



Recommendation Statement

TOWN OF LYONS

Monday, September 13, 2021

Parks and Recreation Commission

Lyons Historic Train Depot

432 5th Ave. Lyons, Colorado 80540

The Parks & Recreation Commission recommends a new traffic study of the area around the 2nd Avenue Bridge and the entrance to Bohn Park once the 2nd Avenue Trailhead is completed during times of highest congestion. Given the length of time before such a study would be completed, the PRC also respectfully requests that some inexpensive traffic calming measures be put in place as a temporary precaution. These include a 4-way stop and crosswalks at the entrance to Bohn Park and possibly rumble strips or speed bumps on both approaches to the bridge.

Several factors have changed since the last traffic study was conducted. The bridge was elevated from the past design due to FEMA flood regulations. This has resulted in ramps in both directions, which impair sight lines as well as increasing the likelihood of drivers that are unfamiliar with the area carrying too much speed. The 2nd Avenue Trailhead will also add 140 parking spaces. This, in addition to the 160 parking spaces in Bohn Park, greatly increases congestion in the area. On-street parking to avoid park fees has also increased congestion. The widening of 2nd Avenue is also likely to increase the speed of traffic in this area.

Numerous neighbors on both sides of the bridge have expressed concern about this issue to the PRC and the Board of Trustees.

The larger slope of the bridge has also increased the usage of wheeled activities in the street. Some of these participants are difficult for drivers to see until cresting the bridge.

Lastly, a crosswalk has been added just south of the bridge. This crosswalk is not visible to southbound traffic approaching the bridge from the north. Pedestrians in the crosswalk may not be visible to traffic until cresting the bridge. If a vehicle is traveling too fast, or the wheels have left the ground (intentionally or not), regaining control before this crosswalk or the downslope of the bridge may be difficult.



In summary, this commission respectfully requests that the following measures be considered by the Board of Trustees:

- A new traffic study of the area once the 2nd Avenue Trailhead is completed during times of highest congestion. Times to consider would be the shoulder seasons when school and tourism traffic possibly overlap as well as peak tourism times.
- Addition of a 4-way stop and crosswalks at the entrance to Bohn Park. If drivers are aware of this stop and crosswalks, the likelihood of carrying too much speed into the area may be lessened. This has the additional benefit of possibly preventing cut-through traffic during the busy summer season. This could make the route look less beneficial to traffic apps such as Waze. This would benefit neighbors on both sides of the bridge.
- Consideration of rumble strips or speed bumps on both approaches to the bridge, which will possibly prevent excessive speed as vehicles approach the bridge. These measures would not impact Public Works staff accessing the area from McConnell Drive.

The Parks & Recreation Commission thanks the Board of Trustees and staff for all of the efforts to recover and improve the parks facilities and infrastructure in this area. We also thank them both for their time and consideration of this safety request.

Parks & Recreation Commission Members: *Ian Brighton (Chair), Claudia Kean, Chris Cope, Veronika Gaia, Randy Pollard, Yelena Hughes, Julia Herz*