

Speed Humps come to Asylum Hill

Back in 2017 the City of Hartford received a grant to provide traffic calming measures throughout the City. Many neighborhoods and residents asked for speed humps as a way to slow traffic on their streets. Prior to this, each request was individually responded to including an assessment as to whether a speed hump at the proposed location would be legal, effective and advisable and if the City had the funds to proceed.



Mayor Bronin's administration sought to streamline the process, so they began with an assessment of all City Streets to determine which could and which could not qualify for this traffic calming method.

Not surprisingly, major thoroughfares like Farmington and Asylum Avenues would not qualify. In addition, streets that are either bus routes or frequent emergency vehicle routes or that have high volumes of traffic were also eliminated. Finally streets where the presence of speed humps could make driving dangerous were also eliminated.

What was left were the largely residential streets where speed humps were appropriate. The process was then turned over to the NRZs in the City to solicit input from the residents as to where the speed humps were desired by a significant number of residents on those streets. They were tasked with getting signatures, discussing the proposed locations and submitting the list to the City. Originally the process was thought to be very quick, with the speed humps installed by the end of that Summer.

Due to funding issues, the whole project was postponed by more than a year, however by August of this year the contractor was chosen and work began.

Asylum Hill, which already had two speed humps on the eastern portion of Sargeant St and one on Niles St was scheduled to receive additional speed humps on three new location, namely the western portion of Sargeant St., the southern part of Laurel St. and South Marshall St.

Finally, in October, Asylum Hill received a total of 4 new speed humps. They are accompanied by warning signs that recommend a 15 mph speed limit. All of them have now been painted making them somewhat visible, although it is hoped that the street

leading up to the hump will also be marked as the previous speed humps are so that the intended purpose of slower speeds and increased safety can be achieved.

One More step in the effort to make Asylum Hill a safer place to be.