Sustainable Transportation: On-campus Planning
Mike Van Lente and Laura Smit, Calvin College

Objective
Increase the sustainability of the campus road system
Make driving, biking and walking campus safer and more pleasant (traffic calming, bike lanes, intersection design, etc.)
Make Calvin’s campus more accessible to people from all languages, ability levels, etc. (road signs, pavement markings, etc.)

Road Signs and Pavement Markings
What is this proposal?
Many of the signs and pavement markings (centerline striping, cross walks, etc.) on Calvin’s campus are not in compliance with city, state, and nation standards.
• Calvin to update road signs and pavement markings in compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) from the Federal Highway Administration
• Signs to incorporate symbols in addition to words
Why should this be done?
• Using signs with symbols communicates that Calvin is accommodating to international and/or disabled campus members and visitors
• Using national standards limits possibilities for confusion amongst drivers unfamiliar with Calvin’s campus
• Using national standards communicates that Calvin is concerned about being good neighbors within the community

Bike Lane Proposal
What is this proposal?
Bike lanes to be added to each side of Knollcrest Circle
• Bike lanes designated by lines on the left of the driving right of way OR with the addition of colored asphalt/concrete
• Speed bumps removed
Why should this be done?
• Bike lanes serve as traffic-calming device by making the road seem more narrow – drivers will drive slower in anticipation of bikers in bike lanes
• Adding bike lanes will increase the safety of walking, biking and driving campus
• Adding bike lanes will further encourage alternative methods of transportation on Calvin’s campus

West Parking Lot Proposal
What is this proposal?
There are currently no devices to control traffic at the intersections of access lanes. In addition to the lack of traffic control devices, the high speeds at which drivers feel it is appropriate to drive make these intersections susceptible to collisions
• Phase 1: Add yield signs to the north-south access lanes at intersections with east-west access lanes
• Phase 2: Add directional arrows to north-south access lanes to make them one-way
Why should this be done?
• Yield signs:
  • Alert north-south drivers to east-west traffic
  • Slow north-south traffic – increases safety to drivers and pedestrians
• Directional arrows
  • Increase safety for those backing out of parking spaces as they need only watch for one-way traffic
  • Increase safety for those driving north-south lanes as they need not worry about on-coming traffic

Roundabout Proposal
What is this proposal?
• Roundabouts to be considered as a creative solution for the Burton and E. Beltline entrance intersections
Why should this be done?
Currently, the Burton and E. Beltline intersections are confusing to motorists and hazardous for pedestrians
• Roundabouts serve as traffic-calming device, reduce points of contact for possible collisions, ease flow of traffic and add aesthetic quality to an intersection
• Roundabouts consistent with Calvin’s spoke-and-wheel concept
• Roundabouts reduce the need for excessive idling – more environmentally friendly intersections

Sustainability Statement
Calvin College has consistently encouraged sustainable design practices on campus through its building philosophy, master plan, and concept of a pedestrian-friendly, natural campus. Our proposals incorporate these goals into transportation design with emphases on safety, sustainability and hospitality.