

### Question 1 Response: Flashing Beacons

**34 respondents mentioned this solution.**

**70.59% were for flashing beacons, and 29.41% were against this solution.**

For	Against
<p>I think the flashing beckons and the raised crosswalks would be the most beneficial</p>	<p>The flashing beacons are EXTREMELY good at catching motorists attention, and I am always in favor of adding more of them around Lakeland. However, in the particular situation of Lake Morton, most pedestrians are not crossing from the dedicated sidewalk over to the lake. There are obviously people who do, but most of the foot traffic around the lake is restricted to the sidewalks. Putting the RRFB's at each cross-street seems ineffective. Having living in the Lake Morton area, my experience is that motorists seem to go around the circle at a higher rate of speed than is necessary. Raised crosswalks would likely slow motorists, or perhaps reducing the width of the street by eliminating/metering on-street parking.</p>
<p>I wonder if limiting the traffic to only one direction around the lake would help. It would help eliminate some of the distractions and allow for pedestrians to cross without worrying about traffic coming from both directions. Sadly, IMO none of the recommendations above will help the bird fatalities, I mean birds don't exactly use crosswalks. I think the landscaped medians are HORRIBLE idea. The road is already narrow enough and the birds are going to stop in the medians only to come out unexpectedly in front of cars. Flashing road signs around the lake might remind people to watch for the swans/ducks.</p>	<p>I am hesitant about the Flashing Beacons as they are very unsightly, and though your statistics say they help, which I would like to believe, when I am walking or driving around Lake Hollingsworth I still see many people that do not stop to let pedestrians cross. Also, though I like the idea of Landscaped medians for their looks (lets face it, Lake Morton looks more like a office park than a place for the Swans, ducks, and other wildlife), I think you will cause a serious blind spot for the ducks and swans as they will be very hard to see due to the vegetation. I would love to see the whole road turned back to a brick road way. That would seriously slow traffic, and hopefully keep some commuter traffic out of our neighborhood, and the slight "rattle" of the vehicle should make drivers more attentive to the road, the pedestrians, and the swans &amp; ducks crossing the road.</p>
<p>Speed bumps and reflective flashing lights. There needs to be enough speed bumps to keep the speed down and keep the attention of the drivers!</p>	<p>Speed tables can be effective because they force people to lower their speed and pay attention to know where the bumps are. If the issue is swans/birds crossing the road flashing beacons are not going to help as they don't use crosswalks :)</p>
<p>I like the idea of marking the parking, adding bulb outs on the busiest corners and adding the flashing crosswalks at certain spots. I think changing the road to brick, as is found on some streets in the historic district, would cause people to pay more attention, since it is bumpy and requires more control of the vehicle. It would also look nice. I don't care for the median or raised crosswalks. For the median, I think it will add to bird traffic on the road, especially if people hang out or feed the ducks there. For the raised crosswalks, I think that will just cause people to slow down there, but not have them pay more attention elsewhere on the lake, and birds don't use crosswalks.</p>	<p>We need to consider what works from the wildlife's perspective. The swans have to stop in the street in order to step up onto the curb, so a median will only exacerbate the problem. Swans already use the crosswalk, so let's focus on slowing traffic at those locations. Am not sure that bulbouts will make much difference, but they might help at corners. People already park where they should, so no need to stripe them. Flashing lights...NO</p>
<p>I live in the Lake Morton area. What I can't understand is with the amount of traffic this road has, there are no road markings all the way around the lake. The two way traffic, parking on side of road, people and birds, on coming traffic on your side of the road.. these is all huge distractions. Something has to go... either two way traffic, with a bike lane, and no parking on side of road. Or one way traffic, with a bike lane, and parking on side of road. If no parking, let people park at library; place a raised crosswalk in front of library with the flashing light when people cross. And a walk way all the way around the lake.</p>	
<p>Marked parking out of regular traffic lanes would help greatly, in my opinion. Raised crosswalks with flashing beacons would help reduce pedestrian traffic coming from all over.</p>	

