

Question 1 Response: Laws & Law Enforcement

89 respondents mentioned this solution.

100.00% were for stronger laws and/or stricter law enforcement, and 0.00% were against this solution.

For	Against
Cameras around the lake. More police presence during high volume traffic times.	
Increase the presence of law enforcement in the area. People use the area to avoid S FL Ave and speed through the neighborhoods. Or maybe increase the number of cameras on the lake and direct them towards the street in an attempt to catch who is hitting the swans.	
Raised crosswalks and/or speed bumps at regular intervals around the lake would slow traffic down. More signage and greater enforcement of speed limits are necessary.	
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.	
Have law enforcement monitoring during peak hours and drop the speed limit around the lake.	
Lakeland PD needs to set up random "surprise" radar detection and distracted driving checkpoints.	
What are the needs of the Swans. Why do they cross the road? Is there something amiss about their current environment, Are there to many swans in the lake? When's the last time we had a serious ticketing campaign?	
Put police officers around the lake !!	
Brick! If not the entire road then intersections or raised walks. More police patrols.	
None at all. The only thing that will make it better is more enforcement if current laws.	
Lower speed, more police presence	
More police patrol along that section will catch the attention of drivers who use this path regularly.	
Speed bumps at intervals to slow drivers down Speed cameras Random police checks - I drive around Morton regularly and I have never seen a police person checking how fast people are driving	
Increased traffic police surveillance to enforce speed limit, speed bumps	
Extra, targeted policing with tickets of ALL unlawful driving behaviors (and police officers not committing infractions themselves). Crosswalks!! Turn it into a brick road, to make it super annoying to drive on. Even more policing.	

For	Against
<p>-Bricking the road - put in the same traffic turtles that were placed on success - decrease speed limit. Average driver speed does not matter if the ones hitting the swans/pedestrians are speeding. A lower speed limit will allow reckless driving penalties to come into play more often. - Increase penalties for distracted drivers/speeders</p>	
<p>Put a cop there with a radar gun.</p>	
<p>Brutally enforce the speed limit around the lake. Install speed humps. Or — a completely radical notion — shut the street down to motorized vehicles and limit it to pedestrians, bikes, etc.</p>	
<p>Have police enforce the current law which requires drivers to pay attention</p>	
<p>Slower speeds, enforce no cars stopping on the lake side of the street, educate drivers, possible no parking at all on either side of the street.</p>	
<p>Having more of a police presence in the lake Morton neighborhood. Drivers fly through our streets and after living here for 4+ years I've never seen police presence or anyone reprimanded for speeding 40+ in a 25 mph residential area (with children). These drivers have gotten away with it for years. What's going to stop them? I hope it doesn't take a person or child being hit (and killed) to make this happen.</p>	
<p>We live around the lake and we feel, and have observed, that the main issue is speeding around the lake. Traffic calming could help, but better enforcement of the posted speed limit would be a good start as well.</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>Place a police officer who can issue tickets for speeding. When laws are enforced people will respond.</p>	
<p>Give tickets for texting and driving. Require Lakeland police officers to set a good example by using turn signals.</p>	
<p>None of these. Do not ruin the lake because of a few bad drivers. If LPD gave out a few tickets people would slow down. I think recent public reporting of the problem should also help. Do not overreact and spend unnecessary. I only choose A. Because you had to choose one. Please don't just do something, that is always bad policy.</p>	
<p>Presence of officers or patrol cars seems to make drivers more cautious. Speed bumps are often effective.</p>	
<p>Warning Signs, lower speed limit, stricter enforcement.</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>More LPD presence to slow down drivers. Raised speed bumps would potentially reduce the amount of non resident traffic around the lake.</p>	
<p>These safety enhancements seem like a waste of time, money, and resources. Is this really the top solutions the city has come up with? Disappointing. I'd rather see police presence out there. Btw, survey design was very poor. Answers did not align properly. I only chose an answer because I had to. Again, this is poor research construction if you are trying to formulate insights.</p>	
<p>Police enforcement of people disobeying distracted driver laws. Police enforcement of pedestrians and runners that ignore standard traffic rules and stop signs by just walking/running out in front of traffic.</p>	
<p>Criminalize texting/distracted driving as a criminal offense.</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>More policing and ticketing until this is under control.</p>	
<p>Maybe I'm not clear, but I think of safety enhancements as "all the tools we have available" to enhance safety. I think the above construction recommendations are mostly fine; I'd also consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A sidewalk on the inside of Lake Morton so pedestrians don't walk in the street 2. Methods of decreasing Lake Morton traffic overall (i.e. can the city sustain one of the roads leading from Lake Morton to downtown being closed off? Can the traffic signal Walnut & FL Ave be removed or re-routed to alleviate traffic backups on FL Ave, thus decreasing the tendency to use other routes? etc.) 3. Passing a city ordinance, regulation (or whatever appropriate term) restricting the use of cell phones when driving in the city limits. Failing passing legislation, are there regulations law enforcement have that they could enforce more stringently, either as part of a campaign or a larger initiative? 	
<p>police presence, stopping distracted drivers, ticketing them, eventually getting a group of people to stand across the street and protest the idiots who are on their phones. it's not something i want our community to be known for. a bunch of idiots on their phones running over helpless animals which by the way are almost impossible to not see.</p>	

