



City of Virginia Beach

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
(757) 385-4242
FAX (757) 427-5626

VBgov.com
MUNICIPAL CENTER
BUILDING 1, ROOM 234
2401 COURTHOUSE DRIVE
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23456-9001

March 9, 2009

Mr. Martin S. Schuman
P.O. Box 5351
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23471

Dear Mr. Schuman:

This is in response to your letter to City Council, on behalf of the Cape Henry Shores Civic Association, requesting a traffic signal at Shore Drive and Kendall Street, as well as other recommendations such as reduction of the speed limit on Shore Drive from 45 mph to 35 mph and installation of a crosswalk and pedestrian signal at the intersection of Shore Drive and Kendall Street.

Staff re-evaluated the need for a traffic signal at this intersection and determined that it still does not meet the necessary warrants. If there is an average of five right-angle crashes at an unsignalized intersection, it is recommended for consideration of a traffic signal if other improvements do not improve the traffic safety. The updated crash history at the intersection of Shore Drive and Kendall Street is as follows:

Two right-angle crashes in 2005
One right-angle crash in 2006
Two right-angle crashes in 2007
One right-angle crash in 2008

The above data reveals an average of 1 1/2 crashes per year with a total of six crashes during the last four years (2005-08). Research has shown that traffic signals cause more potential for rear-end type of crashes, as well as right-angle crashes, due to red light running problems. The benefits of a traffic signal should outweigh the negative impact to the public before we consider its installation. At this time, a traffic signal and pedestrian signal are not recommended at this intersection.

Mr. Martin S. Schuman

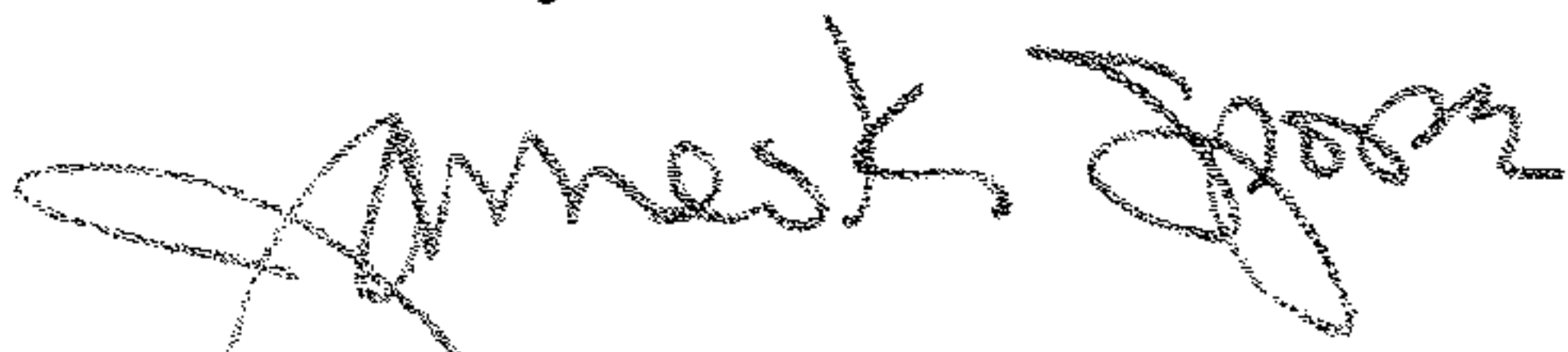
March 9, 2009

Page Two

Staff has also evaluated the posted speed limit of 45 mph along this section of Shore Drive and determined it is appropriate. Based on the federal standards, a crosswalk cannot be installed across a major four-lane divided highway with a speed limit of 45 mph or higher unless it is located at a signalized intersection. Therefore, a crosswalk at this unsignalized intersection is not recommended.

This intersection, as well as the entire Shore Drive corridor, will continue to be monitored in an effort to implement any possible safety improvements. If you would like to discuss this in greater detail, please feel free to contact Mr. Mike Shahsiah, Senior Traffic Engineer, at 385-4131.

Sincerely,



James K. Spore
City Manager

JKS/KDH/mkm

C: The Honorable William D. Sessoms, Jr.
Members of City Council