For	Against
<p>Flashing signs for pedestrian walk ways, possible raised walkways if done correctly and not too many. Increase police patrol and put up speeding sign to flash when speeding. Signage to not pass cars who stop to let birds/people walk and stripping on road may help.</p>	<p>Speed humps and raised sidewalks seem to be the only types of enhancements that slow down drivers. For example, drivers on Camphor Drive south of Ariana Street, where speed humps are in place, drive at safe speeds. Compare that to driver speeds on Lincoln Avenue or New York Avenue north of Ariana, where many drivers ignore speed limits and stop signs (I understand posted speed limits are different on these streets, but there is no reason to think drivers would continue observing speed limits on Camphor Drive if the speed humps were removed). Flashing beacons seem ineffective - for example, drivers often ignore the flashing beacons in front of Presbyterian Homes on Lake Hunter Drive, even when pedestrians are clearly visible. We would love to see raised sidewalks and speed humps installed in more areas in Lakeland.</p>
<p>Bulb outs or islands. Lake Morton needs to be a destination not a short cut for rushed drivers. An LPD presence in the short term. Flashing light at crosswalk.</p>	<p>Raised crosswalks (speed humps) at 60 ft intervals will prove most effective. Flashing signs will be a waste of money. Vehicles must be physically prevented from exceeding posted speed limits.</p>
<p>I drive onto lake Morton drive from success avenue every morning. It is difficult to see who is in the crosswalk due to a block fence to the left and overgrown shrubbery to the right. This severely blocks my view in all directions. It would be helpful if pedestrians using the sidewalk and drivers had warnings before that intersection. As an aside, pedestrians are equally as distracted as drivers; I have seen several pedestrians crossing this intersection while on a phone and don't take the time to look for cars.</p>	<p>As a Lake Morton property owner, only D would be athletically acceptable. For the love of God, no flashing lights.</p>
<p>Treat it like a mini Lake Hollingsworth. Paint lanes on the roadway. Make reflective flashing beacons/crosswalks. You don't need to do any more paving -- make it look like an actual road, and people will treat it like an actual road.</p>	<p>I think that traffic calming medians such as exist on Success Ave, would be good. However, due to animal traffic, I would suggest medians with trees in them for better visibility of height challenged swans, ducks, other fowl. No tall florals or hedges as people will be unable to see around them to see if fowl are walking up ahead, but a nicely grassed and bricked traffic slowing median, with a tree in the center (lower branches cut back to improve visibility of fowl in the area) would be awesome. I somewhat dislike the idea of the flashing beacons as they distract from the beauty of the area. I do like having marked parking spots on the side of the road farthest from the lake, but would hate to see parking on the lake side of the street. I do think we need raised and bricked pedestrian crossing areas as well. I think this sounds kind of silly, but might also help, a chalk drawing contest around the lake would be good. It washes away, but if we got people out there and did chalk art signs on the road, it might be an interesting way to help with getting people to pay attention. It is not permanent so we would not be adding a ton of signs and yet it could help with getting people to pay attention...at least for a while.</p>
<p>Either speed bumps or flashing lights around the lake to alert drivers.</p>	<p>Slower speed limit. Flashing lights. Traffic calming humps. Plus the four items checked above.</p>
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For	Against
<p>Fix blind spots (limit parking on the road, warn drivers on Success and South Blvd), road around lake is too narrow for parking on the side, No Parking to Corner signs are ineffective (Bulb Outs and marked parking might help), used Raised Crosswalk across Massachusetts to slow cars entering Lake Morton Dr and help with blind spot to west. Warn drivers of pedestrians at Walnut on west side of lake. (Flashing Light?). Thank you for working to fix this!</p>	<p>Markings on the road will solve a lot of this. Any time there are markings in the road I feel like I pay attention more. This includes marked parking areas. Bulbing out the ends, would also facilitate this kind of behavior. Brings the edges in close and makes you pay attention. Raised crossing for ped is a perfect. No flashy lights, its too nice an area for this.</p>
<p>Flashing lights and grooves in the road before the walk. Possibly speed humps.</p>	<p>Brick the street Do not add signage or flashing lights, our streets are already very ugly because of an over abundance of traffic signs, at least 30% unneeded!</p>
<p>I think that you should, make the speed limit slower and have flashing signs up.</p>	
<p>Speed humps are a good way to force drivers to be attentive but they need to be close together. I've seen neighborhoods install them too far apart and drivers race from one to the next. Lowering the speed limit with flashing signs to indicate speed have helped in Downtown Bartow and the flashing speed signs bring awareness to how fast the vehicle is really going.</p>	
<p>No-no-no. Please, do not landscape or put grass in medians. This draws the birds to the median to look for food (insects, worms, grubs, etc) in the grassy areas. Medians should be concrete - and you could add statues of swans to bring more awareness to the swans. The swans could be holding signs that say "watch out of me crossing the road". As a driver I think raised crosswalks with the flashing beacons help the most for awareness of people in the crosswalks. Maybe also periodic ones around the lake with Swan Crossing signs that blink (not continuously - that will just get ignored eventually). If you do the swan statues I recommended above - they could be holding these signs. If you want to be fancy - they could also be robotic like at Disney and move their wings or beaks up and down with the signs.</p>	
<p>I think a slower speed around the lake, sporadic speed humps, and flashing lights at pedestrian crossings (as well as known swan crossings if there are any) would help stave off future incidents.</p>	
<p>Marked parking definitely needs to happen; people tend to park where ever they think they can get away with it - which when too close to the street (like on either side of the brick wall by Success) can severely limit visibility of oncoming traffic. RRFB's would help with focusing attention on pedestrians in the crosswalks - as long as they're "press a button to cross" and not the ones that are lit up all the time. Raised crosswalks have potential, but I think they may cause bottlenecks at peak traffic times.</p>	

For		Against	
flashing red lights every 100 yards			
West side, Success to Massachusetts, make road surface rough and bumpy, like a "brick road " like Nevada Ave and others in the area. That will slow you down and make you pay attention. The flashing lights over the 20 mile per hour speed limit signs plus yellow signs with " Swan Crossing" added to sign.			
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>For = 24</b>	<b>Against = 10</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>34</b>		