For	Against
<p>The proverbial elephant in the room. No, I repeat, no cell phone texting, browsing, hand held usage, distracted driving is number one when it comes to fatalities and preventable accidents. Florida is one of the last states to ban cell phone usage (texting)while driving.</p>	
<p>Do anything to slow down traffic. I live on Lake Morton Drive - many vehicles drive well above the speed limit. Make it not so convenient for motorists to zip along. More of a police presence would help too. I feel that some of the swan fatalities that happened were deliberate - there have been too many lately for them all to be accidental.</p>	
<p>Speed humps Stricter fines for speedy near wildlife Cameras</p>	
<p>Lower speed limits, ticket distracted drivers/people speeding. Also, what about making the "circle" one way so there would be less obstruction, and easier to turn on and off - I have had issues trying to see around cars that are parked, as well as people driving too far on either side.</p>	
<p>LPD provide frequent policing to help motivate drivers to drive within the speed limit. Enforce the speed limit.</p>	
<p>More officers checking speeds Speed humps places around the lakes</p>	
<p>I think you could reduce the speed limit. I drive this road every day and I think 20mph is appropriate. Then enforce it with LPD and hand out tickets a couple days a week at first. Speed humps would work, but only where they are located. People will still speed in between. The bulb outs tend to have the opposite effect as it makes people think that they are race car drivers and can swerve around them, much like they already swerve around parked cars on the side of the road around Lake Morton.</p>	
<p>A officer assign to watch speeders and distracted drivers.</p>	
<p>Police patrolling. Don't ruin the beauty of the lake.</p>	
<p>I would like to know the accident rate for this area over the past 5 years. Is this significant increase just an unusual occurrence or is this a trend that will require further engineering to resolve? Is there a pattern to the time of day or certain days of the week when the majority of this accidents are happening? Why not consider increasing police presence to monitor drivers before adding the expense of engineering changes.</p>	
<p>Pass no talking or texting laws.</p>	
<p>Instead of cops passing out tickets on S. Florida north of McDonald near Sunoco, have them sit on Lake Morton & write tickets for distracted drivers since that seems to be the big problem. Isn't it a FI law now no text/dtive.</p>	

For	Against
Speed bumps, speed traps, local traffic only, flashing lights, and medians. Anything you can do. Our kids practice for cross country during the summer on Lake Morton and it's scary.	
I would recommend enforcement. Have LPD randomly patrol the area and write tickets, not just give warnings. One thing not proposed here is limiting traffic to one lane. Take the interior lane and separate it from the outer lane with a short concrete barrier. Allow pedestrians, bicyclists and the ducks and geese to that lane. I do not like the raised crosswalks, please do not put them in. If they are the longer "pads" people don't slow down for them (in my opinion).	
Decorative raised barrier between the street and the grassy area around the lake, so the birds won't cross the street. Yes, I know this would be 100% effective, but it would help immensely. Also, you say speed enforcement isn't an option, but I disagree with your speed stats. I'm at Lake Morton almost every day and frequently see cars going 25-30mph. I've never seen an LPD patrol in the area.	
Have your worthless police officers do their jobs...there needs to be ONE officer periodically checking speed (only ONE because they do nothing but chit chat when there is more than one)...issue WARNINGS unless the vehicle is significantly above the limit	
Put some police officers around the lake during rush hour and give out more speeding tickets.	
A fine for hitting the swans.	
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.	
Caution signs around Lake Morton need to be right next to the road. The example shown with the short red sign stuck in the grass looks to be back in someone's yard, which no motorist will be able to read with any safety or at all. It is too small, too low to the ground, and too far away for anyone to read. Large words CAUTION or SLOW DOWN! or something to that effect on any signs. BIRDS HAVE RIGHT OF WAY. Attention grabbing. Pictures of the fowl that are around the lake should be on signs. Have those dedicated parking spots. Add cameras to catch those who are mowing through the poor birds. Fine them or give them the vet bill.	
None of the above !!! but, was a required question. Ticket people for driving distracted! As to all of the options above, I dare say that the swans and ducks will not use the designated crosswalks.....People have to be responsible!!!!!!!!!! Including pedestrians...yield to cars, assume they are not looking!	

