

Linden Area Traffic Management Plan

**Problems on Norris Drive**  
**and Maize Road**

Presentation to the City of Columbus  
By Concerned Residents of Norris and  
Maize

July 22, 2010

# **Who We Are**

- Residents of Maize, Norris and surrounding area
- Former Far Northwest Linden Neighborhood Association
  - Forming new neighborhood association or committee on existing association
- 60+ have contributed to the cause
- 670 have signed petitions for the removal of the devices

# **Brief History**

- Virtually no one on had notice this was coming
  - Plan was approved six years before construction began
- First notice to most was before June 18, 2009 Commission Meeting
  - Approx. 40 residents protested at the June meeting
  - Nothing was done
- December 2009 – Car crashes through house on Maize
- January 2010 – Car hits tree, Driver in critical condition
- January 2010 – Car hits telephone pole, pole replaced

# **Brief History**

- January – 40+ protest to Commission
- January 28 – 60+ meet with Dispatch on 1-day notice
- February – Commission issues letter to residents
- February 15 – 40+ meet in snow storm to respond to letter
- February 18 – Third meeting with Commission
- March – May – Organized, circulated petition
- May 24 – Presentation to Columbus City Council

# **North Linden Neighborhood Plan**

- Adopted June 16, 2003
- “One of the major issues addressed in the Plan is safety. If residents and business owners do not feel secure, they will be less likely to continue to invest in the neighborhood. Cleanliness of the neighborhood is also a major focus of the Plan. Both public and private property must be adequately maintained.” p. 9
- “The goal of the Plan is to identify action steps to create a safe, attractive, and viable neighborhood --- a place where people want to live, play, work, and raise a family.” p. 9
- “Public safety is the number one concern of North Linden residents and business owners. Issues of public safety, such as property theft, personal safety, vandalism, drugs, and prostitution, must be addressed or residents and business owners will decide to leave the neighborhood.” p. 13

# North Linden Neighborhood Plan

“Issue 3: Vehicle speeds are excessive and dangerous throughout the neighborhood.”

“Action Steps:

The following specific areas have experienced problems with speeding:

- Area between Oakland Park and Weber Road
- Area south of Weber Road between McGuffey Road and Cleveland Avenue
- Beulah Road and Carolyn Avenue
- Near Linden Park Elementary School
- Bremen Street
- Melrose Avenue
- Weber Road
- North Broadway, from Interstate 71 to Hiawatha Avenue
- Reis Avenue near Como Elementary School
- Oakland Park Avenue
- Cleveland Avenue” - Pages 16 & 50

• **Note: No Mention of Maize or Norris as Primary Problem Areas**

# **Norris Road Concerns**

- Safety to pedestrians and bicyclists
- Safe access to street for people with disabilities
- Ugly – Huge signs are biggest complaint
- Street parking prohibited in areas of medians
- Home Value Decline and Resell



5/23/2010



5/23/2010





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*5/23/2010*

# **Maize Road Concerns**

- Safety to residents, pedestrians and bicyclists
- Safety of drivers
- Ugly – chipped, broken, spray painted
- Inconvenience from accidents, repairs, blocked street
- Snow plowing – buries the medians
- Waste of taxpayer money and resources constantly fixing
- Interference with public safety vehicles



