

Question 1 Response: Marked Parking

60 respondents mentioned this solution.

73.33% were for marked parking, 25.00% were against this solution, and 1.67% had a neutral comment.

For	Against	Neutral
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.	No parking on the street is an option. Another would be to make the lake a roundabout. By doing that it no longer is a short cut and drivers will use alternate routes.	You cannot always see oncoming traffic well when you drive past the area with the abundance of parked cars, near the businesses
One lane of traffic that is "one way". The road should be clearly marked and the parking spaces should we marked as well.	Create a paved walking/biking path around Lake Morton on the grassy side, next to the lake. Supplement this with a few crosswalks around the lake, fairly near parking places along Lake Morton Drive, or nearby parking lots. I DO NOT recommend adding parking around Lake Morton Drive: it's unsafe for cyclists to have to dodge parked cars and opening doors along with cars in motion.	
Having formerly worked on Lake Morton, marked parking spots would definitely help. People parking up to the corners make it hard for people turning on to Lake Morton from side streets to see the traffic and vice versa. I'm not sure if it's feasible, but creating easier, more defined access to the lake side of the road might help as well. Lots of jaywalking happening (coming from a former offender).		
Pedestrian safety should be number one in order to bring more foot traffic to the area. There are plenty of highways and toll roads for pass through traffic to utilize. Adding large safety pedestrian walk ways, on street parking, lower speed limits and going down to one lane through the historic district is the only way to achieve the walkable downtown vibe. I've seen this done in many big cities and it works! Much better for businesses!	I drive this road daily to take my child to daycare. I'm there around 7am so traffic is not bad. The one issue I have are cars parking along the road. The road is wide so you can get three wide, but that leaves little room. I notice that may birds sit along the edge. This 3 wide scenario increases the chances of them being struck significantly. There are enough side roads that people do not need to park along the lake.	
Possibly add radar signage indicating speed, add marked (boxes) street parking and some raised cross walks.		
Around lake Morton, parking is a huge problem. People park in the flow of traffic and often I have to stop behind a car parked too far into the street and wait for traffic to pass the opposite direction. Marked parking would help keep the cars out of the flow of traffic.	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	
I can't remember the speed limit around Lake Morton but it seems like it should be 25 mph. I like the marked parking idea because people park wherever they want all around the lake and this creates vision blocks for people turning on to the lake from roads like Success.		
Sidewalk going all the way immediately around the outside of the lake as well as more designated parking	No street parking anymore.	

For	Against
<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>I think the numerous parked cars on the north side of Lake Morton, between the Chamber of Commerce and Indiana Ave. creates an obstructed view for drivers. With delivery trucks stopping frequently and with the parked cars, and people wildlife viewing on the lake, it's distracting and difficult to maneuver through there, creating an unsafe area for pedestrians and wildlife crossings. I say limit and control parking. Massachusetts Ave. at the lake is very busy as it is.</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>Lake Morton Drive needs a center line indicated in the middle of the road. Eliminate and/or discourage parking on Lake Morton Drive.</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>	<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>I think clearly marking lanes, parking and making pedestrians more visible at crosswalks would help. I have been hit by a car while running lake Morton. Without injury. It gets a little crazy with narrow lanes, weird parking, people showing down to look...One of our biggest issues living right off the Morton is parents picking up and dropping off kids to daycare. And Sunday mornings. They are usually in a hurry to get to work, church or home. Not sure if this coincides with the times of incidents but is a big issue when walking in the neighborhood</p>	<p>No parking on the lake side. Heard that idea, and thought it was horrible idea. Also, outside of where the Chamber is at, eliminate all curb side parking. This creates a wider roadway, than mark the roadway away from the lake. Or if you keep the parking as is, make Lake Morton Drive a one way street, and marking the driving line in the middle of the road.</p>
<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>Perhaps fencing in the swans to keep them on the lake and surrounding? I would also recommend no parking around the lake. That causes very tight passing and it is very hard to see if a swan comes out from behind a parked car. While I marked to have marked parking I would limit it only to where to rode is wide enough to handle parking. Parts of the lake—specifically in front of the Ruthven house make it very difficult when cars are parked and traffic is coming from both directions.</p>
<p>Consider REDUCING lane width while retaining on street parking and/or making the on street parking angled. The "pressure" from parked cars will slow drivers without ugly flashing signs and industrial looking stuff. Related, plantings close to the roadway can have a similar effect.</p>	<p>Sidewalks & no curbside parking. The curbside parking is a complete hazard. There is no room to pass and blocks the views of pedestrians trying to cross. Not to mention the hazards of trying to get in & out of vehicles. Not sure how, but there needs to be more designated parking areas that aren't curbside.</p>
<p>Make traffic one way. Paint actual lanes on the road. Paint parking spaces. Make a walking path on the lake side of the road so that walkers do not have to watch for traffic at a gazillion side roads.</p>	<p>No parking on Lake Morton Drive. Dangerous by the small Businesses.</p>
<p>Make Lake Morton Drive one-way with parking spots marked on one of the sides.</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>	

