

Special Edition—Traffic Management & Safety

Rush Hour Traffic:

Evening rush hour commuters cut through Clyde Hill to get to SR 520, especially when the 520 mainline is congested. The high volumes of traffic and back-ups on City streets and the associated local impact is very frustrating to residents, who asked the City Council to do something about the cut through and traffic safety problem. Commuters will often use traffic applications and will unconsciously follow directions, unaware of the community consequences and other equally viable alternatives. Although the problem is a regional one and mainly outside of the City's control, after considerable examination, the City Council authorized the start of a new Traffic Management and Traffic Safety Program to help mitigate local problems. The following is a broad overview of the Program and its associated Plans.



Key to the Plan

Make it a little harder and slower to go through Clyde Hill. A recent traffic study showed that it takes a commuter from downtown Bellevue going to Seattle just about the same amount of time to cut through Clyde Hill as it would take them to use Bellevue Way. However, traffic apps tend to suggest that using Clyde Hill is a slightly quicker route...but only by a few minutes at best. A key guiding principle of the Traffic Management Plan is to make afternoon weekday commute travel a little slower getting to SR 520 when going through Clyde Hill versus using Bellevue Way.

First Step - New Speed Radar Signs

A first step in the Plan calls for the installation of ten solar speed radar signs located throughout Clyde Hill. To help manage speeding, the Council reviewed many traffic calming alternatives, including speed bumps. Traffic engineering studies show that these types of signs have been most effective in helping to reduce speed versus other calming alternatives. The radar signs will also have the capability of collecting speed and volume data that the City will use to help evaluate other parts of the Plan.

Tiered Approach

The City's Traffic & Speed Management Program is designed to be an incremental approach to slowing down traffic during peak commute times. Although the overall Plan looks at ways of controlling commuter's favorite Clyde Hill short cuts, not all these ideas will be implemented at the same time, if at all. The Plan's approach is to take one measured step at a time, collect volume/speed data and evaluate the effectiveness to determine if a next step is necessary. Each step will take a few months to communicate, implement, collect data and evaluate so implementation of the entire Plan (if necessary) will take over a year. If some of the early actions are successful, implementing other elements of the overall Plan will not be necessary.

Possible Next Steps

Installation of speed signs will be the first action. Signs should be installed soon. A potential next step is to slow down the ramp meter rate at the 84th Ave on ramp by a second or less. All non-local commuters are vying to get to SR 520 as quick as they can, which means that the west-bound on ramp at 84th Ave is the right place to take initial slow down action. Currently the Bellevue Way on ramp is underutilized. If implemented, this action could be the only necessary step to make Bellevue Way a quicker alternative to cutting through Clyde Hill. However, this step can only become possible with the help and cooperation from the Washington State Department of Transportation and the other Points Communities.

Will be Felt by Everyone

Because City roads are public roads, by law the City cannot discriminate or give special privileges to local residents over commuters. Any actions taken within the Plan will need to be followed by all. Since the cut through problem only happens at selected weekday afternoon commute times, the Plan targets the afternoon commute, and not all day, for any restrictive actions. A successful plan includes increased Police enforcement. Be aware that the Police will be emphasizing the traffic and speed laws in Clyde Hill and don't become one of those pulled over.

Specific Elements of the Program

Background information, Plan maps and answers to questions about the Program can be found in the ["News Section" of the City's homepage](#). The Council has discussed this program over a series of meetings. Links to the background materials and minutes from these meetings is also available from the website.

Want to Know More? - April 11th Open House

The City will hold an open house on April 11th, from 4:30 to 6:30, in City Hall for residents to stop by, view the Plan maps, ask questions about the Program, comment or just see what is going on.

Clyde Hill Views ♦ March 2017

Clyde Hill City Hall: 9605 NE 24th Street
Clyde Hill, WA 98004

City Hall Phone: 425-453-7800

City Hall Fax: 425-462-1936

City Hall email: cityhall@clydehill.org

Hours: 8am - 5pm

Police Department:

Administrative: 425-454-7187

After office hours: 911

Emergency: 911

Mayor: George Martin

City Council Members:

Chris Baker, Bruce Dodds, Marianne Klaas,
Scott Moore, Barre Seibert

City Administrator: Mitch Wasserman

Police Chief: William Archer

Public Works Director : Rick Hill

Assistant City Administrator: John Greenwood

Finance Director: John Gagan

Building Official: Rich Soloski

Inspection Request Line: 425-462-1936

Website: www.clydehill.org

Clyde Hill TV: Channel #21

The Sentinel

Sign up to receive the Police Department's free weekly e-newsletter, *The Sentinel*.

To sign up for The Sentinel:

Go to www.clydehill.org, click the button that says "Police Sentinel Newsletter" and fill out/submit your information.

The Sentinel will be delivered to your email in-box approximately once a week.



CLYDE HILL VIEWS

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City's Streak of Clean Financial Audits Continues for 26th Year

The Washington State Auditor's Office recently completed its annual audit of the City of Clyde Hill for the 2015 fiscal year, and once again issued a clean report.

The audit looked at internal controls, compliance with state laws and fair presentation of financial statements.

For the 26th consecutive year, the City received an unqualified (i.e. no "findings") audit opinion -- very few cities in the state can make this claim. These findings are a testament to the City's strong financial management practices. The Mayor and Council applaud the staff for a job well done.

Audit Reports

Audit reports are public documents; they can be found at both the State Auditor's and the City of Clyde Hill's websites.

<http://portal.seo.wa.gov/ReportSearch/Home/ViewReportFile?am=1018642&isFinding=false&sp=false>

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Republic Services Spring Clean-up Event

Each year, Republic Services provides the residents of Clyde Hill a Spring Cleaning Event.

This event will occur on either Thursday, April 27th or Friday, April 28th (on your regularly-scheduled garage pick-up day.)

You can put out all kinds of unwanted items for pick up; extra garbage, furniture, yard waste, lumber, electronic equipment, small appliances, etc.

Items you MAY NOT put out include: hazardous wastes (such as paint and pesticides), large appliances (such as refrigerators), liquid wastes and tires.

**For more info call
Republic Services:
206-682-9730**

