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## RICHLAND COUNTY TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY

### A. Procedure

The procedure to request the installation of **traffic calming devices** in Richland County shall be as follows:

1. The installation of traffic calming devices shall be considered only upon written request of a resident living on the subject street where the traffic calming devices are requested or a written request from the President of an organized Home Owner's Association (HOA). All requests shall be sent to the following:

Richland County  
Department of Public Works (DPW)  
Attn. Engineer Associate II - Transportation  
David D. Cable (803)576-2423 400 Powell Road  
Columbia, South Carolina, 29203  
Director of Public Works

2. The written formal request shall assign a Point of Contact (POC) to represent the HOA or subject street. The POC must be willing to serve as a contact person with whom DPW can work with throughout the **traffic calming devices** request process. Other duties for the POC are described below.
3. Upon receiving the request, DPW will perform a review of the subject street to ensure that the street meets all criteria referenced in the Traffic Calming Standard. DPW will perform all necessary vehicle counts and speed evaluations.
4. If the street is County maintained, DPW will determine the eligibility of the street. A written formal response will be sent to the POC. The response will report the findings of the review and if the subject street meets all of the criteria for **traffic calming devices** installation.
5. If the street is maintained by the State, A letter with their concurrence of the installation of traffic calming devices must be received prior to starting the county process.
6. Subject streets that are not eligible for **traffic calming devices** installation may re-request the **traffic calming device** installation after a two-year waiting period.

### B. Neighborhood Support Documentation

Once a request has passed the criteria for **traffic calming device** installation, the support of the neighborhood and the impacted areas must be documented as described below:

1. If a street is determined eligible for consideration, a petition area will be defined by DPW.
2. After a petition area is determined, DPW will meet with the designated POC for the request to discuss the petition area and the POC's responsibilities. In

addition, DPW will supply the POC with petition forms (See Appendix C) to complete.

3. The POC will be responsible for obtaining a minimum of 75% of the total occupied households or businesses within the designated petition area. The POC will have three (3) months (a deadline will be given at the meeting) to complete the petition process and submit the documentation to DPW.
4. If the minimum 75% concurrence within the petition area is not met, the request for **traffic calming devices** will be denied. In addition, if the petition process is not complete within the three (3) month time frame, the request for **traffic calming devices** will be denied. A written formal response will be sent to the POC indicating that the request is denied and the appropriate reason.
5. If the minimum 75% concurrence within the petition area is met and submitted within the three (3) month time frame, the request will be approved and the location of the **traffic calming devices** will be determined.
6. If the 75% concurrence is met on SCDOT maintained streets, then an encroachment permit must be submitted and approved by the SCDOT

### **C. Traffic Calming Costs**

#### 1. Payment Method

If all criteria are satisfied and all neighborhood support documented as described above, DPW will be responsible for payment of all costs associated with the installation of the **traffic calming devices**. Payment will include costs of material, construction, signing, and striping. However, due to availability of staff and funding, the following restrictions apply:

- a. No more than ten (10) requests will be accepted and processed each calendar year for the installation of **traffic calming devices**
- b. After ten (10) requests are processed; the remainder will be placed on a waiting list for processing in the next calendar year. Requests will be processed on a first come, first serve basis based on the date of the written formal request received by DPW.

### **D. Location of Traffic Calming Devices**

DPW staff, under the direct supervision of the County Engineer, will determine the final location of all **traffic calming devices** in accordance with these standards, in accordance with safe engineering principles and based on, but not limited to, the following guidelines:

1. The **traffic calming devices** shall not be located within 200 feet of a stop sign or a traffic signal on the selected street;
2. The **traffic calming devices** shall not be located within a horizontal curve with a 300 foot radius or less;

3. The **traffic calming devices** shall not be installed in a vertical curve with inadequate stopping sight distance and with a grade of 8% or less;
4. Drainage on the street shall not be compromised due to the installation of the **traffic calming devices**;

