

## Staff Report February 13, 2024

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**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Town Council  
**FROM:** Merrill Buck, Town Engineer  
**RE:** Recommendation to Adopt the 2007 Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program and Endorsement of Speed Lumps along Rutherford Canyon Road

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### **Recommendation**

Receive a presentation from staff regarding a proposal to place speed lumps along Rutherford Canyon Road. Following the presentation, staff recommends that the Town Council adopt a resolution (1) adopting the 2007 Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, (2) directing staff to gauge the level of support within the Sierra de Montserrat neighborhood for the installation of speed lumps along Rutherford Canyon Road, and (3) to initiate a project to install speed lumps if there is sufficient neighborhood support and funding.

### **Issue Statement and Discussion**

Residential neighborhoods can be diminished through the negative effects of vehicle speeds and traffic. To counteract this, agencies have developed traffic calming tools to address concerns of both safety and quality of life. Traffic calming, as defined by the Institute of Traffic Engineers, is the combination of mostly physical measures, that reduce the negative effects of motor vehicles, alter driver behavior, and improve conditions for non-motorized street users.

Rutherford Canyon Road, in the Sierra de Montserrat neighborhood, is in need of traffic calming. Average vehicle speeds are at least 40 miles per hour, and without curb and gutter, pedestrians often complain about their safety, walking in close proximity to vehicles. After meeting with the Homeowners Association and struggling with potential solutions, I have come to agree with the Homeowner's Association that speed lumps would be an appropriate measure to implement in this neighborhood. The various components that form the basis for this recommendation are highlighted below.

#### **Speed Limit**

The posted speed limit on Rutherford Canyon is 25 mph. This was probably established at the time the subdivision was built, by considering the roadway a residential street. This is consistent with the Circulation Element of the Town's General Plan which identifies the street as a "local road" as opposed to a busier collector or arterial roadway. However, under the California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 515, the houses along Rutherford Canyon are spread too far apart to qualify as a "Residential District". And only residential districts under CVC 22352 qualify for the default, 25 mph prima facie (meaning obvious, or "on the face of it") speed limit associated with residential streets.

Without qualifying as a residential district, CVC 22349 states that the speed limit should be set at 55 mph. CVC 22358 permits local authorities to lower this speed limit, by ordinance, on the basis of an Engineering and Traffic Survey (E&TS). An E&TS determines the speed at which 85% of the drivers travel, and uses that speed, a way of reaching consensus on what the majority of drivers find reasonable and safe.

An Engineering and Traffic Survey for Rutherford Canyon was never completed. There are E&TS for other roads in Town, completed back in 2014. These are typically good for seven years, but can be extended for up to 14 years, under some cases. The Town will be putting out a Request for Proposals to complete new E&TS for all our qualifying streets later this year, and will include Rutherford Canyon as one of the segments to determine the appropriate speed.

### Enforcement

Without the completion of an E&TS, the use of radar or other approved electronic devices to enforce the posted speed limit is prohibited. The Town and the Sheriff's Department often receive requests from residents along Rutherford Canyon to enforce the posted 25 mph speed limit, but without being able to use radar, this is difficult. Furthermore, as discussed above under the Speed Limit Section of this report, the speed limit, as it stands now, is unenforceable, since Rutherford Canyon is not a residential district, and an E&TS was never completed.

### Accident History

The Town's recently completed Local Road Safety Plan maps reported accident history over the past five years, and shows two collisions along Rutherford Canyon. This is in addition to the two mailboxes, a fire hydrant, roadside signs, and a street-light that have all been reported over the past three years by the Home Owner's Association. The concern is that one day, this could be a pedestrian.

### Vehicles vs. Pedestrians

One solution to controlling vehicle speeds could be to complete an E&TS, raise the speed limit to a much faster, 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed, and then have the Sheriff's Department perform periodic speed enforcement. The problem with this approach is that it favors vehicles over local residents, many of which feel that this is their residential neighborhood, with front yards and driveways which exit onto Rutherford Canyon. These residents complain that they should be able to enjoy their street, and walk along the edge of roadway without being at risk of adjacent, fast-moving cars. The alternative argument is to favor vehicles. That vehicles should be able to use the road as a collector street/expressway to get to where they want quickly. And that the open design of the roadway enables this. As a policy statement, the Circulation Element of the General Plan helps to differentiate as to which designation was intended. And since it classifies the roadway as a local road, the thought is that policy should favor pedestrians, not vehicles.

