

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Traffic and Parking Board

DATE: February 24, 2025
DOCKET ITEM: 9
ISSUE: Parking Removal Taney Avenue

REQUESTED BY: The Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association (BSVCA)

LOCATION: Taney Avenue, between Howard Street and Pegram Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: That the Board recommend the Director of T&ES:

Remove:

- Up to 10 parking spaces at the Howard Street, Latham Street, and Pegram Street intersections, and
- Up to 5 parking spaces at the Pickett Street intersection; and

Install stop signs at:

- All approaches of Taney Avenue at Howard Street and Pickett Street intersections.

BACKGROUND: Taney Avenue is a two-lane roadway located within the Brookville-Seminary Valley neighborhood, designed to accommodate on-street parking and bike lanes in some areas. This roadway serves as an important access point to two elementary schools and a local recreational center, making it a key route for children and families. This project focuses on the portion of Taney Avenue between Howard Street and N. Pegram Street.

The City has coordinated with the Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association to address residents concerns regarding the higher travel speeds, stop sign compliance, and safety for people walking and biking along Taney Avenue. Previous data shows majority of drivers travel at speeds higher than 30 MPH. According to the community, the higher travel speeds have led to low stop sign compliance rate and increased safety concerns for vulnerable users.

The project goal, developed in coordination with the community, is to create a safer street through the following strategies:

- Encourage slower travel speeds through Taney Avenue
- Encourage intersection stop sign compliance
- Improve travel safety for vulnerable users
- Continue connectivity for all road users

DISCUSSION: To address the community concerns, staff explored three design alternatives with the community. The first alternative included speed cushions along Taney Avenue. The speed cushions have been a proven effective measure to reduce travel speeds. Due to the designation of Taney Avenue as being an Emergency Response Route from the City's Emergency Management Services Division, the speed cushions would have to be designed with the "cuts" in the middle. These "cuts" allow for emergency vehicles to navigate through the speed cushion with minimal disruption in their response time (refer to Attachment 3 for example). However, the community had concerns regarding the ability for other drivers trying to maneuver through the speed cushion by driving into the opposing lane, increasing potential conflict with opposing vehicles.

The second alternative included traffic circles within the Howard Street, Latham Street, Pickett Street, and Pegram Street intersections. These traffic circles would include modular devices such as flexible post or wheel stops, as well as an increase in painted area. The intent of the traffic circle is to reduce speeds approaching the intersection, while maintaining connectivity. The design and the placement of the modular devices would be such that a large vehicle could run over with minimal damage to the vehicle (refer to Attachment 3 for example). However, the community had concerns regarding the operation of the intersection, potential confusion for intersection users, and large vehicle maneuverability. Additionally, this design had more impacts to school bus routes.

The third alternative included enhancing the existing stop sign with painted median spaces at the intersection of Latham Street and Pegram Street. Additionally, the alternative includes new stop signs and painted median spaces at the Howard Street and Pickett Street intersections. The painted median space encroaches into the existing travel lane. This requires the travel lane to be realigned closer to the curb approaching the intersection, which laterally displaces the vehicle driving path. The realignment requires drivers to slow down, resulting in slower travel speeds approaching the intersection, enhanced visibility of the stop sign, and providing refuge for pedestrians crossing the street. This alternative requires parking removal within each intersection (refer to Attachment 4).

The community's preferred alternative to move forward is the third alternative, Enhanced Stop Sign. Therefore, staff recommend implementing the Enhanced Stop Sign alternative that includes new stop signs and parking removal. This alternative meets all our goals and the strategies to meet the project goals are consistent with the City's [Alexandria Mobility Plan](#) and the [Vision Zero Program](#).

Once approved, the project will continue with detailed design through the early Summer 2025 (see attachment 5). Once further design is complete, construction will begin and is anticipated to be complete Fall 2025. After implementation, we will plan to schedule a reevaluation Spring 2025.

OUTREACH: The Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association (BSVCA) hosted several meetings in which the City attended to gather information, discuss potential options, and

communicate plans moving forward. The Association provided the City their preferred alternative in Fall 2024 (see Attachment 6).

