

RICHLAND COUNTY TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY

A. Traffic Study and Supporting Documentation

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 when it has been determined by Public Works staff that the roadway meets all criteria and after a petition and supporting documentation has been submitted to Richland County Public Works at the following address:

Richland County
Department of Public Works - Engineering
400 Powell Road
Columbia, South Carolina, 29203

2. A Point of Contact (POC) shall be assigned to represent the area 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.
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 Warrants listed in Appendix C.
4. If a street is determined eligible for consideration, a petition area will be defined by DPW for County maintained streets and in conjunction with the SCDOT for State maintained streets.
5. 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 B) to complete.
6. 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 two (2) months (a deadline will be given at the meeting) to complete the petition process and submit the documentation to DPW.
7. 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 two (2) 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.
8. A traffic study will be performed on the subject street to evaluate the traffic counts and speeds. In order to qualify for speed humps, the following criteria must be met:
 - a. Traffic volumes on the street shall be more than 500 vehicles per day but less than 4000 vehicles per day;

- b. The mean speed on the street shall be at least 5 miles per hour (mph) over the posted speed limit;
9. 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.
10. If the street is maintained by the State, DPW will forward all data collected to the District Traffic Engineer for South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) for an encroachment permit.
11. 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. 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 greater;
4. Drainage on the street shall not be compromised due to the installation of the **traffic calming devices**;

C. Traffic Calming Devices Removal

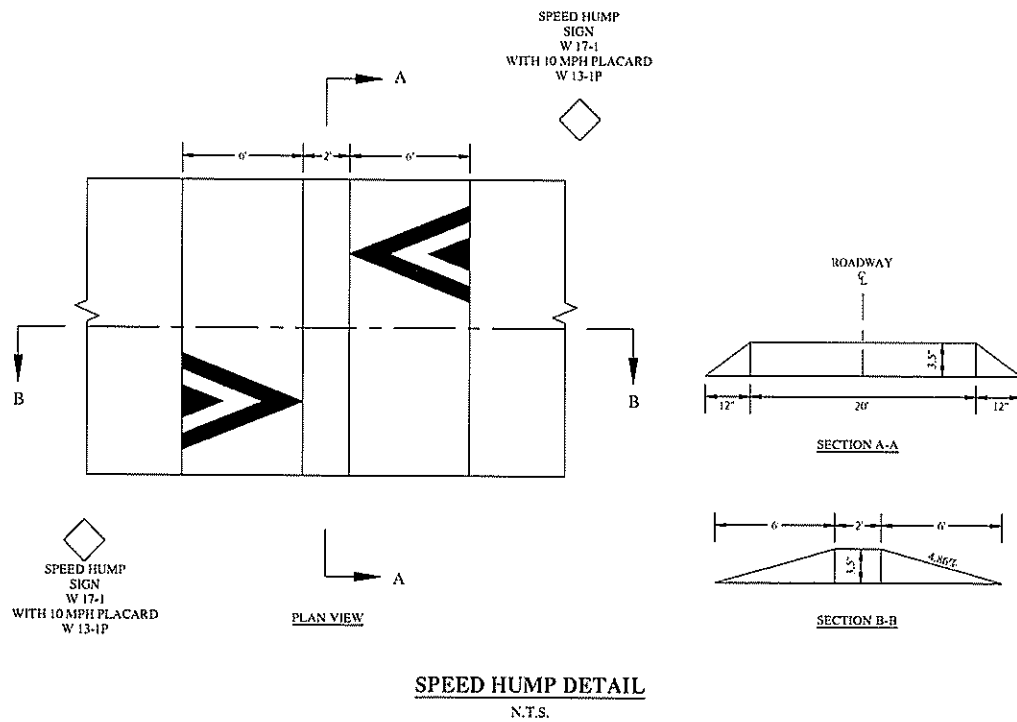
In order to have **traffic calming devices** removed, the following criteria must be applied:

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 Director of Public Works. 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 humps will be fourteen feet (14') long in the direction of travel and have a two foot (2') flat top. The speed humps will be approximately 3.5" tall at the two foot (2') 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 10-15mph speed limit over the humps, are less jarring than the standard speed bump, and have better aesthetic appeal.



Appendix B

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).

| Name (Print) | Address | Signature | Date |
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| 18. | | | |

Richland County Traffic Calming Petition _____ Area

Appendix C

Traffic Calming Warrants

| 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; | | |
| The street must have a speed limit of 30 miles per hour (mph) or less. | | |
| 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. | | |