

## **Traffic Calming Guidelines for Vehicular Speed Reduction**

The City of Kansas City Public Works does not have funding for traffic calming. Neighborhoods can request funding from the Public Improvement Advisory Committee (PIAC). For more information please visit [kcmo.gov/piac](http://kcmo.gov/piac).

### **Criteria for Consideration of Placement of Traffic Calming Devices**

A. Criteria to reduce speeds:

- 1) The street must be classified as a local facility or residential collector with curb and gutter.
- 2) 75 percent of the properties with frontage on the street must be in residential zoning.
- 3) The posted speed limit must be no more than 30 mph. and the 85th percentile speed observed is at least 7 mph over the speed limit.
- 4) All other efforts have failed to lower speeds.

### **Types of Calming Devices**

The most appropriate device from the following list will be selected for traffic problems identified in the Kansas City area.

- Speed Humps,
- Raised Crosswalks
- Speed Cushions

### **Procedure for Requesting Traffic Calming Devices**

The City of Kansas City requires strong neighborhood support for installation. The neighborhood must have a liaison willing to serve as a contact person. The neighborhood liaison must live in the affected area or be an officer with the Neighborhood homes association to be eligible to act as the neighborhood liaison. This person should contact Traffic Control, Public Works at 816-513-9886 for a preliminary inspection.

In the preliminary inspection, a City representative from Traffic Control, Public Works will check for traffic conditions on the street where devices are desired. A location may not be studied more than once in a twelve-month period unless significant changes in traffic conditions occur. Devices shall be considered for installation only when a location meets all warranting criteria.

The warranting criteria for consideration of speed humps are as follows:

- 1) The devices must be located on a paved, residential street (alleys are not eligible);
- 2) The street should have vertical curbs abutting the proposed device locations. Devices may be placed on streets with roll curbs after a review to determine the best possible location. In this case, it may be necessary to take additional measures to prevent drivers from going around the device, however streets without curb will not be considered;
- 3) The posted speed limit on the street shall be 30 m.p.h. or less;
- 4) The 85th percentile speed on the street should be at least 7 m.p.h. over the posted speed limit (a speed study may or may not need to be required);
- 5) Traffic volumes on the street must fall between 500 and 1,500 vehicles per day.
- 6) Devices shall not be located within 150 feet of a stop sign or traffic signal on the subject street;
- 7) The street is not designated as an arterial or major collector street;
- 8) Speed humps can be installed on a street with longitudinal grades less than 8 percent and where the sight distance is not restricted.
- 9) Drainage on the street shall not be compromised due to the installation of the device;
  - a. The Kansas City Fire Department retains the right to veto any street segment.

Warranting criteria for the consideration of other devices can be made available upon request.

## **Neighborhood Support**

- The neighborhood liaison must circulate a survey of acceptance (petition) to the affected property owners.
- Public Works will determine affected properties in the area.
- At a minimum, the affected properties will include all that abut the street and a minimum of 300 feet on each side of any connecting streets.
- If a street parallel to the subject street is encountered prior to three properties or the 300 foot distance, no additional property owners need be notified on that street unless City staff recommends additional notifications.
- The survey must confirm at least 75% approval from the affected property owners for devices to reduce speeds, reduce through traffic, or reduce truck traffic. The survey must confirm 100% approval for devices to eliminate through traffic..
- Property owners who do not respond to the survey process or mark "no opinion" are considered opposed to the installation.
- All property owners within 50 feet along each side of the device must approve of the installation.
- If there is less than 75% approval from affected residents, or if it is not possible to place the devices on the street under consideration due to opposition from adjacent property owners, no device will be installed.

If requesting PIAC funding, please include the completed survey with the request. If the neighborhood funds the project, please submit the completed survey to City of Kansas City Public Works Traffic Control Division.

Once neighborhood support is confirmed through the petition and the project is funded, City staff will identify exact locations for the devices based on input from the survey. Shortly prior to construction, City staff will confirm property owners within 50 feet of each proposed device continue to support the installation. In the event support is withdrawn, staff and the neighborhood liaison will determine whether a suitable alternate location exists and whether to proceed with the remaining device installations.

## **Removal of Speed Humps**

- Once devices have been in place for at least one year, a survey (petition) requesting removal may be conducted and submitted to the Traffic Control, Public Works.
- All affected properties shall be involved in the removal process. A petition signed by 75% of residents or owners in the originally defined petition area and all the residents directly affected is required.
- Property owners who do not respond to the survey process or mark "no opinion" are considered opposed to the removal of the devices.
- Once the survey has been verified, the cost of the removal of the devices will be the responsibility of the residents signing the petition.
- Devices removed from a location under this process cannot be reconsidered for re-installation for three years after the devices are removed.