Additionally, the City coordinated with the Alexandria City Public School (ACPS) to understand the potential impacts to school bus routes. Per the conversation with ACPS, modular devices would be placed in locations where impacts are minimal to school buses turning paths.

ATTACHMENT 1: BROOKEVILLE-SEMINARY VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION SPEED CUSHION REQUEST

Application for Speed Cushions

Please fill out this application and return to Cuong.Nguyen@AlexandriaVA.gov or mail to Cuong Nguyen 2900B Business Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22314

1. Have you reviewed the eligibility criteria online? Yes
2. If No, please review the criteria before proceeding
3. If Yes, did your street meet the criteria? Yes
4. If yes, Continue application


Request for Speed Cushions to provide traffic calming:

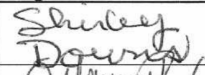
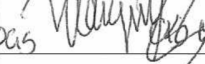



On Street: Taney Avenue
 From Street: N Van Dorn Street
 To Street: N Howard Street

Who is applying for the speed cushion? Please Check One:

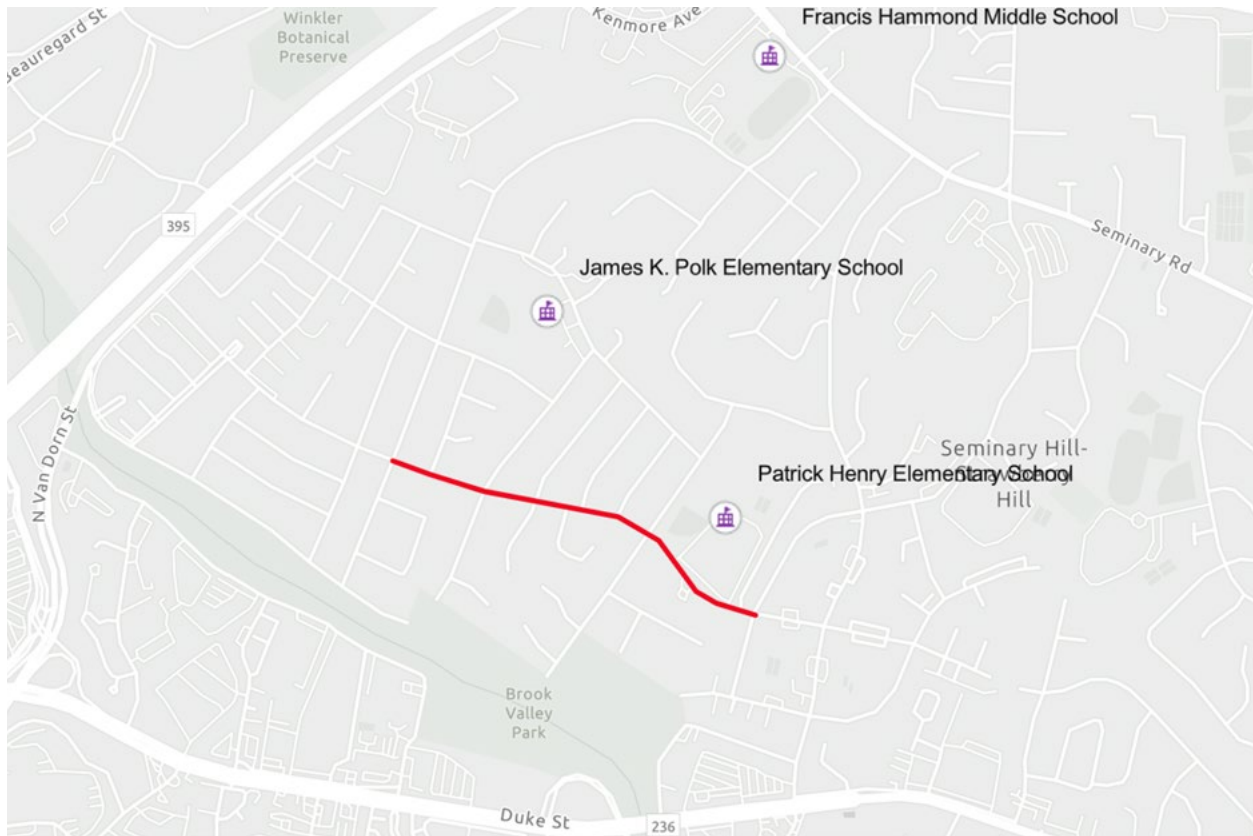
Individual: _____
 Civic or Neighborhood Association: ✓

