Board Records**

Please send a stamped copy of the agenda memorandum to Jeff Bishop (jeff.bishop@mymanatee.org), Public Works Department, Traffic Engineering Division, Ext. 7815.

Distributed 9/15/21, RT

**Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name**

\$24,000, 1010020707-Traffic Operations for Signs, Pavement Markings, and Temporary Tables and 1010011200-Road Maintenance for road work and construction.

**Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs**

\$267/yr.-Maintenance and Repairs

# TARA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT I

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District Office – Tampa, FL – 813-533-2950  
Mailing Address – 3434 Colwell Avenue, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33614  
[www.taracdd.org](http://www.taracdd.org)

July 30,2021

Dear Mr. Bishop,

I write this on behalf of the Board of Supervisors of the Tara Preserve Community Development District. I currently sit as Chairman of the Board but have served on the Board for the last 13 years. During my tenure on the Board, we have continuously lobbied the County Commissioners and the Public Works office on behalf of the 1,100 homeowners for additional safety measures on our section of Tara Blvd.

Although some improvements have been made over the years and are appreciated, there have still been numerous accidents along the District's section of Tara Blvd due to those violating the speed limits at excessive speeds. Over the last 13 years myself and along with other Board Members have met with County Commissioners and Representatives of Public Works to suggest improvements to slow traffic on this twisting stretch of road. The Board is in support of your proposal of 2-3 speed tables from Tara Preserve Lane to Linger Lodge Road. The Board feels this would greatly aid in the effort of reducing accidents and saving lives. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Darby Connor - Chairman Tara Community Development District

CC: Joseph DiBartolomeo – Vice Chairman  
Barbara Linden – Assistant Secretary  
Joseph Mojica – Assistant Secretary  
Peyton Phillips – Assistant Secretary





Tara Preserve Ln.  
Posted Speed Limit 30 mph  
Urban Collector

Tara Preserve Ln.  
Posted Speed Limit 25 mph

Proposed Speed Table  
Location #1

Tara Blvd.  
Posted Speed Limit 30 mph  
Urban Collector

Tailfeather Way.  
Posted Speed Limit 25 mph

Proposed Speed Table  
Location #2

Proposed Speed Table  
Location #3

Cedar Hollow Ct.

Linger Lodge Rd.  
Posted Speed Limit 30 mph  
Urban Collector

Tailfeather Way.  
Posted Speed Limit 25 mph

Location:  
**Tara Blvd.  
Between  
Tara Preserve Ln. &  
Linger Lodge Rd.**

Subject: Proposed Speed Table Locations	
Designed by:	Dwg. No:
Drawn by: DF	Date: 7-27-21
Checked by:	Scale: NTS



**Public Works Department**  
Traffic Engineering Division

2101 47th Terrace East  
Bradenton, FL. 34203