



Speed Humps

Speed humps are used as a form of traffic calming in residential areas where very low speeds are desired and reasonable. Speed humps are not a preferred speed control device where noise and exhaust are a major concern. The City discourages the use of speed humps because of the significant increase in emergency vehicle response time.

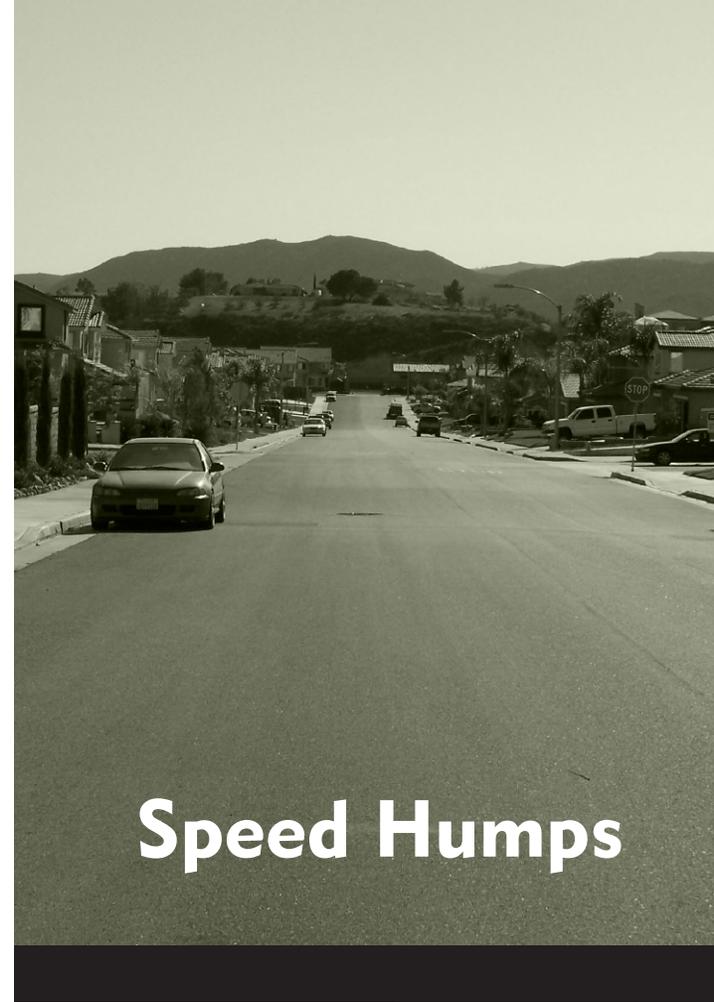


City of Murrieta
 Public Works and Engineering Department
 26442 Beckman Court
 Murrieta, CA 92562



If you have any questions, requests or suggestions concerning traffic issues, please contact the Public Works and Engineering Department at: (951) 304-CITY (2489) or through the "At Your Service" link at: www.murrieta.org.

NTMP
 Neighborhood Traffic Management Program



Speed Humps



Disadvantages

The City often receives requests for the installation of speed humps to reduce speeding in residential neighborhoods. Though many residents may believe that speed humps are the solution to speeding, the City does not recognize them as an acceptable form of speed control.

Disadvantages associated with speed humps include misuse and increased emergency response time. As a consequence of misuse or overuse, traffic may be diverted to adjacent streets that do not have traffic calming measures. The overuse of speed humps may create higher speeds between devices. These disadvantages deter the City from encouraging the use of speed humps.

Available Alternatives

When addressing traffic calming measures, less restrictive measures should be implemented before engineering measures are considered. A more conservative approach to traffic calming includes education and enforcement.

Education

Education is a traffic calming measure being used in many neighborhood traffic management programs. Neighborhood traffic safety campaigns are a form of education. These safety campaigns usually consist of personalized letters or general flyers that are distributed to all residents of a neighborhood. The letters and flyers

may cite statistics on speeding within the neighborhood, reiterate speed limits on residential streets, and/or raise awareness on issues related to traffic safety.

Other education campaigns may be used to calm traffic in residential neighborhoods. "Keep Kids Alive Drive 25" is a safety campaign targeting observance of the residential speed limit. The objective of the campaign is to educate and actively engage residents in a commitment to create safer streets in neighborhoods.

Enforcement

Enforcement may include targeted police enforcement, radar speed display units, and neighborhood speed watch. Targeted police enforcement involves a police officer conducting periodic daytime speed enforcement. The conflict with police enforcement is that the City does not have the staff nor the budget to place a police officer on every corner. Radar speed display units, also referred to as radar trailers, are an alternative to targeted police enforcement. The purpose of radar trailers is to remind drivers that they are speeding, thus encouraging compliance with the speed limit. To request the deployment of the radar trailer in your area, please call the Murrieta Police Department at (951) 304-COPS (2677).

Neighborhood speed watch programs are another form of enforcement implemented by residents. These programs encourage residents to take an active roll in reducing speeding by reporting speeding vehicles. To report speeding vehicles, residents must record the make, model, and license plate number of the speeding vehicle and submit it to the police department. The police department then sends a warning letter to the owner of the offending vehicle, reminding them of the posted speed limit and the neighborhood's concern for safety. The Murrieta Police Department has a similar program that allows residents to report speeding motorists in their neighborhood.

Alternate Engineering Measures

If education and enforcement efforts fail than alternate engineering measures should be considered. Some less controversial engineering measures include signing and striping. Signing may include placing additional regulatory signs displaying the residential street speed or warning signs cautioning the driver of children at play. Striping may also be used as an engineering measure to reinforce the right-of-way of the driver.