POINT OF CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Michael Rodriguez - President, Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association
 Email: bsvcainfo@gmail.com
 Phone Number: 813-785-6763
 Address: PO Box 9125 Alexandria VA 22304
 Signature: 

Neighbors in Support of Application (must have 5 signatures)				
	Name	Signature	Street Address	Email Address
1	Shirley Downs		1007 North Vail St. 22304	Shirley - Downs @Comcast.net
2	Mairym Ramos Salinas		5433 Richenbacher Ave	mairym.ramos - salinas@jiv.
3	CAROLYN MEZA		432 N Regan St	CAROLYN JEAN ADAMS@GMAIL.COM
4	Bethany LaMois		603 N. Mansfield St.	Bethany LaMois@gmail.com
5	Ginny Franco		5012 Richenbacher Ave	vfranco1@verizon.net

ATTACHMENT 2: LOCATION (AERIAL) AND (STREETVIEW)



**ATTACHMENT 3: EXAMPLES ALTERNATIVE 1 (SPEED CUSHIONS) AND
ALTERNATIVE 2 (TRAFFIC CIRCLE)-**



Speed Cushions along North Jordan Street, Alexandria, VA

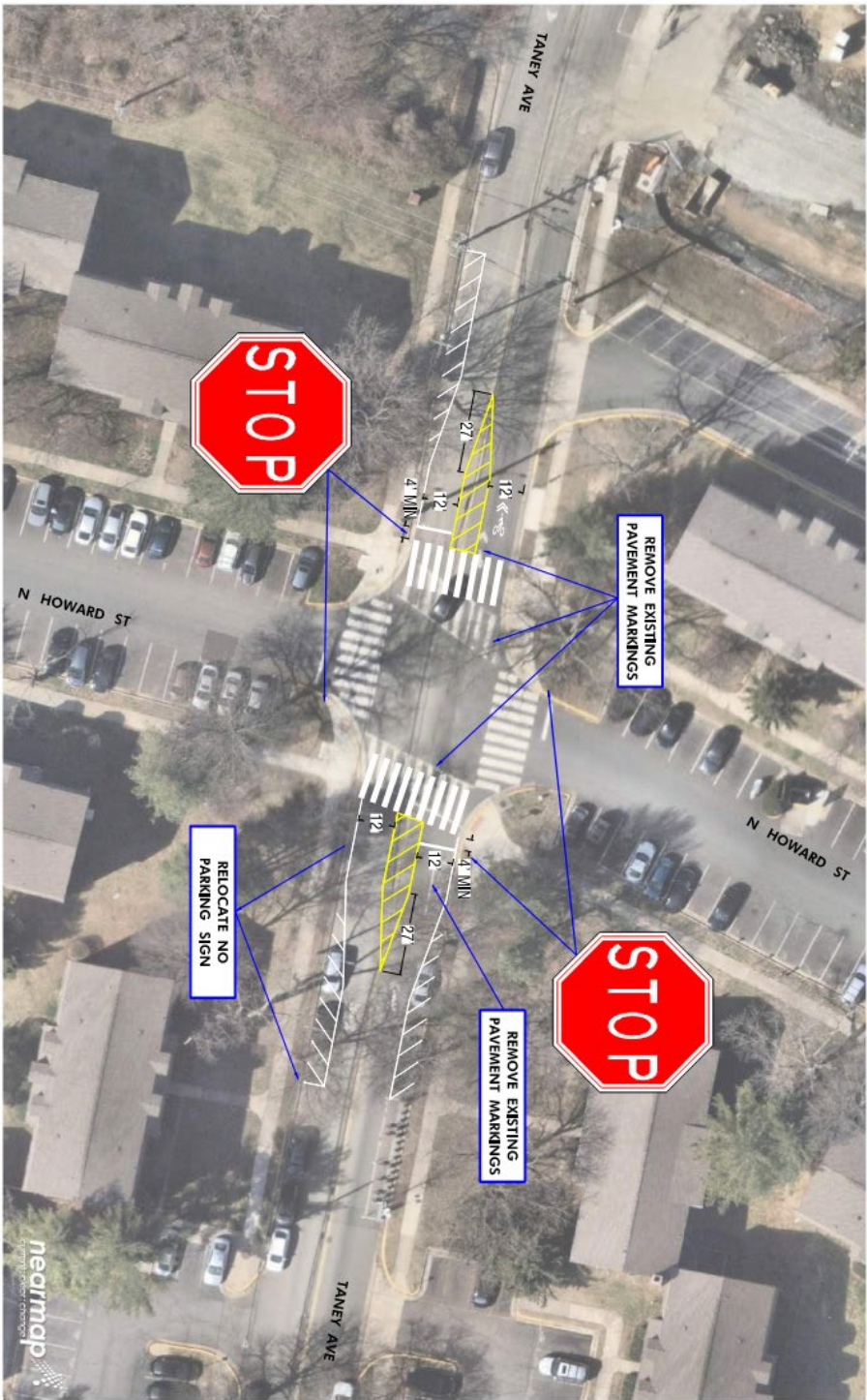


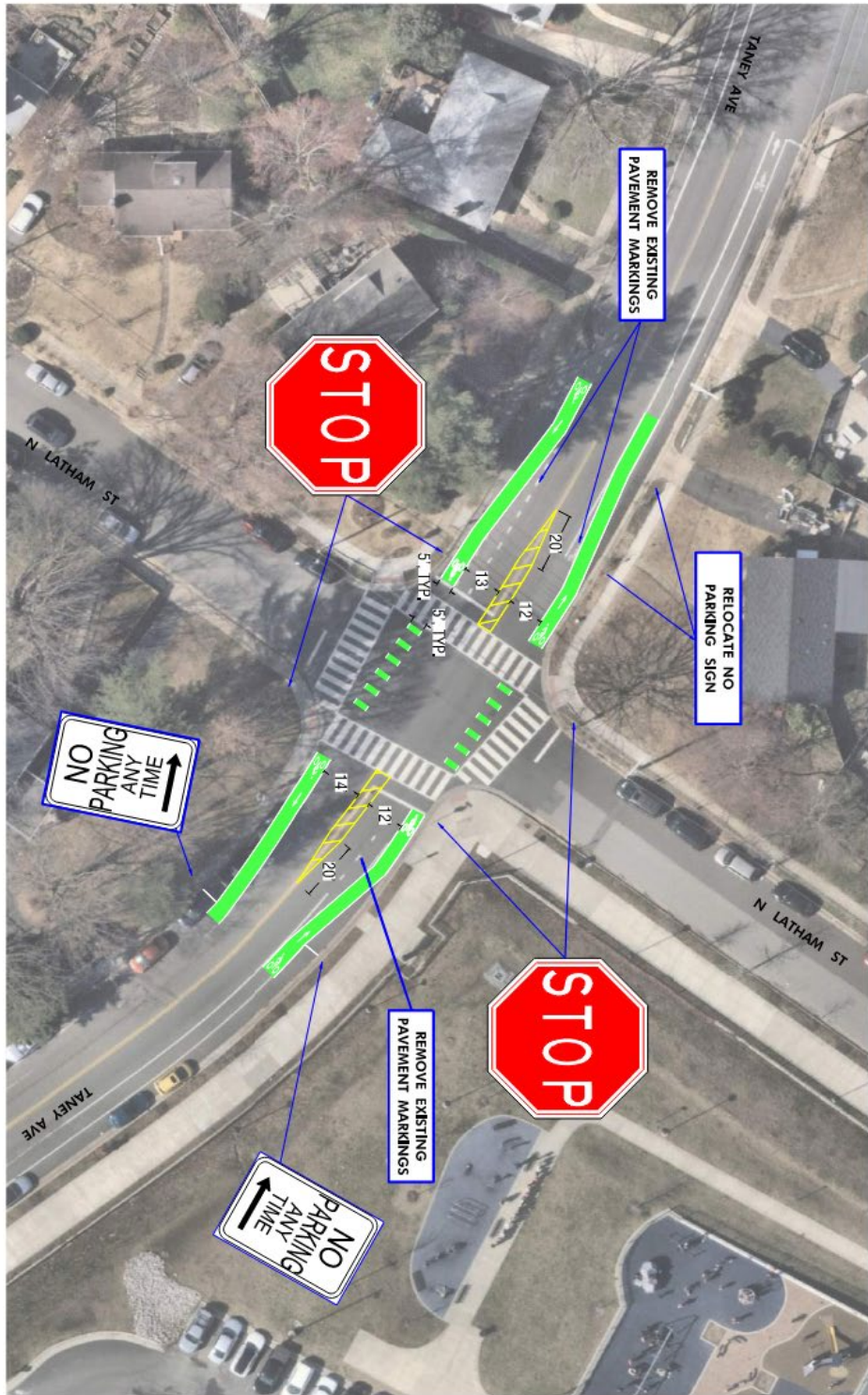
Hickory Street and Kennedy Street Traffic Circle, Alexandria, VA