### Police and Fire Input

Staff has talked to both representatives of the Sheriff's Department and the Fire Department to get their input on the proposed installation of speed lumps along Rutherford Canyon. The Sheriff's Department is often asked to perform speed enforcement of the posted 25 MPH limit, which does not align with roadway conditions suggestive of a faster speed. This puts them in the awkward position of being "unreasonable" when asking people to slow to the posted 25 MPH speed limit. They are therefore supportive of completing an E&TS that would allow them to enforce an appropriate 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed. The Fire Department indicated that while they don't support speed bumps, they support speed lumps, which are more gradual in their design, and contain a wide wheel base "gap" for their vehicles to pass through which doesn't hinder their emergency response time or potentially put their crew at risk.

### Pros and Cons

Speed lumps can be effective in reducing vehicle speed when used properly, but they are controversial, and do have their pros and cons as bullet pointed below.

#### Pros:

- Increased Pedestrian Safety
- Fewer Vehicular Accidents
- Decreased Severity of Injuries in Case of Collision
- Increased Compliance with Speed Limits

#### Cons:

- Can Slow Some Emergency Service Vehicles
- Increased Noise or Air Pollution Issues - Due to extra braking and accelerating
- Inconvenience Issues – Potential barrier to bikes, tripping hazard, drainage concerns

### Policy Documents

The Town completed and adopted a Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program guide in 2004. The document contained a description of common traffic calming measures, including speed humps, and had criteria for their implementation, including a petition process and neighborhood cost participation requirement. The Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program issued in 2007 goes further, however, both in the discussion of the various types of traffic calming measures, and the framework or four-step process that is involved in considering their implementation. This includes phases of project initiation, project development, project support and project implementation, and relies heavily upon neighborhood outreach and notification during these phases.

It is recommended that the Town adopt the Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, included as Attachment B, and use the document as a guide to steer the process for considering speed lumps along Rutherford Canyon Road. The recommended locations for the speed lumps, as developed by Wood Rodgers, serving as the Town's Traffic Engineer, is included as Attachment C. With the Town Council concurring with staff on speed lumps as an appropriate traffic control measure, staff would issue a petition to the neighborhood outlining the planned implementation and gauge the level of support.

### Neighborhood Cost Participation

Speed lumps can be controversial, and so some local jurisdictions have policies against their installation, whereas other jurisdictions embrace them. To ensure that speed lumps are supported by a majority of the neighborhood, the Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program requires a two-thirds favorable vote, with at least half the neighborhood responding. It also requires a 75% cost participation by the residents. This approach ensures that the residents have "skin in the game" with a sense of ownership and buy-in for the project. It also makes it less likely that a request to remove the traffic calming devices will be made in the future. The neighborhood cost is considered voluntary, and cannot be imposed by the Town upon an unwilling participant. So it is collected independently by the neighborhood and provided to the Town as a lump sum payment. Once the payment is received, the Town will expedite the completion of the design, advertise the project for bids, and have the work constructed.

### CEQA Requirements

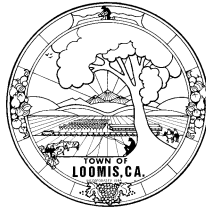
The installation of speed lumps is not subject to review under CEQA pursuant to Section 15301(c), as a safety alteration to an existing street that does not create additional automobile lanes or expansion of use.

**Financial and/or Policy Implications**

Many traffic calming policy manuals, including the adopted 2004 Town of Loomis Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program and the 2007 Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, include a requirement that the neighborhood requesting the traffic calming measures participate financially in their implementation. Should the Town Council adopt the 2007 Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, the expectation would be that 75% of the cost to design and construct speed lumps would be paid for by the residents. The Town would be responsible for the remaining 25% along with staff time and capital costs for standard supporting devices such as signage or striping. Funding for the Town's portion could be provided out of the Transportation Fund (220).

