

**SHARPSBURG MAYOR AND COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
MDOT/SHA MD34 @ MD65
Speed Cushions – Speed Study Results
March 9, 2026
6:00 PM**

The Mayor and Council of Sharpsburg, MD held a public hearing on Monday, March 9, 2026 at 6:00 PM for the purpose of presenting the results of the speed study conducted by MDOT/SHA during the installation of the speed cushions on MD 34 (E. Main Street) at MD 65 (Church Street) and obtaining public comment on the re-installation of the speed cushions.

In attendance were Mayor Russell Weaver, Vice Mayor Jacob Martz, Councilmembers Joseph Kudla, Anne Marie McCullough, Heather Waters and Robbie Waters. Town Administrator Debra Valentine-Smith and Zoning Administrator Tim Lung were also present.

Public Hearing Call to Order

Paul Nicol; Assistant District Traffic Engineer for State Highway District 6 presented the study results for the periods from October 2025 through December 2025 via ZOOM.

See the **green** text below for the times that the speeds were recorded. A spot speed study usually consists of a 1-hour timeframe and 100 car sample.

02/25/25 (**No Cushions**) (10:30am until 11:30am):

1. EB: Average Speed = 28 MPH.
2. WB : Average Sped = 30 MPH.

12/17/25: (**Cushions Removed**) (10:45am until 11:45am):

1. EB: Average Speed = 28 MPH.
2. WB : Average Sped = 28 MPH.

12/01/25: (**4 Cushions Installed**) (09:30am until 10:30am):

1. EB: Average Speed = 25 MPH.
2. WB : Average Sped = 26 MPH.

10/31/25: (**2 Cushions Installed**) (09:50am until 11:05am):

1. EB: Average Speed = 22 MPH.
2. WB : Average Sped = 25 MPH.

W.C. Deputy D. Watkins provided statistics as gathered by the W.C. Sheriff's Dept.

- Accidents in the Town of Sharpsburg between 10/01/2025 - 03/01/2026: Total Accidents - 6.
- Accidents at intersection of Church St / E Main St - 2.
- Of the two accidents that occurred at the intersection of Church St / E Main St;
- One occurred on 11/20/2025, and was the result of a vehicle turning too sharp from E Main St, onto N Church St, and striking the vehicle at the intersection on N Church St. The other occurred on 02/16/2026. Unknown what caused the accident.

Comments received in writing were read into the record by Councilmember Kudla (stating for or against the re-installation of the speed cushions)

- Matthew Ryan, Chief- Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company - no
- Priscilla Myers, Chief- Sharpsburg Emergency Medical Services - no
- David & Annie Lemarie- 207 E. Main Street- no
- Kourtney Lowery- 205 E. Main Street - yes
- Gina Brown- 209 E. Main Street- no
- Juliet Huff- 120 W. Antietam Street- no

Public Comments:

- Erin Short of 225 E. Main Street stated that her home is not directly in the area of the speed cushions but she did notice lower speed limits while the speed cushions were in place and traffic came to a crawl while crossing the cushions and they did have an impact on the overall slowing of traffic.
- Matthew Ryan, Chief- Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company wanted to reiterate his written comments of not being in-favor of the speed cushions and added that the traffic marking has proved helpful and would encourage more of them.
- Jen Bruni of 121 W. Main Street stated that with cars maneuvering into the shoulder of the road to avoid the speed cushions, it creates a pedestrian safety hazard.
- Heidi Moore of 114 E. Chapline Street expressed her concern regarding the additional traffic on Chapline Street from those using it as a detour to avoid the speed cushions on Main Street.
- Patty Hammond of 301 W. Antietam Street agreed with Ms. Moore regarding the additional traffic on Chapline Street and that she has trouble getting her car over the speed cushions.

Action on the matter: The matter has been placed on the regular meeting agenda under Unfinished Business where the Mayor and Council may now discuss and take any action on the matter.

The public hearing was closed at 6:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Valentine-Smith
Town Administrator