ATTACHMENT 5: ENHANCED STOP SIGN CONCEPT DESIGN PLAN

TANNEY AVE WEST OF INTERSECTION: 0 PARKING SPOTS LOST

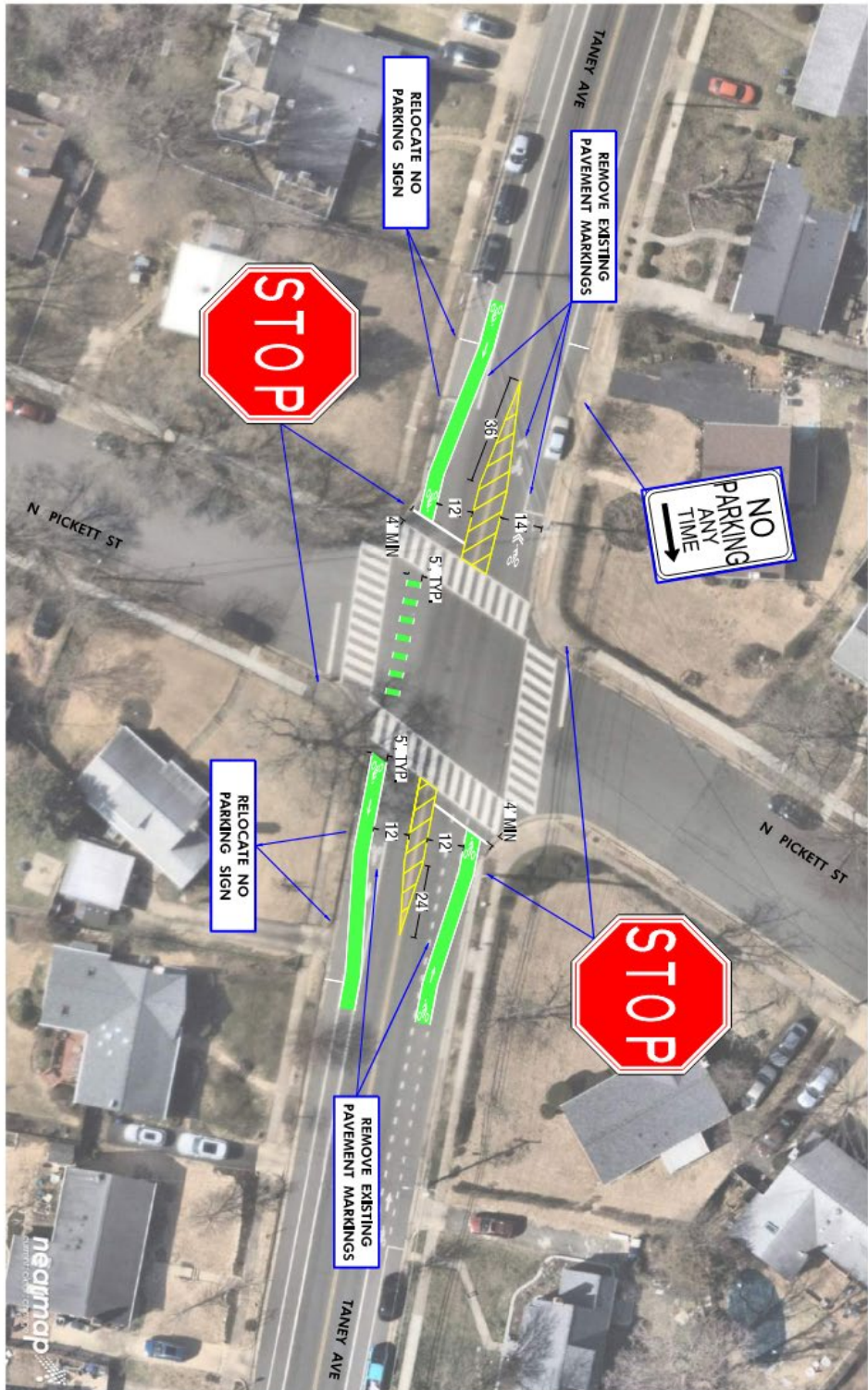
TANNEY AVE EAST OF INTERSECTION: 6 PARKING SPOTS LOST





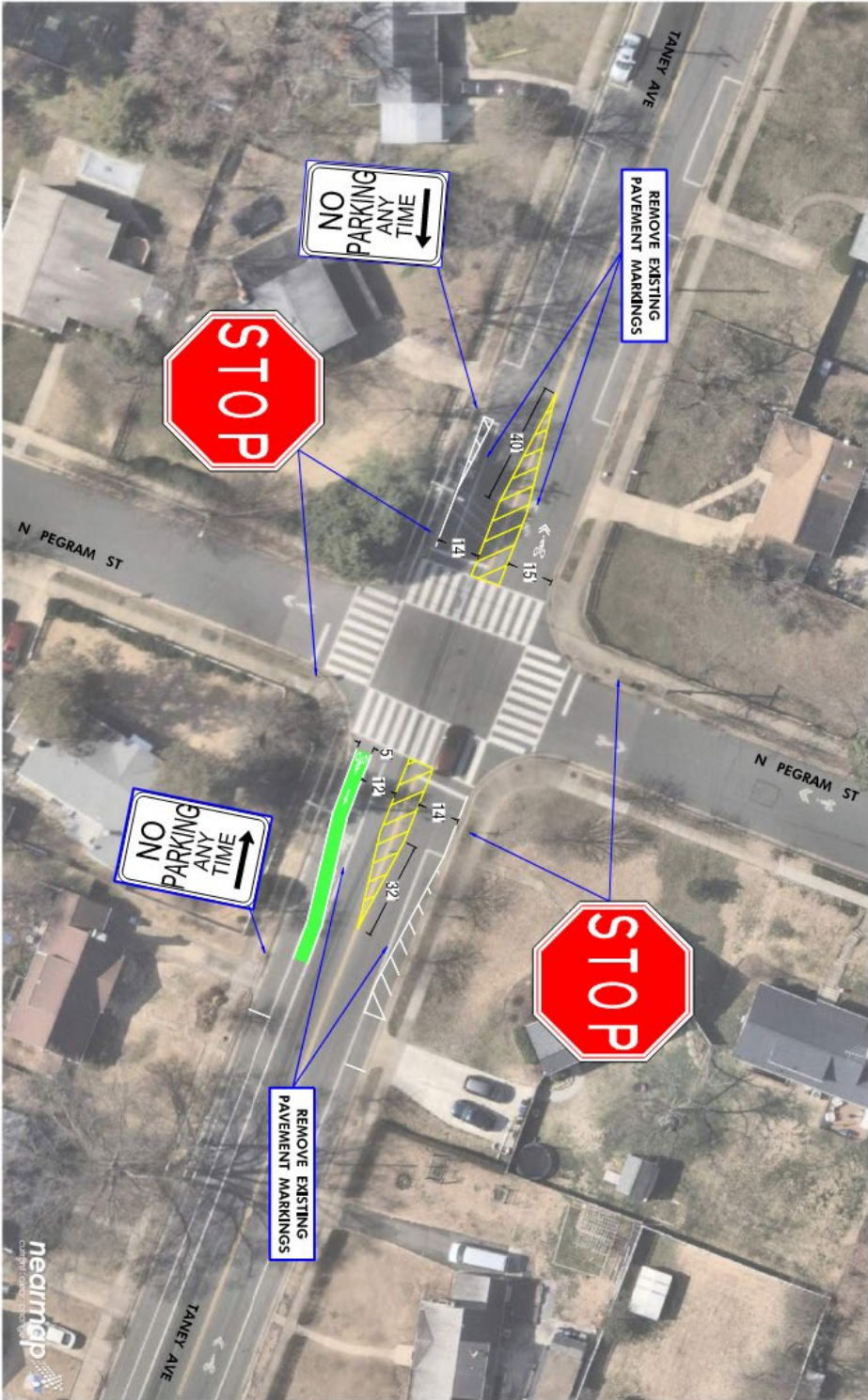
TANEY AVE WEST OF INTERSECTION: 2 PARKING SPOTS LOST

TANEY AVE EAST OF INTERSECTION: 4 PARKING SPOTS LOST



TANEY AVE WEST OF INTERSECTION: 3 PARKING SPOTS LOST

TANEY AVE EAST OF INTERSECTION: 1 PARKING SPOT LOST



TANEY AVE WEST OF INTERSECTION: 2 PARKING SPOTS LOST

TANEY AVE EAST OF INTERSECTION: 6 PARKING SPOTS LOST

ATTACHMENT 6: BROOKVILLE-SEMINARY VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION LETTER OF SUPPORT

Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association

August 16, 2024

Ryan Knight
Division Chief, Transportation Engineering