**Attachments:**

- A. Resolution
- B. Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program
- C. Proposed Rutherford Canyon Speed Hump Locations



**TOWN OF LOOMIS**

**RESOLUTION 24-\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOOMIS  
ADOPTING THE 2007 PLACER COUNTY NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAM AND DIRECTING STAFF TO INITIATE A PROJCT TO INSTALL SPEED  
LUMPS ALONG RUTHERFORD CANYON IF THERE IS SUFFICIENT  
NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT AND FUNDING**

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Loomis recognizes that traffic calming can help to address safety and quality of life concerns in residential neighborhoods, caused by vehicle speeds and traffic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Homeowner's Association, in the Sierra de Montserrat neighborhood, has approached staff and requested that traffic calming be performed on Rutherford Canyon Road; and

**WHEREAS**, staff studied the request and concluded that speed lumps would be the appropriate traffic calming measure to implement along Rutherford Canyon Road; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2007 Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program includes a framework for considering the implementation of traffic calming measures, which the staff recommends the Town adopt; and

**WHEREAS**, should there be sufficient levels of neighborhood support and cost participation, as required under the Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, staff recommends that the Town Council agree to the initiation of a project that will install speed lumps along Rutherford Canyon Road.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Town of Loomis the following:

1. That the Loomis Town Council adopts the 2007 Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program; and
2. That the Loomis Town Council authorizes the Town Engineer to take such actions under the plan to determine the level of Sierra de Montserrat neighborhood support and cost participation for speed lumps along Rutherford Canyon Road; and
3. That should there be sufficient levels of neighborhood support and cost participation that the Town Engineer will initiate a project to install speed lumps along Rutherford Canyon Road.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Deputy Town Clerk



*Final Report*

**PLACER COUNTY  
NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC  
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

*February 28, 2007*

*Placer County  
Department of Public Works*

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## PURPOSE

Growth in traffic volumes in Placer County and the broader region has increased the frequency and severity of traffic-related issues on neighborhood streets. Numerous agencies across the nation have confronted these problems using a proven process and tools to address both safety and quality-of-life concerns. The process is known as a Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP), which uses traffic calming tools and techniques.

The purpose of this document is to define a NTMP that is customized to the needs and unique characteristics of Placer County's residential streets.

## OVERVIEW

According to the Institute of Traffic Engineers, *Traffic calming is the combination of mainly physical measures that reduce the negative effects of motor vehicle use, alter driver behavior and improve conditions for non-motorized street users.* As alluded to in the definition, the negative effects of vehicle speeds and/or excessive traffic volumes on neighborhood streets can diminish the residential quality of life. While residential life "quality" is subjective, vehicle speeds and traffic volumes can be quantified and compared against adopted community or industry standards. Experiences reinforce this notion as some community residents embrace traffic calming, while others are not so willing to accept the inconveniences of traffic calming in lieu of a perceived improvement in residential quality of life.

With this in mind, the Department of Public Works (DPW) has initiated a comprehensive program that includes a systematic approach to handling neighborhood traffic requests, and applying the most appropriate traffic calming measures for the situation at hand. The NTMP also engages community residents during the development of individual neighborhood traffic calming plans and determines neighborhood support for the plan through a neighborhood vote.

The process defined herein is intended solely for use on public streets and is not applicable on non-County maintained roadways (i.e., private roads). However, use of this manual as a guideline for non-County roadways, will require oversight by the Fire District on the planning, design, and implementation of such features. Eligible County maintained roadways (i.e., public roads) include two-lane urban and rural local roads and two-lane urban and rural collector roads.

The terms "local" and "collector" streets refer to the functional classification that denotes a specific level in the transportation network hierarchy and specifies the design according to Placer County standards. While the streets may have been designed for a particular purpose, they may in reality function differently than intended. Therefore, it may be difficult to differentiate between the two. Following is a narrative description of each roadway classification:

- Local Streets provide direct access to residential properties and facilitate short neighborhood trips. Typical local street features include:
  - 24 - 28 foot travel way
  - Serves fewer than 50 residential units on a cul-de-sac or 75 residential units on a through street

- Collector Streets are secondary roads that connect motorists from surrounding local streets to arterial roadways and freeways and facilitate intermediate trip lengths. Typical collector street features include:
  - 32 - 40 foot travel way
  - Serves more than 75 residential units.

