

Email from Steve Stivers
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Hi, I am the guy who rides his bicycle from DWK to the bus every morning. Some of you have probably seen me along HCD around 5:40 am.

First, I want to thank all the courteous DWK drivers who see me and pass with plenty of space. It is really appreciated and I am happy to be in our community with you. With that, let me get to my points:

1. It is obvious that these bumps inhibit drivers from seeing me, especially in the dark. Drivers routinely pass me ten or more feet abreast when traveling on the non-bump areas of HCD. Not so coincidentally, people pass me much closer once I get to the Cliffside neighborhood. One contributing factor to the close passes near the bumps is the fact that the bumps cause "grouping" of cars at each bump. So, the first driver that arrives at the bump sees me and gives me space. But the second, third, fourth, etc. drivers that naturally end up tailgating the first car as it slows for the bump are confused as to why the first car is moving left. Consequently, these cars can't see me until the last second and buzz me pretty close. Another contributing factor, which is already mentioned on this site, is the fact that going over the bumps causes drivers' headlights and my taillight to be pointing in the wrong directions, reducing the ability for drivers to see me.

2. Don't take this the wrong way, drivers, but I also know that these bumps psychologically make it more difficult to see me. The bumps have caused so much frustration that often times drivers are paying attention to the next bump, instead of me. This makes some sense, after all these bumps will damage your car a lot worse than hitting me or a pedestrian will.

3. I would bet that Steve Bauer & Co. took zero input from actual bicycle commuters as to why bumps on a road like this are a bad idea. He then had the nerve to tout these bumps as an interest of bicyclist and pedestrian safety, and spent our taxpayers' money on a project that makes it measurably less safe for the bicyclists and pedestrians.

4. What Steve Bauer & Co. should have done is spend the money to pave the gravel section of Hood Canal Lane and work with the tribe to re-open the south end. Then we'd have an emergency roadway in/out of Hansville that doesn't require transiting a 15%+ grade. Additionally, I (and other bicycle riders) wouldn't have to ride my bike through gravel and dodge trash cans at the tribe's gate.

I have been commuting by bicycle for a few years now and am willing to speak on behalf of other bicyclists as to why these bumps need to go. Please keep me informed as to where I can help. I already know of the April 23 (supposed) meeting. Thanks for your time,

Steve