301 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Mr. Knight:

It is with optimism and enthusiasm that we communicate to you BSVCA's support for the "Enhanced Stop Sign" concept prepared by your office for traffic calming along Taney Avenue. We are confident that a safer environment will be realized by the enhancements at the N. Latham and N. Pegram intersections, as well as the addition of an enhanced stop at N. Pickett. As you know, this concept was one among three that were proposed to BSVCA in March for our consideration. We appreciate your in-person attendance at our meeting in June to discuss the proposed concepts and answer questions pertaining thereto. After ample notice and opportunity for comment, BSVCA voted in favor of the supported concept at our most recent Quarterly Meeting held on July 27.

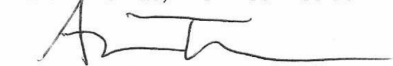
This step forward in the ongoing Taney Avenue Traffic Calming Project is the culmination of almost a year's worth of discourse and determination within our community to improve safety along our neighborhood's main corridor. We recognize that BSVCA is but one of several stakeholders with a say in how pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular safety can be improved on Taney Avenue. We look forward to remaining part of the conversation as the city proceeds to address the concerns of Alexandrians who regularly traverse Taney Avenue, and note that opportunities for improvement on the thoroughfare still remain between N. Van Dorn and N. Pelham.

With Appreciation,

The Board of Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association


Mike Rodriguez, President

Aaron Thomas, First Vice President


Beth LaMois, Second Vice President

