

2-25-2020 Report by Jenifer Keenan - Traffic Safety Improvements for Howard Middle School

Representatives of APS, City of Atlanta (COA) and Howard/Inman met on 2/13/20 to discuss traffic and transportation safety improvements and bike/pedestrian accessibility improvements for Howard. The recommended improvements were based on the traffic study/analysis performed by COA as well as input from APS and Inman/Howard administration provided during the initial meeting between these stakeholders in early December. The following people attended the 2/13/2020 meeting:

Jenifer Keenan - Go Team Traffic Safety Committee Chair

Kevin Maxwell - Inman/Howard Principal

Shanda Beadles - Inman/Howard Business Manager

Susanna Roberts - Inman PTO

Mark Tai - City of Atlanta/Transportation

Nursef Kedir - City of Atlanta/Transportation

John Franklin - APS Head of Transportation

Michelle Olympiadis - School Board Rep

Betty Smoot-Madison - City of Atlanta

Cary Bearn - City of Atlanta Chief Bicycle Officer (Dept of Planning/Transportation)

Jay Tribby - Chief of Staff for Councilman Farokhi

Traffic Safety Improvements

The improvements recommended by COA are identified in bold on the excel spreadsheet. All improvements in bold will be provided by COA. COA currently does not have funding for RFB crosswalk signs at McGruder and Randolph. Jay Tribby, Chief of Staff to Councilman Farokhi, will help identify potential funding options to include in COA's July budget. APS and the Inman/Howard community many need to contribute funds as well.

Crossing Guards

Dr. Maxwell anticipates that APS will fund two crossing guards for Howard. APS has not yet identified the locations of crossing guards. Office Littles will be located near the Carpool Lane/access from the Freedom Parkway trail.

BeltLine Access

McGruder has been identified as the best access point from the BeltLine to the school. McGruder is relatively flat and will lead directly to the bike racks located near the bus lanes. Infrastructure improvements identified on the spreadsheet will help to make McGruder the safest and most convenient way for kids to get to and from the BeltLine.

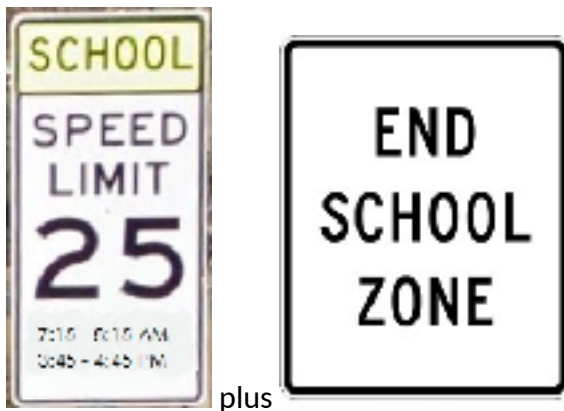
School Zone Signs

School Zone signs with 25 MPH designation must be approved by GDOT. COA will submit the required reports to GDOT to obtain approval for School Zone/25 MPH signs for Irwin, Randolph, Howell, and John Wesley Dobbs. COA will initially install School signs without a speed limit and will replace with School Zone 25 mph signs after approval is obtained from GDOT.

Initial School Signs:



Upgraded Signs After GDOT Approval:



Education/Community Outreach

Dr. Maxwell will meet with neighborhood organizations for Old Fourth Ward to discuss the traffic and transportation safety improvements that will be implemented for Howard.

The Go Team/Howard Administration will organize an education campaign and several “walk/ride” events to introduce the Inman/Howard community to the best and safest ways to access the school.

2-25-2020 Update on Timing of Improvements from COA

“The all-way stop at McGruder/Sampson requires a notification period. That will take about a month. Other signs can be installed fairly quickly, although we may want to hold off a month or two so there is less chance of construction activity damaging them.

Markings will take longer, with the schedule dependent on and backlogged due to the weather, but should be able to be done within a few months.

ADA ramp work will typically take the longest, and are also weather dependent, but we should have those in by July. At the worst case at least the associated crosswalks will be in place by then, assuming the locations are confirmed as suitable for constructing the ramps when the crews can get to them.”