



LEGISLATIVE #

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Public Works Department Administrative Policy and Procedure

	Traffic Calming Devices Speed Humps	
	Number	ADM-031.2
	New/Revised Date	10/01/11
	Effective Date	10/01/07
		
	Approved by: Teresa Scott, Public Works Director	

POLICY:

The Public Works Department adopts and established a Traffic Calming Program to promote its commitment to safety and a daily quality of life for the citizens in the Gainesville, and to promote safe driving practices. Traffic calming devices are installed in accordance with the transportation engineering criteria stated below.

PRACTICE:

Speed humps are established as an effective device in reducing speeds on certain types of streets. Speed humps have been used by cities nationwide and experience has demonstrated that speed humps reduce travel speeds and do not affect the safe operation of motor vehicles crossing the humps.

PROCEDURE:

Eligibility for Speed Humps

The Public Works Department will conduct the necessary transportation engineering studies to determine whether or not a street is eligible for speed humps. The criteria for speed hump eligibility is as follows:

1. The street must be classified as a local street on the City's Official Roadway Map. See Section C for exceptions to this requirement.
2. This street should abut and/or provide access to residential properties.
3. There must not be more than one (1) moving lane of traffic in each direction.
4. The street must have a speed limit of 40 mph or less.
5. Humps may be located on streets that contain horizontal curves, but the hump itself must not be located within the horizontal curve. Safe stopping sight distance must always be provided.
6. Humps may not be located on a street with a vertical grade of more than 8% change on the immediate approaches where the visibility of the hump may be restricted.
7. Special consideration must be given to streets without curb and gutter to accommodate drainage and prevent vehicle runarounds.
8. The street must be paved.

9. The 85% speed should be a minimum of 5 mph above the speed limit. In cases where this criteria is not met the speed study should document excessive speeding on the street, such as a number of high end speeds particularly during daytime and early evening hours. The Public Works Department will make the final determination as to whether a street is eligible for speed humps.
10. Speed humps can be installed as a component of a neighborhood traffic calming plan.
11. Other factors such as emergency vehicle access and safe sight distance will be taken into consideration.
12. The Public Works Department is authorized to install speed humps to address hazardous and/or unique conditions in the roadway. The hazardous/unique condition shall be identified by the Public Works Department and the property owners along the road will be notified prior to installation of the speed hump(s).

Speed Humps on Collector Streets

There may be instances where the installation of speed humps on collector streets is desirable. The following criteria must be adhered to in order to install speed humps on collector streets.

1. The documented speeds must meet the criteria established in Section B.9.
2. The street must abut and/or provide direct access to residential properties.
3. The Fire/Rescue, Police, and Public Works Departments must jointly agree that speed humps are acceptable.
4. The Public Works Department will make final determination as to where speed humps are located on collector streets.

Speed Hump Location

1. The Public Works Department will determine the final location of all speed humps in accordance with these policies and procedures and in accordance with safe engineering principles.
2. The street must have adequate sight distance to safely accommodate the speed hump as determined by the Public Works Department.
3. Speed humps near drainage inlets should be placed just downstream of the inlet. Drainage considerations can effect speed hump location and/or spacing.
4. The desired spacing of speed humps is approximately 600 feet. Field conditions will often impact the spacing of speed humps.
5. Speed humps should be located at or close to a street light. It may be necessary to install street lighting when speed humps are installed.

Approval Process for Speed Humps

1. In order for speed humps to be installed, the property owners along the street must support the humps via a mail out ballot. The Public Works Department will determine the properties to be included in the vote and conduct the mail out ballot. An affirmative vote (greater than 50%) of the responses received is required for approval. The information that is mailed to the property owners will state the location of the proposed speed humps.
2. The ballots will be mailed to the property owners as listed in records maintained by the County Property Appraiser's Office.

Removal of Speed Humps

In order to remove speed humps, the following criteria must be adhered to.

1. The speed hump(s) being considered for removal must have been in place a minimum of two years.

2. If there is more than one speed hump on the street/street segment/block under consideration, all the speed humps must be included in the removal process. The removal of just one of several speed humps will have an adverse impact on traffic speeds on the street.
3. A petition signed by a minimum of 10% of the property owners on the street/street segment/block in question is required to initiate a vote on removal of speed humps.
4. The area that initially voted on the speed hump installation will be the area that votes on the speed hump removal.
5. An affirmative vote of greater than 50% of responses received is required for approving removal of speed humps. A minimum response rate of 50% of all property owners on the street/street segment/block is required for speed hump removal votes.