



## Gatehouse Operations Survey Response #2 (05/31/19)

This communication is a follow-up to survey results relating to **Traffic Safety within Shadow Wood** which was mentioned in Gatehouse Operations (GO) Newsletter #1 distributed on 4/22/19. Data collected from the survey indicates that 65% of the residents did not feel that “more should be done to help monitor speed and adherence to traffic signs.” However, 35% of our residents felt that traffic safety issues needed to be addressed. There were over 300 verbatim comments provided by residents regarding traffic safety. Those comments primarily focused on issues relating to **Speed, Signage, and Enforcement**. The following provides clarification regarding this issue and summarizes actions initiated or planned.

### Speed, Signage, and Enforcement

The majority of Traffic Safety comments focused on the use of electronic speed detectors. The SWCA has had two speed signs for several years; however, the signs were out of service for several weeks undergoing repairs. We are happy to report two new speed signs have been in operation since April and are strategically placed throughout Shadow Wood.

The GO Team regularly sends reminders to residents through the Neighborhood Representatives regarding road safety, traffic regulations and bicycle/pedestrian safety.

Pedestrians and recreational bike riders should use paths where they exist, exercising common courtesy. Only competitive bicyclists are permitted to ride on the roadways, in the same direction as traffic. On our paths, as a bicyclist approaches a pedestrian from behind, the bicyclist should sound a bell or give a verbal heads-up indicating the direction of their approach (i.e., “on the left or right of the pedestrian.) Regardless if they are competitive or recreational, all cyclists are to obey all traffic signs and regulations.

To maintain a safe community, speed limits are posted throughout Shadow Wood. Where heavy pedestrian, vehicle/golf cart usage and employee traffic exists, it is imperative that safety precautions are taken. Employees of both the Community Association and Country Club often park a distance from their work locations, requiring them to cross main roads within Shadow Wood. To protect employees and residents, 20 mph limits exist in those areas. Other areas are posted with 30 mph limits. Please follow posted speed limit signs in the neighborhoods.

The Community Patrol utilizes radar in areas where pedestrian and vehicle traffic is heaviest to monitor vehicle speeds. Speed violators are notified by letter and repeat offenders are fined.

The Community Patrol also enforces parking and stop sign rules throughout Shadow Wood. A reminder to residents: a full stop is required at all stop signs; rolling stops are regarded as noncompliance. Residents are reminded that parking in cul-de-sacs is a violation of Fire Code, and is illegal at any time of day. Additionally, there is no street parking between 10 PM and 6 AM, unless a viable reason has been approved in advance by the Gatehouse (i.e., driveway repair).

A few residents suggested installing speed bumps or using the Sheriff's Department to enforce traffic regulations. At this time, those suggestions will not be pursued for a variety of reasons. Speed bumps create problems for emergency vehicles rushing through the community, can be hazardous for bicyclists, and can cause damage to low riding sports cars. The SWCA does utilize the Lee County Sheriff's deputies to supplement staff during traditionally high crime season. The SWCA feels the procedures we have in place are effective in managing traffic in the community at this time.

A number of comments were made regarding golf carts. Golf carts must use golf cart paths and adhere to all traffic signs. Golf carts **Do Not** have "right of way" over vehicular traffic and are required to yield to pedestrian/bike traffic and stop at all stop signs.

We want to repeat reminders made in previous Gatehouse Communications to residents: by all measures, Shadow Wood is a safe community. Maintaining this standard requires a continuous effort on the part of all residents and employees.

**Most importantly, in the event of an emergency, residents should call 911 before notifying the gatehouse staff.**

We hope these communications are helpful. Much thought and discussion is being devoted to responding to the SWCA Residents' Survey feedback and implementing recommended improvements. We all have a similar goal of continuing to enjoy the quality of life that Shadow Wood provides.

Thank you,

The SWCA GO Team