### **E. Traffic calming devices Removal**

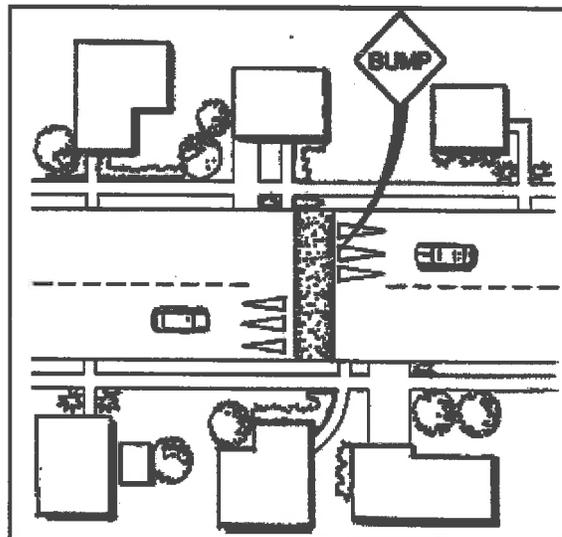
In order to have **traffic calming devices** removed, the following criteria must be applied:

1. The **traffic calming devices** considered for removal must be in place for a minimum of two years.
2. If one **traffic calming device** is requested to be removed on a street with multiple **traffic calming devices**, the DPW will review all locations to determine if additional **traffic calming devices** must be included in the removal process. The removal of one **traffic calming device** in a series may have an adverse impact on traffic speeds on that street.
3. In order for **traffic calming devices** to be removed, a formal written request must be sent to the Assistant County Engineer. A POC must be assigned in this request.
4. A petition must be obtained from the original designated petition area. The POC will be given this information by DPW.
5. The POC will be responsible for obtaining a minimum of 75% of the total occupied households or businesses within the designated petition area.
6. If a request fails to meet the 75% minimum, the request to remove the **traffic calming devices** will be denied.
7. If a request meets the 75% minimum, the requested and/or designated **traffic calming devices** will be removed by DPW at the expense of the requesting neighborhood/community, HOA or by the residents along the subject street. Costs associated with the removal of **traffic calming devices** will not be incurred by Richland County.
8. DPW will receive a cost from a contractor currently under contract or solicit three quotes to remove the **traffic calming devices**. This cost will be submitted to the POC. Once a check is received from the POC to Richland County, the work to remove the speed humps will start.

# Appendix A

**Speed humps** – County installed speed hump will be fourteen (14') feet long in the direction of travel and have a two (2) foot flat top. They have been rated well for low cost and effectiveness in reducing vehicle speed and negatively for appearance and legal liability. Speed Humps are designed for a 10-15 mph speed limit over the bumps and are less jarring than the standard speed hump, and have better aesthetic appeal. Speed Humps can be installed for costs ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,500 including all the markings, signage, and asphalt.

**SPEED HUMPS**  
(road humps, undulations)



# Appendix B

Table B-1. Cost Estimates for Typical Traffic Calming Measures

Traffic Calming Measure	Sample Cost Estimates			
	Low Estimate	High Estimate	Aesthetic Treatment Possible?	Annual Maint. Cost
Speed Humps/Tables	\$1,500	\$2,500	No	Min.

## Appendix C

**Sample Petition Form****Example  
Petition for Traffic Calming**

We, the undersigned property owners and neighbors of RICHLAND COUNTY do hereby request that RICHLAND COUNTY, under the Traffic Calming Program, implement a traffic calming study in the area (intersection/landmark) bounded by \_\_\_\_\_ (north boundary), \_\_\_\_\_ (south boundary), \_\_\_\_\_ (east boundary), \_\_\_\_\_ (west boundary) \_\_\_\_\_ .

We support the implementation of a Residential Traffic Calming Program and feel it will improve the safety of our neighborhood by installation of such devices the County deems appropriate on \_\_\_\_\_ (Road Name).

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Name (Print)	Address	Signature	Date
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18.			

Richland County Traffic Calming Petition \_\_\_\_\_ Area

# Appendix D

## Traffic Calming Evaluation Results

Criteria	Meets/Does not Meet (DNM)	Comment
The speed humps shall be located on a paved street with a Functional Classification designation of a "local residential" or "minor collector";		
The street shall not have more than one moving lane in each direction and shall be at least 1000 feet in length;		
Traffic volumes on the street shall be more than 500 vehicles per day but less than 4000 vehicles per day;		
The street must have a speed limit of 30 miles per hour (mph) or less.		
The street shall have a minimum of 40% cut through traffic (State maintained streets only);		
The mean speed on the street shall be at least 5 miles per hour (mph) over the posted speed limit;		
The street shall not be a route that is heavily used due to the close proximity of emergency vehicle facilities;		
Primary accesses to commercial or industrial sites are not eligible.		
Any street selected for the installation of speed humps shall not be resurfaced within 5 years of the installation of the speed humps.		