For	Against
<p>At the very least you should have LPD on both sides of the lake on a regular basis giving people tickets who speed. I would be interested in knowing why this hasn't been happening in the past. There are often LPD in certain places around town and people have learned not to speed there. Certainly I am not the only person who has thought of this. I honestly can't believe it hasn't happened yet. In addition the raised speed humps along Eastway seem to work pretty well. These speed humps do calm the traffic on that road. So in between the raised crosswalks, consider the raised speed humps</p>	
<p>We need more stop signs to stop traffic on Lake Morton Drive. A narrower street with marked parking would force drivers to pay attention. Raised, marked crosswalks for pedestrians. Cameras to catch people who often intentionally hit birds. More law enforcement in the area, especially in the evening and night. I live on Success near Lake Morton and it is often a steady stream of cars using the street as a thoroughfare. We should encourage drivers to take other routes downtown. Turning Lake Morton Drive into a one-way roundabout is an idea as well.</p>	
<p>Personally, I don't think any of the above options address distracted driving. You should have an option for none of the above.</p> <p>Lake Morton is one of the most beautiful landmarks I have seen. And, I have traveled the world. It should be respected and protected.</p> <p>Since there are alternative ways of getting around, I believe, strongly, the way to solve the problem is to eliminate the automotive traffic driving around a portion or the entire lake. You could experiment by doing a media blast to inform people that for a period of time there would be no traffic allowed and see if it helps. (Like when Mayfair is going on). If you like the results, continue. If not, put an officer down there and ticket. Either way people aren't going to be happy but, it will be safe. And, I believe safety is priority number one.</p>	
<p>Photographic tickets with significant fines.</p>	
<p>I was disappointed when one way traffic around the lake was taken off the table. Raised crosswalks or speed bumps are probably the best options. Marked parking with aggressive enforcement (tickets) would help as well.</p>	
<p>None of the things above, but of course I was required to pick one. ☹️ LPD should take bad driving seriously. I have made multiple phone calls regarding speeding in my neighborhood (on New Jersey south of Edgewood) with little to no response. I witness multiple people driving with their phones in hand each day on my way to and from work (it's about 50% of drivers). Get every single cop on the road enforcing traffic laws and people will start to follow them.</p>	

For	Against
I wish I understood why speed bumps were ruled out. They seem like the most logical solution. Also, how about cameras, or making a heavy fine for not reporting an incident involving a swan.	
Foot patrol officers	
I would suggest placing more speed bumps around the lake also more police presence as well.	
Enforce the speed limit.	
Patrol with bike cops.	
More visibility of LPD and actual enforcement of speeding fines until this is under control.	
I don't know why we can not pass a law that only allows for blue tooth driving. Even Georgia has not made texting and talking on the phone illegal. What can't Florida pass this law. It does not make sense that this is still allowed.	
Larger police presence during high car volume. Maybe radar	
I would like to see more signage such as Swan Crossings Exercise Caution., Traffic Calming Zones similar to what is on Success Ave, more Lakeland Police presence ticketing the offenders, Parks' staff and/or Volunteers on site assisting with swans and other birds crossing the street.	
Reduce speed limit to 15 or 20 mph and enforce aggressively. Even at the 25 mph speed limit it can be difficult from dusk to full daylight to see people and birds. At minimum aggressively enforce the 25mph limit.	
I believe more law enforcement presence needs to be put in this area. People drive like psychos and a few weeks of handing out tickets like candy should help curb that. Also, speed bumps would be great. This is too precious of a landmark area to be abused like this.	
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.	
1. Speed bump are designed to do one thing - force drivers to slow down in critical, pedestrian areas. These areas include parking lots, crosswalks and other walkable areas. speed bumps will slow traffic down to 2-5 mph, abruptly slowing traffic and delivering a strong message to offending drivers. must place around lake note cost is under \$125 each for rubber speed bumps. 2. also video cameras around lake to recored traffic. 3. under cover police giving tickits for a few months after new traffic devices are installed.	
more fencing for swans; arresting people that go over the speed limit. (have a traffic officer there daily to give out tickets and let it be known they are watching)	

For		Against	
Rush hour speed traps around lake, maybe a ticket would slow people down. Raised crosswalks on the streets such as Success that may deter speeding and around lake at different points to slow people down.			
Speed bumps are the only option that will slow people down. More police presence also.			
Speed bumps and 10 mph speed limit. 20 is better but people still don't follow it. Post an officer between mass and success. Put a wall or fence to protect the birds.			
It will all pay for itself if the police are there to write some tickets...			
Speed limit does not matter if it's not enforced.			
Idiot drivers I had someone pass me while on there phone and I was going 20mph it needs enforced on a regular bases not put a bandaid on the issue..			
It won't do any good if it's not policed.			
Instead of punishing everyone with slower speeds or bumps why not crack down on distracted drivers?			
Because there is no way to detect distracted drivers unless you physically see the distractions. However radar can catch speeding, and humps require you to pay closer attention. Municipal speed limits are 30MPH, they aren't ever going to be faster. CLEARLY 30MPH is too fast if we've killed 5 swans and hit a pedestrian.			
Raise traffic fines around the lake x4. No cost to taxpayers and no harm to the rule followers!			
unless and until there is consistent LPD enforcement out there handing out tickets to speeders then the current problems will continue. Lowering the speed limit will do nothing until there are consequences. I am much more careful about the way I drive.			
Sub Total	For = 89	Against = 0	
Grand Total	89		