Eligibility of rural streets for traffic calming requires an additional level of scrutiny beyond that of urban streets. Many rural streets in Placer County serve as alternative routes for commuters and can generally be described as serving a higher volume of vehicles at greater speeds. The higher volumes and speeds experienced on many rural streets are not compatible with traffic calming and may unintentionally create additional safety concerns. Each roadway has its own unique set of characteristics; therefore, eligibility of a specific roadway should be confirmed with DPW staff.

The underpinnings of the NTMP are based on a combination of parallel strategies, known collectively as the “Three E’s”:

- Education – Sharing information and raising awareness; targeting drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists about the safest and best ways to share the road.
- Engineering – Physical measures constructed to lower speeds, improve safety, or otherwise reduce the impacts of automobiles.
- Enforcement – Targeted enforcement by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to reinforce the emphasis on education and engineering aspects of the program.

This document focuses on the engineering aspects of neighborhood traffic calming, though education and enforcement play an important role in any engineering strategy. This document and informational flyers provide education, while the CHP conducts targeted speed enforcement. While targeted speed enforcement provides a positive influence on neighborhood streets, the demand for this service could easily outstrip the resources of any enforcement agency (i.e., CHP). Therefore, neighborhood traffic calming is a viable alternative that is always self-enforcing.

This program also considers the roadway network and design of new developments. Developers, with guidance from DPW staff, can reduce the need for future traffic calming by designing new streets that discourage speeding and cut-through traffic. To supplement these design principles, developers can incorporate traffic calming measures as part of the initial development.

## **NTMP DEVELOPMENT**

This manual was developed with the assistance of an advisory committee composed of representatives from Placer County Planning and Engineering departments, California Highway Patrol, Placer County Fire Districts, Placer County Sheriff’s department, Placer County Transit, Supervisory Districts, and local Municipal Advisory Council members. The advisory committee convened three times to review material and provide input on specific aspects of the NTMP process framework and toolbox.

The material presented to the advisory committee was based on a 2004 national survey conducted of 21 leading jurisdictions’ traffic calming practices. The survey provided insight into the evolution of the traffic

calming field since the last in-depth report<sup>1</sup> almost a decade ago. The various approaches, policies, and uses of traffic calming devices reported in this survey provided a menu of alternatives to develop a Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program unique to Placer County.

## **FUNDING**

Funding for the Placer NTMP is anticipated largely from the County's Road Fund, which will compete annually for funding amongst other programs. Funding supplied by the County's Road Fund will go towards staff time (operating cost) and construction costs (capital cost) of standard devices. As the DPW identifies the next fiscal budget, it may become apparent that other funding sources may be necessary to maintain the program or meet the anticipated demand. To offset the public demand and stretch the funding, residents will be required to contribute 75 percent of the costs for speed humps (or other vertical devices). Additional cost sharing may be necessary depending on annual funding and level of public demand. The need and proportional share to residents will be determined annually.

In the absence of funding or to expedite treatment, residents may elect to fund a local traffic calming plan. The neighborhood must prove the financial ability to fund 100 percent of the anticipated costs, which include plan development, engineering drawings, and construction. Upon proof of financial ability, the DPW can elect to authorize the neighborhood's request to develop a traffic calming plan.

In addition, residents could voluntarily elect to fund aesthetic upgrades to the standard devices. Such aesthetic upgrades could include landscaping or use of decorative materials (e.g., stamped concrete).

## **HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT**

This document provides guidelines, not rigid requirements. These guidelines are primarily intended for DPW staff and residents in developing a neighborhood traffic management plan, and developers and staff in developing and reviewing new subdivision plans. The

This manual will likely evolve as DPW staff and community members work through the program. As lessons are learned, staff and community members may identify more efficient methods of implementing the program and better ways of disseminating information. DPW staff may also revise the design guidelines and cost estimates.

## **WHO TO CONTACT**

To find out more information about the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program or whether your street is eligible for traffic calming, please contact:

- If you live on a County maintained roadway: The Department of Public Works at (530) 745-7500 or [publicworks@placer.ca.gov](mailto:publicworks@placer.ca.gov).
- If you live on a Non-County maintained roadway: Your Local Fire District or Placer County Fire Protection Department at (530) 823-4155.

