

**WOODVIEW AT BULVERDE CREEK**  
**HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION**  
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November 28, 2006

City of San Antonio  
Traffic Engineering Division  
P. O. Box 839966  
San Antonio, Texas 78283

Dear Sir,

I am the Board President of the Woodview at Bulverde Creek Homeowners' Association. Our subdivision is located off Bulverde Road about two miles north of Loop 1604. Canyon Parkway is the entry road into our community. I need your advice and assistance in addressing what is perceived to be a serious problem in our neighborhood.

It's slightly less than ½ mile on Canyon Parkway from Bulverde Road to the actual entrance to Woodview. A one day traffic count conducted by the city last January reflected that 1,477 vehicles traveled that section of road. Bulverde Creek Elementary School is located along that ½ mile stretch but little else. As would be expected for a "Parkway," this section is rather wide and has little, if any, parking in the street unless the school is having a major night function. As a result, the 30 mph speed limit is appropriate on this stretch of road during non-school zone hours. The problem surfaces when Canyon Parkway enters the subdivision and narrows down to approximately 27 feet in width. The prima facie 30 mph speed limit remains the same.

As I'm sure you're well aware, it seems that the majority of homeowners today don't park their cars in the garage. The garage is dedicated to storage. As a result, streets literally become flooded with parked cars during the evening hours and weekends. Such is the case with Woodview. The width of the average vehicle is roughly 6 feet. If vehicles are parked on both sides of the street within 18 inches of the curb as required by the Texas Transportation Code, that narrows the space for moving vehicles down to about 12 feet.

The narrow streets throughout the development, coupled with the number of vehicles parked in the street, have created a major safety problem. With the conditions mentioned above, the field-of-vision for drivers is greatly reduced. Consequently, their reaction time to suddenly and safely bring a vehicle to a stop has been negatively impacted. This creates a problem when vehicles are backing out of driveways and, more importantly, when children are playing on the sidewalk, the driveway, or the front yard. To minimize this problem, one of three things needs to happen:

- Installation of Speed Humps. The speed at which drivers travel down the street must be decreased to allow for an increase in reaction time. A few of our board members feel that speed humps would accomplish this. Speed humps can become a neighborhood political

issue in that some people are in favor of them while others are dead set against them. Also, with the large number of pick-up trucks and SUVs on our roads today, the speed humps aren't nearly as effective as they might have been a number of years ago. There's also the issue of emergency vehicle response time being impacted.

- Reduction in Speed Limit. A car traveling at 30 mph is covering 44.0 feet per second. Supposedly it would take 47 feet for that car to come to a complete stop. The average lot in Woodview is only 45 feet wide. If that same car is traveling at 20 mph, it will cover 29.34 feet per second and the stopping distance is reduced to 21 feet (approximately 52% less required stopping distance). I would suggest that the driver's reaction time is also increased by 52%.
- No Parking Designation. City ordinance authorizes the traffic engineer to designate no parking on one side of a street if the street width is between 20 and 30 feet. I'm afraid that option would be an even bigger political issue than speed humps would be. Additionally, it would increase the field-of-vision only on one side of the street.

Our board of directors strongly feels that something must be done to minimize the potential for an injury or worse to one of our children. At this point, I call upon your division's experience in working concerns of this nature. I'm hoping you can point us in the right direction as far as where we go from here.

Thank you for your time and help.

Sincerely,

D. Robert Bird  
President  
Woodview at Bulverde Creek HOA

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