

# THE WILLOWS NEIGHBORHOOD

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This is very well stated. Unfortunately, this principle was soon dropped from the Willows Traffic Plan and never recovered.

This important principle is incompatible with the volume standard below.

Impossible! There are 25,000 trips in and out of the Willows per day. At least 90% of them are residential trips. So, let's say 22,500 "legitimate" trips per day. There are 10 entry-ways into the neighborhood. Therefore, there must be an average of 2250 cars per day on these streets.

Even if we allowed the intended exclusion of East Palo Alto drivers, we would have over 1500 cars per day on all entry-ways. Even then, some streets, such as Blackburn, would bear an increase of 400% in order to carry their quota of traffic.

85th percentile speed is typically about 33 mph in a posted 25 mph zone. This goal implies a posted speed limit of 15 mph.

This increase in trip time is very close to SOS "worst case" estimates for increase in fire truck response time. There's no way to delay passenger cars by 2-1/2 minutes without delaying fire trucks even more.

## GOALS AND STANDARDS FOR THE WILLOWS FIELD TRIAL

To know if a system of traffic calming devices is working or not, a set of goals and measurable standards must be set. The following are the goals and standards presented to the City Council.

### FAIRNESS GOAL

No one should endure significantly worse traffic as a result of the efforts to improve the neighborhood as a whole.

### FAIRNESS STANDARD

No increase in traffic on any street greater than 150 vehicles per day. *This goal and standard has precedence over all others*

### TRAFFIC VOLUME GOAL

Reduce traffic volumes to levels acceptable for residential streets.

### VOLUME STANDARD

Less than 1500 vehicles per day on any street. Less than 150 vehicles per hour at peak times.

### TRAFFIC SPEED GOAL

Lower speeds to safe levels.

### SPEED STANDARD

Less than 30 mph at all points. 85th percentile less than 25 mph.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE GOAL

Ensure prompt emergency vehicle response.

### RESPONSE STANDARD

Preserve 4 minute response time for Menlo Park Fire Protection District.

### ACCESS GOAL

Safe and reasonable access to homes and schools

### ACCESS STANDARD

Any increase in trip time to be less than 2 1/2 minutes (5 minutes round trip).