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<sup>1</sup> Ewing, R. *Traffic Calming State-of-the-Practice*. Washington, D.C., USA: Institute of Transportation Engineers /Federal Highway Administration, 1999.

**HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT**

*If you are a Resident*, you should focus on the following chapters:

**Chapter 2, Process Framework**, to find out how to request traffic calming on your street and the steps necessary to implement a traffic calming plan.

**Chapter 3, Toolbox**, to discover what particular traffic calming devices are available and the advantages and disadvantages of each.

*If you are an Engineer/Planner involved in the development of a new subdivision*, you should focus on the following chapters:

**Chapters 3 and 4, Toolbox and Toolbox Guidelines**, to discover what devices you can incorporate into your development.

**Chapter 5, New Development Guidelines**, for techniques to minimize the potential for future speeding and traffic-related concerns.

**DPW staff members** should focus on the above Chapters as well as the following appendices:

**Appendix A – Design Guidelines** provides recommended design features to minimize design issues once implemented.

**Appendix B – Traffic Calming on Snow Removal Routes** provides guidance on which devices are eligible for use in areas of snowfall. Physical design considerations are also provided to accommodate snow removal equipment.

**Appendix C – Standard Traffic Calming Templates** provides standard designs templates that can be easily modified to fit specific roadways.



## 2. PROCESS FRAMEWORK

The NTMP is a partnership between the DPW and residents. Participation begins with the initial petition filing, continues with the development of a neighborhood traffic calming plan, then moves to the final step of determining neighborhood support. The process framework identifies the steps by which the DPW staff and community members interact and participate in the NTMP. Figure 1 on the following page graphically illustrates the NTMP process framework. The accompanying text below provides greater detail.

The process framework is comprised of four key elements that focus on specific tasks and conclude with the implementation of a traffic calming plan.

- Plan Initiation – How can my street receive traffic calming devices?
- Plan Development – Who develops the traffic calming plan?
- Plan Support – What are the requirements for neighborhood support?
- Plan Implementation – How are the supported traffic calming measures installed?

Each step of the Process Framework is numbered and corresponds with Figure 1.

This chapter also includes a “Process for Removal”. This process presents the framework for removal of neighborhood calming devices in the event residents wish to have certain aspects of the implemented plan removed.

### PLAN INITIATION

This component describes how to initiate the NTMP and determine eligibility.