***1/14/2010***



*1/14/2010*



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**1/14/2010**



**1/14/2010**





1/14/2010



*1/14/2010*



*1/15/2010*





*1/19/2010*



1/18/2010



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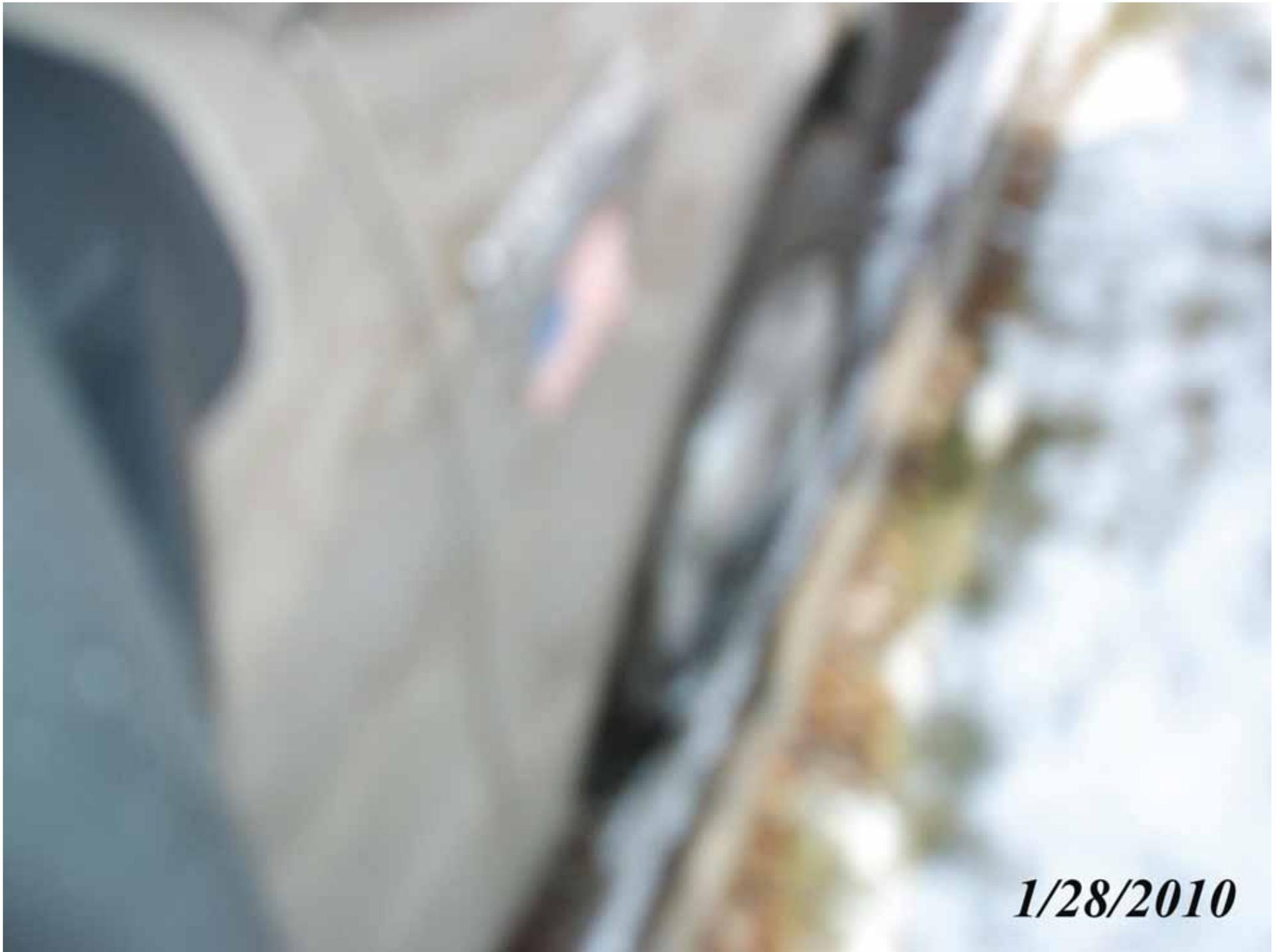
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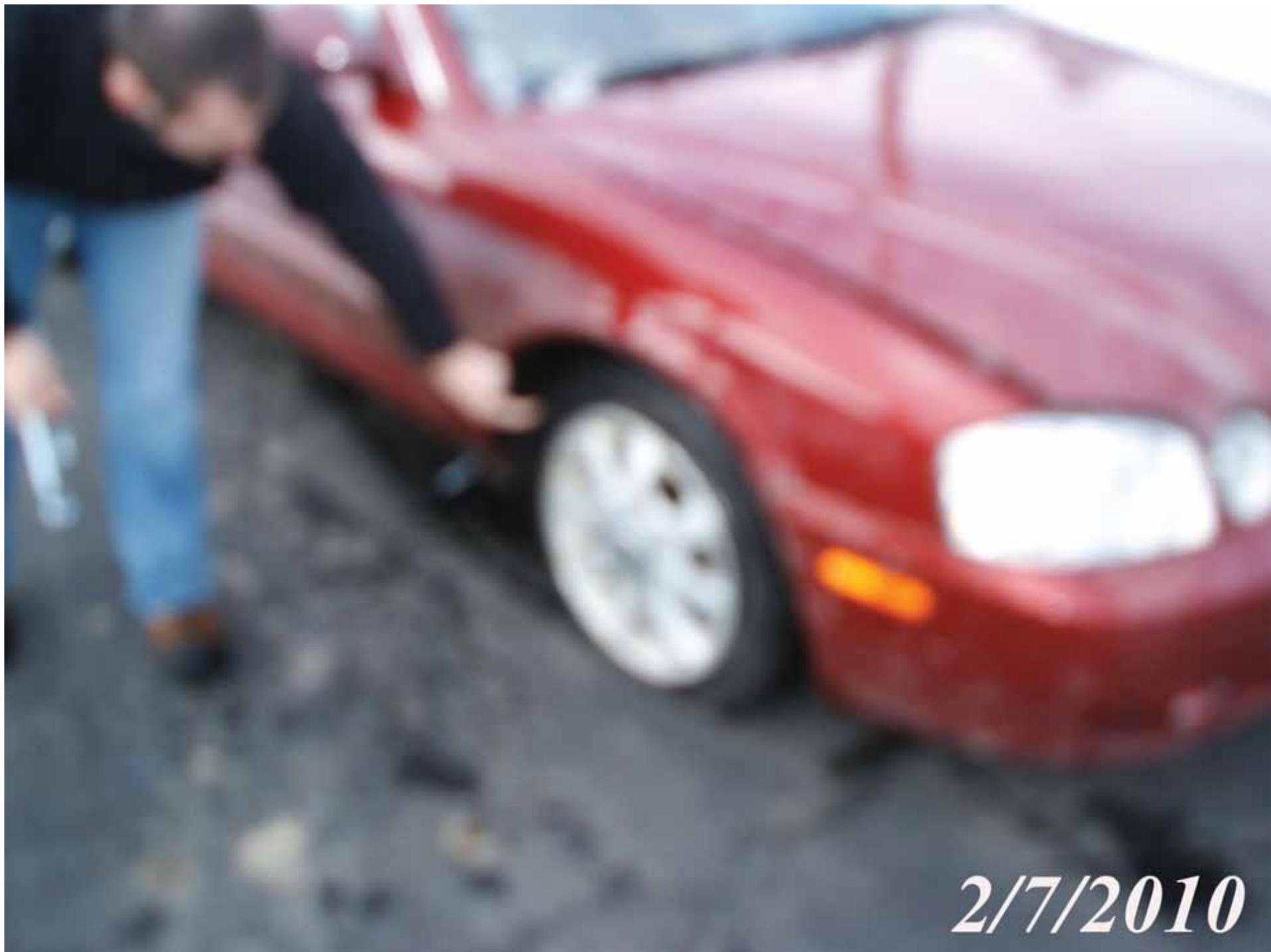




