

### Question 1 Response: Raised Crosswalks

76 respondents mentioned this solution.

88.16% were for installing raised crosswalks, 10.53% were against this solution, and 1.32% had a neutral comment.

For	Against	Neutral
<p>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.</p>	<p>Consider cyclists in your plan. The raised sidewalks create a real issue for cyclists.</p>	<p>How will you get the swans to only cross at the cross walks?</p>
<p>Combination of (listed in priority) Landscaped medians, raised crosswalks, bulb outs speed bumps/humps and raised crosswalks; if cost wasn't a large factor, raised/elevated roadways that allow for wildlife to pass underneath.</p>	<p>Allow traffic to go just one way around. Take a travel lane lane and design it for bicyclists, pedestrians and the waterfowl. Raised cross walks will discourage bicyclists please do not put those in</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 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 you'll find it hard to do. Raised cross walks would help. Making it a brick road may help as well.</p>		
<p>I've noticed the pedestrian walks are right in line with the stop sign. As a driver, I've had to make sure to approach the stop sign more slowly in the event a pedestrian is about to cross. Can the cross walk be place in front of the stop sign?</p>	<p>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.</p>	
<p>Use decorative pavement features adjacent to the existing curb to create edge friction. Perhaps some brick pavers or stamped asphalt can be used to provide some gentle chicanes that could help channelize traffic. Also, some elevated pedestrian "tables" can be introduced with pavers on top to promote traffic calming as well as lend an aesthetic effect.</p>	<p>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).</p>	

For	Against
I think the flashing beacons and the raised crosswalks would be the most beneficial	<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>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!</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> <p>I think you need something that is visual. Raised crosswalks will not stop people or slow them down.</p>
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!	
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.	
I like the raised crosswalk idea! But at the same time, pedestrians also need to be aware to look both ways, put away the phones, and pay attention. Too many times I've seen walkers almost dare a vehicle to hit them. Also, address bikes. Many riders obey no rules.	
Possibly add radar signage indicating speed, add marked (boxes) street parking and some raised cross walks.	
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.	
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.	
Consider a one way traffic flow with raised crosswalks to keep speed down. With side street parking, slowed passerbyers, etc the traffic flow can be very congested which I think causes more distractions and perhaps some aggressive driving.	
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	
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.	

For	Against
Make the crosswalks artistic	
Raised crosswalks and speed bumps would drastically slow drivers down.	
<p>Suggestions to reduce speed, increase attention and improve vision of drivers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>2. Add raised crosswalks at locations convenient to pedestrians.</li> <li>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.</li> </ol>	
<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 traffic should flow one way around the lake. And raised crosswalks/speed humps at every intersection with the lake would slow traffic down tremendously.</p>	
<p>Consider bricking all or the subject portion of this street between Success and Mass Ave. Brickwork not only helps slow a driver down, the bumpy nature of a brick surface makes it difficult to drive and use a phone or text at same time, especially if added to some of the above treatments. If you bulb out or a raised crosswalk then please consider it most near intersection with Mass Ave where some want to pass/speed by on Lake Morton Dr. to go around those waiting to turn onto Mass.</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>	

For	Against
<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>The raised crosswalks would be great as they work like speed bumps for people not paying attention</p>	
<p>Raised crosswalks the whole way around the lake, not just the west side.</p>	
<p>Sidewalks and marked crossings. Maybe a low wall on the lake side of the road.</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2 or 3 raised crosswalks with flashing signs like those just installed by the Lakeland Center.</li> <li>2. Lower speed limit.</li> <li>3. Add some slightly raised brick areas at larger key intersections like Kentucky, Success, Massachusetts and Palmetto (east side). Something similar to those near the Lake Hollingsworth/Hollingsworth Drive FSC roundabout.</li> </ol>	
<p>As a Lake Morton property owner, only D would be athletically acceptable. For the love of God, no flashing lights.</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>Maybe make the entire lake one-way only, with a dedicated pedestrian and bicycle path on the innermost circle, and raised crosswalks from the outer to inner circle</p>	
<p>Raised crosswalks will help slow down traffic and get drivers to pay more attention to walkers and joggers.</p>	
<p>Pedestrian walking area would be helpful, raised walk ways for traffic calming. Maybe traffic cameras to determine causes of distracted driving.</p>	

For	Against
<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>Raised parts of the road, whether crosswalks or speedhumps to slow down the flow of traffic.</p>	
<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>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.</p>	
<p>I'm surprised to learn that speed is not the issue but rather distracted driving. Given that, I think that any solution will require increasing the "challenges" of driving around the lake (e.g., raised crosswalks forcing attention to the road). Since the wildlife won't elect to walk in specified areas only (unless you can teach them to read signs! :-), we have to be more aware drivers all around the lake and not just at specially marked intersections. If we are too distracted already, I don't think flashing beacons will make us more attentive.</p>	
<p>Raised cross walks like over by the RP Funding Center</p>	
<p>I personally think raised crosswalks (speed humps), placed frequently around the lake, are going to be the only answer. I know people who live there don't want them, because they aren't pretty, but, the swans are precious and we can't lose any more of them!</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 Parking and Raised Crosswalks. I still like one way street option though that apparently has already been ruled out.</p>	

For	Against
<p>Raised pedestrian crosswalks might help with the distraction problem. Making the drive one-way might help, too. I am always watching out for the Swans and other fowl who walk across the road, it can be a challenge paying attention for them, cars stopping, etc.</p> <p>I recently, had the right of way on LM Drive but had to quickly stop as an elderly woman began turning left onto LM Drive into traffic and my "lane" instead of the lane direction she was heading, had I not stopped she would have hit me almost head on.</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>I really believe that raised crosswalks are exactly what's the best option to increase safety without a change to the look or feel of the neighborhood but add safety to all. Pedestrians would be able to cross easier, for example, from the Lake Morton public library to view the swans. This would be an excellent location for one of the crosswalks.</p>	
<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>Put the traffic calming raised areas around Lake Morton. While this can be a pain it ensures people will have to slow down.</p>	
<p>Reduce speed. How about planting trees in the middle of the road, like on Success St? And raised crosswalks such as around the Lakeland Center would be effective.</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>Signs about pedestrians and the swans. Raised crosswalks going from the lake to the sidewalk</p>	
<p>Speed bumps or raised cross walks to keep drivers aware</p>	



For	Against
<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>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>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>Raised crosswalks and/or raised speed bumps all around the lake if possible. It will divert most traffic because people won't want to go that way anymore if they still desire to go fast.</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>Raised crosswalks are a great idea. Regular speed bumps (narrow) can knock your car out of balance when crossing them; no matter how slow you are going.</p>	

For		Against	
Raised crosswalks and speed humps placed periodically around the lake			
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.			
In addition to Raised Crosswalks, I would suggest adding traffic speed humps to keep the drivers focus on the road. If they are forced to slow down to go over the humps then they cannot focus on other distractions.			
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.			
I think the raised crosswalks might deter people from using it as a thoroughfare. Less traffic, less opportunities for collisions. They would have to be close enough together that it's an inconvenience, though.			
Turn Lake Morton Drive into a bricked street. Also, add raised crosswalks on the N,S,E,W sides of the lake.			
Possibly making Lake Morton Drive a one way street going counter clockwise around the lake. I would like to see "speed bumps" or raised crosswalks to slow down traffic. I would like to see some landscaping on the lake side to help keep the swans, geese, ducks, and other water fowl off the street away from the traffic.			
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>For = 67</b>	<b>Against = 8</b>	<b>Neutral = 1</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>76</b>		