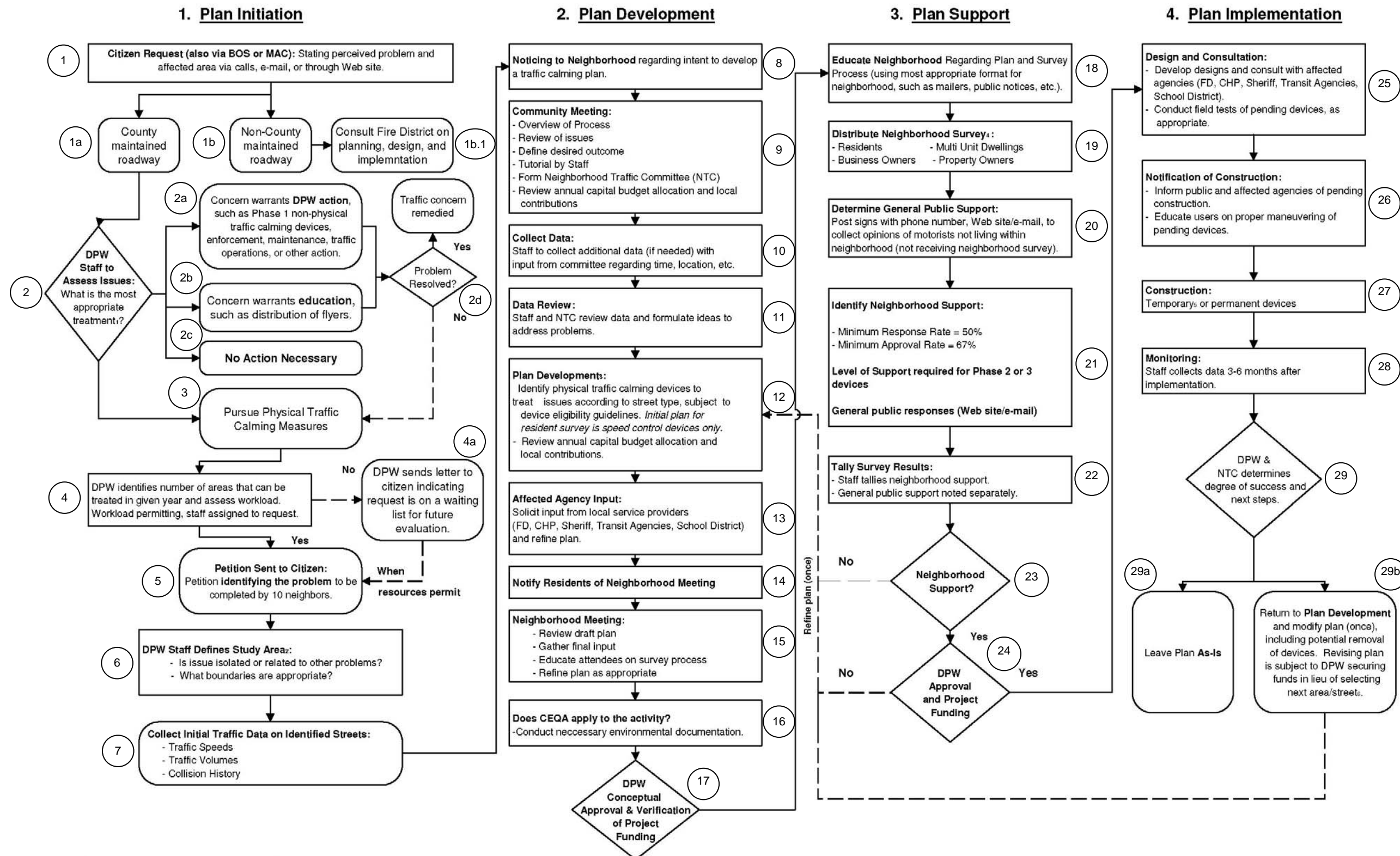
#### 1 – Citizen Request

The process is initiated when a resident(s) submits a request to the DPW staff to investigate speeding, traffic volumes, or traffic-related safety concerns within their neighborhood. Requests for County maintained roadways **(1.a)** should provide sufficient detail for staff to understand the traffic-related concern and magnitude. Non-County maintained roadway requests **(1.b)** will be forwarded to the Placer County Fire Department for consultation and review **(1.b.1)**. The action initiates the dialogue between the resident(s) and the DPW. Requests can be submitted to the DPW via letter, phone call, or e-mail. Requests from Board of Supervisors or Municipal Advisory Councils will also initiate the process.

#### 2 – Assess Traffic

DPW staff will review the petition and determine the appropriate course of action. Certain traffic concerns may be remedied through methods other than physical traffic calming devices **(2a)**. For instance, the DPW may elect to install non-physical traffic calming devices (see Chapter 3) that utilize signs and roadway striping, conduct landscaping maintenance (e.g., trees blocking a stop sign), implement targeted speed enforcement by CHP, or provide other engineering related improvements. Additionally, DPW may distribute educational flyers reminding local residents of the rules of the road and safe neighborhood driving habits **(2b)**. However, the DPW may determine that no action is necessary based on the information provided and knowledge of the area in question **(2c)**. Following these actions, the DPW will determine whether the treatments remedied the cited concern **(2d)**.

Figure 1 NTMP Process Framework



1 A response is sent to every citizen who made a request informing them of the course of action.  
 2 Study area to include all streets that may experience a significant change in traffic due to treatment and will generally be bounded by arterials, freeways, rivers/canyons, etc.  
 3 First round of plan development will utilize speed control devices, following DPW installation of non-physical devices in Step 2.  
 4 Surveys distributed within study area. Multi Unit Dwellings' responses do not count toward the minimum response rate. Survey includes three questions: (a) Do you support the proposed plan?  
 (b) Would you oppose a traffic calming device adjacent to your property? (c) Would you contribute to neighborhood funding of the proposed traffic calming measures?  
 5 Temporary devices are constructed at staff discretion based on previous experience. Temporary devices can be converted to permanent devices after 6 months of acceptable performance.  
 6 If non-physical and speed control devices are found to be ineffective, DPW may initiate volume control plan.