***1/28/2010***



*2/7/10*



*2/7/2010*







***3/18/2010***





3/15/10



*3/15/2010*



SPEED  
LIMIT  
35

NO STOPPING  
ANY TIME

3/18/2010





3/19/2010



**3/19/2010**



4/2/2010



*4/2010*





*4/5/2010*



*4/15/2010*



4/19/2010



4/19/2010



5/14/2010



5/20/10



5/21/2010



*5/2010*



*5/31/2010*



**6/19/2010**



**6/19/2010**



**6/21/2010**



**6/21/2010**

# Solutions

- We have community support for removal of devices on both streets
- However, we do not have consensus of community on what to replace them with, if anything
  - And we do not have the engineering expertise
- If the City will commit to removal on either or both streets, we will commit:
  - Join with the City to build support for solution
  - Organize and publicize a meeting of area residents
  - Work with City engineers to present alternatives
  - Hold a democratic vote at the meeting
    - Even if election is not legally binding, it will show the will of residents
- Our hardwork, resources and connections within the community will gather a very large crowd for the vote

# Possible Solutions

- Norris Drive
  - Speed bumps
    - Reasonable ones will probably get support
  - Nothing
    - Would also get a lot of support
  - Sidewalks
    - Would improve pedestrian safety but not other problems with medians
    - Controversial – Residents torn on whether want them
- Maize Road
  - Speed bumps likely won't work with 35 mph street
  - Strategic four-way stop half way down road
  - Strategic stop light
  - Increased police enforcement
  - Signs telling drivers their speed

# Where We Go From Here

- **Two Options:**

- (1) Agree on removal or a path forward
  - City utilizes our energy and resources
  - Become partners on the issue
  - Residents can focus effort on helping publicize and implement solution rather than building a case
  - Can turn negative publicity into a positive for City
- (2) Remain in dispute with no path forward
  - Continued media publicity
  - Citizen journalism campaign:
    - Website posting pictures, videos and petition
    - Document every accident and city fix on camera
  - Join with others complaining in other areas like on McGuffie

**THE END**