Effectiveness of the Radar Signs in Bellevue

An evaluation of each sign takes place approximately one year after installation. This includes a review of accidents, speeds and volumes along with feedback from adjacent households. A report is finalized with details of the evaluation. To date, some radar signs have been installed long enough that three post-installation speed studies have been conducted at those locations. These speed studies are used to gauge the effectiveness of the signs (Figure 2).

Effectiveness Over Time
(percent reduction in 85th percentile speeds)

Chart 1: Post-installation speed studies have been conducted for all 31 existing radar signs. The majority of speed seen in the first post-installation studies showed a reduction in the 85th percentile speeds of at least five percent. However, several locations showed little speed reductions during this first post-installation speed study. At one location, speeds were slightly elevated in the first post-installation study.

Chart 2: Additional studies were conducted at the 22 locations where signs had been in place two or more years. These studies showed some increase in the effectiveness of the signs, even at those locations that were least effective initially. In a couple of cases where effectiveness levels increased dramatically, the radar signs were not working well at the beginning. These signs were either repaired or replaced before the second round of speed studies were conducted.

Chart 3: A third speed study was conducted at the ten locations where radar signs have been installed six or more years. In direct contrast to what residents and staff feared, these studies show additional increases in effectiveness. The radar signs have not lost effectiveness over time as motorists get used to driving past them.

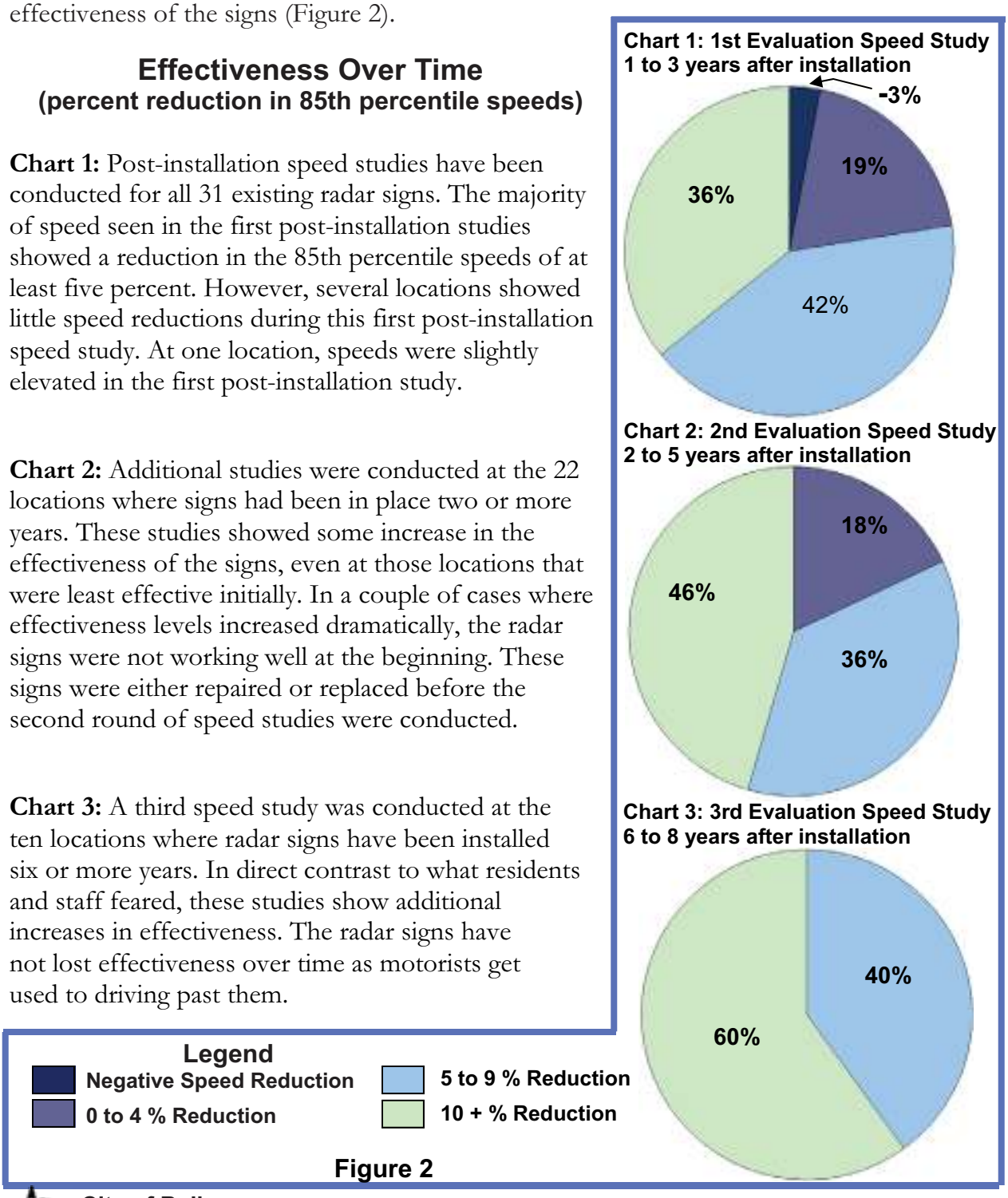

Figure 2