If the non-physical traffic calming measures or other actions did not eliminate the concern, the DPW may recommend physical traffic calming treatments. The DPW will send a response letter to the individual who submitted the original request, indicating the action they intend to undertake.

### **3 – Traffic Calming Issue**

Upon receipt of the request or determination that previous non-physical traffic calming actions did not address the cited concerns, the DPW may elect to pursue a traffic calming plan with local residents.

### **4 – Assess DPW Workload and Determine Number of Areas to be Treated**

Before initiating a local traffic calming plan, the DPW will review the number of citizen requests warranting traffic calming and assess the number of requests the department can initiate. This assessment is important to balance the resources of the department due to the close oversight and level of involvement required by DPW staff. If the number of requests exceeds DPW resources, they will select requests on a first-come-first-served basis, and place the remainder on a waiting list. The DPW will send a letter to those residents indicating that their request is on a waiting list for future evaluation pending available DPW resources **(4a)**.

To provide residents with another avenue for treatment, neighborhoods can elect to fund the construction of traffic calming devices and expedite neighborhood treatment. The neighborhood must prove the financial ability to fund 100 percent of the anticipated costs, which include plan development, engineering drawings, and construction. Upon proof of financial ability, the DPW can elect to authorize the neighborhood's request to develop a traffic calming plan.

### **5 – Petition Sent to Citizens**

For those requests selected by the DPW, they will send a petition to the individual who initially requested the investigation. The petition requires a minimum of 10 signatures in support of pursuing a traffic calming plan. The signatures must be from individuals 18 years and older and from separate households.

If the requesting individual cannot attain the minimum required 10 signatures, the request will not be able to proceed.

### **6 – DPW Defines Study Area**

Once they receive the necessary signatures, DPW staff will initially define the study area, which may be a specific street or much larger area such as a neighborhood. The size of the study area depends on the extent of the traffic-related concerns and should include any streets that could serve as an alternative route to the treated street. The study area may also include streets that have primary access to the treated street (e.g., cul-de-sac). Boundary lines can also follow geographic features such as a creek, hillside, open space, or an arterial roadway. The study area may later be refined with resident input.

### **7 – Collect Initial Traffic Data**

Based on the study area, DPW staff will collect traffic data on streets identified as a concern. Traffic data collection will include the following:

- Traffic speeds
- Traffic volumes
- Collision history

**Placer County  
Neighborhood Traffic Calming Petition Form**

Name of Person Submitting Petition form: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your street or neighborhood is being considered for participation in the Placer County Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. This program addresses neighborhood speeding and traffic volume concerns through the use of traffic calming devices. Individual neighborhood plans will partially or completely be funded by the Placer County Public Works Department; however, a percentage of the costs may be borne by the neighborhood.

To verify local support, please provide the names, signatures, and contact information of at least 10 residents and/or property owners 18 years and older (from separate households) who support requesting that this neighborhood be considered for selection in the next NTMP cycle.

If the necessary signatures are attained, the Placer County Department of Public Works will initiate a neighborhood meeting to discuss neighborhood traffic issues and begin development of a traffic calming plan.

	Printed Name	Signature	Address	Phone No.
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Traffic speeds and volumes should be collected for a minimum of 24 hours using a pneumatic hose count machine. The DPW may elect to conduct a radar speed surveys to verify traffic speeds or conduct a time specific speed surveys.

## **PLAN DEVELOPMENT**

The plan development component is a collaborative effort between the DPW and a neighborhood traffic calming committee (NTC). They will work together to develop a traffic calming plan. The following steps describe the development of a traffic calming plan.

### ***8 – Notify Neighborhood of Kick-off Meeting***

DPW staff will notify study area residents, property owners, and business owners of a neighborhood meeting to learn more about the selection of their neighborhood area to participate in the NTMP.