For	Against
<p>Broken or solid painted line around entire lake to designate travel lanes and so drivers know their boundaries. Also, painted parking spaces on north and east side of lake...again, to provide visual boundaries.</p>	<p>Narrowing and bricking Lake Morton Drive would reduce the roadway area on which the swans and other birds would be subject to being hit and would require drivers to pay more attention when driving around the lake. Additionally, this would make the area more picturesque, which aligns with the downtown revitalization efforts and leverages one of the most iconic areas in Lakeland. Parking should not be added around the lake—it is not easy to see pedestrians and birds that step out from between cars. It would be preferable to eliminate on street parking. Decreasing the posted speed limit would help—although the average speed may be slow, in large part below of how slow people are sometimes required to go because of crossing birds, many people zip around the lake at high speeds. Raised crosswalks are not the answer, but the survey would not let me submit without making a selection. Neither the people nor the birds are going to wait to find a raised crosswalk to cross the street.</p>
<p>Two eleven foot driving lanes, unmarked, with marked parking at the outside curb. Any remaining pavement can be a marked as a bike lane, if adequate, next to the parking.</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 lakeside.</p>	
<p>The lake has 2 challenges: 1. The swans and other birds. 2. Pedestrians. The 5 solutions only deal with the pedestrian issue. While there was a recent pedestrian injury, I do not see pedestrian issues as a serious problem and extensive measures to upgrade protections would fundamentally change the area - largely because there are over a dozen streets that intersect Lake Morton Drive. We don't want to turn the lake into a mass of signs and crosswalks. I think that marked parking would help a lot as would cross walk markings at the principal crossing areas. I don't think there is a viable solution to the "swan crossing" problem other than fencing which is, I suggest, impractical.</p>	
<p>Anything to help cars slow down will be beneficial. I drive around the lake everyday to get to my office and regularly am the slowest car at 25 mph. If there are large raised crosswalks, cars would be forced to slow. Also marked parking would be helpful. People regularly stop their car in the middle of the road to take pics, hop out for a few minutes, etc. Sometimes it is hard to tell if a car is parked or stopped for "swan crossings". Also, road stripping so people know where their lane is and aren't passing stopped cars swerving into the oncoming lane.</p>	<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>I think parking around the lake and poorly labeled parking limitation signs would help people who use this route on their commute through town.</p>	<p>Suggestions to reduce speed, increase attention and improve vision of drivers: 1. Construct four or more 3-way stops at key intersections around the lake. The stops would encourage drivers on Lake Morton Drive to proceed more slowly and to focus on the street ahead. 2. Add raised crosswalks at locations convenient to pedestrians. 3. Eliminate all on-street parking on Lake Morton Drive so that drivers are able to see birds or humans well in advance. If that is not feasible, reduce on-street parking to a limited number of marked spaces.</p>
<p>Better road markings overall and adding marked parking places. Eliminate the streets surrounding Lake Morton being used as a bypass for rush-hour congested North/South corridors, especially downtown workers heading towards South Lakeland via Lake Morton to Lake Hollingsworth.</p>	
<p>These are great suggestions. They could all be done and it would help a lot. As a graduate of FSC I've seen a lot of students leaving the lake Morton apartments and speeding around the lake because there are no road markings and maybe people feel more free because of this. I would paint medians and parking spaces for sure. Raised sidewalks are very effective in getting people to slow down and the flashing signs are very effective for Lakeland Regional.</p>	
<p>How about calming zones? How about one way traffic with a bike and parking lane? What is being done here is a waste of time and money.</p>	

For	Against
<p>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.</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>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 places intermittently along Lake Morton Dr.</p>	
<p>Marked Parking and Raised Crosswalks. I still like one way street option though that apparently has already been ruled out.</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>I chose option A from above. It will probably waste less tax dollars and have the same end result for pedestrians in the road. Keep pedestrians off roadways except in designated crosswalks.</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 peds is a perfect. No flashy lights, its too nice an area for this.</p>	
<p>Make traffic one way going counter clockwise. Most of the distraction is on the west side of the lake. Mark parking spaces so people know where to anticipate people interacting with the wildlife.</p>	

For	Against
<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>	
<p>1. Mark traffic lanes around all of the lake 2. Short fenced areas, on the lakeside grass, where incidents have occurred; keep water fowl out of busy intersections and visually obstructed curves (@Vermont)</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>	
<p>I have submitted a plan for the layout of Lake Morton Drive to convert it from a major highway to a one way limited access road with angled parking spots drawn in. I cannot get a response on it from anyone except that one way solutions will not be considered. If Lake Morton Drive is left as a two way major road, nothing will have been done. The problem is not signage, speed limits, or paintings on the road. The problem IS the road. Lake Morton is not a roundabout for Lakeland traffic, it is a major bird sanctuary and should be designed as such.</p>	
<p>My suggestion is to make Lake Morton a one-way traffic flow around the lake with periodic speed humps. Have parking on one side and a wide curbed sidewalk on the lakeside. There are enough side streets for people to turn down to go other ways that a one way roadway should not impact flow too much. This would potentially limit the traffic on this road, too. That helps preserve this precious place in Lakeland.</p>	
<p>If you went with the marked parking and bulb outs, you might also want to consider making Lake Morton Drive One-Way (Counter clockwise) like a big round-about. No oncoming traffic to squeeze by with cars parked on one side. Widens the thru traffic lane to provide more of a buffer between parked cars and traffic (car doors swinging open). I've worked in an office on Lake Morton for 20 + years and making it one-way would alleviate many issues. I drive the road each day.</p>	

For	Against		
<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>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>1. One way traffic all the way around the lake. 2. Calming zones around entire lake including a) marked parking, b) raised speed burms. 3. If under the asphalt there are bricks, reveal and make the road all brick (e.g. Easton Road between Nevada & Collins Lane).</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>Sub Total</p>	<p>For = 44</p>	<p>Against = 15</p>	<p>Neutral = 1</p>
<p>Grand Total</p>	<p>60</p>		