

Question 1 Response: Landscaped Medians

33 respondents mentioned this solution.

45.45% were for landscaped medians, and 54.55% were against this solution.

For	Against
<p>I completely agree with marked parking. People feel like it's ok to just stop in the middle of the road and get out to take pictures therefore increasing driver frustration and safety. The road around lake Morton is essentially 3 lanes which should be ample room for landscaped medians.</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>Combination of (listed in priority) Landscaped medians, raised crosswalks, bulb outs</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 & ducks crossing the road.</p>
<p>I feel as though this lake should be one way only! Put a raised concrete barrier in between the two lanes with removable sections for pedestrian Crossing for when events are held at this Lake. And have police presence to enforce the one way and the speed.</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>Brick/Pavers and landscaped medians seem to me the most ideal and aesthetically appealing - afterall, the historic charm of the surrounding neighborhoods should be preserved.</p>	<p>I think the landscape medians would be nice, but won't that eliminate parking on that street? Making Lake Morton a one-way street is a good idea. This way you could have marked parking. People swerve way out to avoid cars parked on the side making it difficult for cars going the opposite direction to have room to drive ahead.</p>
<p>From my understanding Success Ave. had a problem with people speeding as a straight away between LMD & LHD. Bulb out Landscaped medians were constructed to reduce vehicular speed by breaking the straight away. This seems to have been a successful application. Or strip away the asphalt to expose the brick street underneath as a traffic calming measure similar as to what was applied at FSC.</p>	<p>Make the loop around the lake one-way. Allow parking on one side, add a small median and install a bike lane, on the lake side.</p>
<p>A reduced speed limit to 20 mph around entire lake. Decorative barriers at more dangerous locations where the birds frequently cross. Traffic circle at Massachusetts to slow people down. Redesigning intersections with Walnut on the west side and Palmetto to slow down the cars that are making turns.</p>	
<p>Speed bumps - are they the same a raised crosswalks? Speed bumps would slow down traffic. Maybe landscaped islands too, like on Success. Landscaped islands might also beautify the road way.</p>	

For	Against
<p>Low speed limit and landscaped median.</p> <p>small ROUNDABOUTS at a few points around the lake, raised crosswalks at the roundabouts: landscaped or ART inside the roundabout?</p>	<p>Marked lanes and marked parking. Raised, marked and lit crossings. Speed limits and ENFORCED. Landscaping/median allows blind spots and swans/birds to nest in</p>
<p>Narrowing the width of the road with parking should help drivers be more vigilant. I like the meandering "path" concept which could be accomplished with marked parking, small median flower beds and bump out curbs placed intermittently along Lake Morton Dr.</p>	<p>Lower the speed to 15! Plus make it one way around loop. Then a Bike Path can be made. Stop feeding the Wildlife, Which is A Fla Law! And maybe people will quit stopping in road to watch and making cars pull around them! Medians in middle is bad idea. Wildlife will have new nesting and people will use it as a new hangout!!</p>
<p>Raised crosswalks I believe are a must around the entire lake. If they are put in even a distracted driver will have to be more aware, along with the medians. It is such a tragedy that wildlife and our residents are not safe. Good luck and I hope a decision is made and our community and animals are safer. Thank you for all you're doing.</p>	<p>While aesthetically pleasing a landscaped median may lead to more swans crossing the road.</p>
<p>I vote for landscaping, parking lines as well as fencing around Lake Morton to (help) protect the traveling waterfowl. Just today, we slowed to a stop, to allow the waterfowl to abruptly change their direction, as they navigate to and fro the Lake, at their leisure. As for appropriate signage, addressing the reduced speed and parking availability; please keep it scenic and limit the amount of signs installed. Maybe we could lower the signs, like the oddly placed STOP signs out here on New Jersey Road, in Lakeland. Blessings and thank you for addressing these issues for our feathered friends.</p>	<p>I think the list above is a good list to start from, other than the fact that I would suggest NOT using landscaped medians. Those are helpful and attractive ways to slow traffic (like on Success Ave) however, I think when ducks and swans are a concern, the landscape could easily block the view of crossing birds and perhaps make it more dangerous for them. I think speed bumps/humps/raises crosswalks would be the best thing to force cars to slow down.</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>Getting the traffic to slow down seems like the only real way to protect the birds, and the pedestrians. I have concerns about a landscaped median. The birds do wander across the street and it seems this would only make it harder to see them and react.</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>Landscaped medians seems dangerous since the swans may be more likely to hang out on them in the middle of traffic. Swan crossing signs, more highly visible warnings. More police presence off and on to deter distracted driving and speeding.</p>
	<p>I think that landscaped medians might cause more problems because the swans would want to nest there.</p>

For	Against
	<p>I feel landscaped medians are a bad idea. I think this will create an area where waterfowl might go to and create a bigger hazard for them. Better marked parking, or no parking and raised crosswalks and/or speed control humps would help.</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".</p> <p>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>Landscaped medians could have the unforeseen negative effect of attracting birds. Ideas:could the road around the lake be made just one way? Could the road be closed to vehicular traffic maybe on Sundays, for pedestrian and bike use only?</p>
	<p>Fencing with gates around perimeter to protect the swans from getting on the road. Placement of obvious cameras that could monitor and ticket speeders and/or those texting (also capturing any violators that hit a swan and/or any of the waterfowl)! I believe that distracted drivers or those that have no concern for our wildlife will not heed and potentially target the beautiful waterfowl that the majority of our citizens feel blessed to enjoy. I believe landscaped medians would add more risk to the wildlife not being seen or encourage resting/nesting in middle of the road. I do like idea of marked parking and raised crosswalks for our citizens to enjoy the area, but not sure it would add additional safety for the swans we are trying to protect.</p>

For	Against		
	<p>Move the Parking to "Curb Side" on the Lake & travel lanes to the middle & outside away from the Lake. Restrict Feeding of the Domesticated Birds to within 10' of the Lake & not curbside, attracting Birds to the roadway. Throwing feed in the air creates a feeding frenzy. You have created a Zoo without boundaries. A counter-clockwise 1-way with Lakeside Parking, may be the another alternative. Landscape medians are a joke & actually when over-grown, block the children trying to cross Edgewood Dr. I'm not sure the Habitat is sufficient to accommodate 60+ Swans anyway. I realize this is Lakeland Mascot & now a Liability. What about a localized signal to block cell reception around the Lake!</p>		
	<p>I dont pay much attention to things crossing when I am driving down a street with a landscape median. More people need to be given warnings for Jaywalking. signs need to be put up no jaywalking.</p>		
	<p>I went on to take the survey but I didn't think any of the choices for a solution were good. I think putting in any kind of median, especially with plants, is just one more place for ducks and swans to gather and which willll cause more issues. Also, I think anything that "narrows" the street will make it more dangerous for cyclists, especially parallel parking. Have several calming turtles, like on Success Ave, been considered? They could have some kind of high-angled sides to discourage ducks from "parking" on them. Again, I do not think any of the ideas on the survey are good.</p>		
Sub Total	For = 15	Against = 18	
Grand Total	33		