### ***9 – Neighborhood Kick-off Meeting***

The DPW will host a neighborhood meeting to provide an overview of the NTMP and the process to develop, approve, and implement a neighborhood traffic calming plan. At this meeting, the DPW will accomplish the following:

- Review traffic-related issues – Discuss the type of issue(s), location(s), and time of occurrences. Collect any additional information regarding traffic-related issues.
- Refine Study area (if necessary) – DPW staff will refine the study area based on street(s) affected by the traffic-related issues or that may be potentially affected by development of a neighborhood traffic management plan.
- Review traffic data – Review the initial data collected and determine whether additional data collection is necessary.
- Neighborhood Traffic Management Tutorial – Present an overview of available neighborhood traffic calming devices.
- Discuss Funding – The DPW will identify the available funding and the anticipated amount of funding to be borne by the neighborhood for the construction of traffic calming devices. In addition, residents will be informed of the opportunity to fund enhanced aesthetic features, such as landscaping.

DPW staff will provide interested residents the opportunity to volunteer and participate on the NTC. The NTC will meet with DPW staff to review and develop a plan for their neighborhood. Although all residents have the opportunity to provide input and receive updates as the plan develops, the NTC is more actively involved, committing the time and effort necessary to develop a comprehensive plan.

### ***10 – Additional Data Collection***

If necessary, DPW will collect additional traffic data on study area streets based on resident input from the neighborhood meeting. The data may supplement previously collected data or provide data on streets where it was not previously available.

### **11 – Data Review**

DPW staff will coordinate meeting(s) with the NTC to review the traffic related concerns and traffic data within the study area. The DPW and NTC may want to prioritize the areas of treatment based on the traffic data and the areas of concern.

### **12 – Plan Development**

The NTC will develop a short list of traffic calming devices to most appropriately treat the traffic concerns. The DPW will provide guidance on the selection and placement of the devices. The Toolbox Guideline Tables 1-3 (see Chapter 4) can help to determine the most appropriate devices. The NTC will ultimately present the proposed plan to residents of the study area for public review and comment.

Following implementation on non-physical devices in the initial phase (step 2), the DPW will use the following types of physical traffic calming measures to treat the traffic related concerns (see Toolbox chapter for more information):

- Vertical Devices – Speed humps, speed lumps, speed tables, etc.
- Narrowing Devices – Bulbouts, chokers, center island narrowings, etc.
- Horizontal Devices – Traffic circles, chicanes, lateral shifts, etc.

Because volume control measures (e.g., partial closures or forced turn islands) intentionally divert traffic to another street, new issues can occur as a result. For this reason, volume control devices should be reserved until all other options have proven ineffective at reducing the traffic-related impacts.

### **13 – Consult Affected Agencies**

Once the DPW and NTC have developed a plan that will adequately address the neighborhood concerns, DPW staff will solicit feedback from local service providers that may be affected by the plan. The intent is to identify concerns and develop viable alternatives to strike a balance between goals of the NTMP and the needs of other agencies. The following service providers should be included when coordinating the plan review.

- Local Placer County Fire District
- California Highway Patrol
- Placer County Sheriff's Department
- Placer County Transit
- Local School District
- Road Maintenance – Snow Removal Department

### **14 – Notify Residents of Proposed Plan Meeting**

DPW staff will notify the study area residents of a neighborhood meeting to review the Proposed Plan. Residents will have the opportunity to review and provide input on the proposed plan.

**15 – Proposed Plan Neighborhood Meeting**

At this meeting, the NTC will present a map of the proposed plan, describe the types and locations of devices proposed, and discuss the estimated construction costs. If applicable, the NTC will also discuss the aesthetic improvements to gauge resident support. Changes to the proposed plan can be made as necessary.

The DPW will also inform residents of the approval process and ballots they will receive once the proposed plan is refined.

**16 – Determine whether California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) applies to the activity?**

At this time, DPW will review the proposed plan and determine whether CEQA documentation is necessary for the proposed activity. If the proposed plan is not exempt from CEQA, the DPW will initiate the necessary steps to identify the potential affects on the surrounding roadway network.

**17 – DPW Conceptual Approval and Verification of Project Funding**

Prior to determining neighborhood support, the DPW will conceptually approve the plan and verify placement of all proposed traffic calming devices. The DPW will also verify the residents' financial responsibility for the proposed plan. The residents' financial responsibility may include a portion of the construction costs and any aesthetic upgrades.

**NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT**

The neighborhood support component assesses the amount of local neighborhood support for the proposed plan in the form of mail-in ballots. The DPW will mail the ballots to the study area residents, property owners, and business owners.

**18 – Educate Neighborhood Regarding Plan and Support Requirements**

Before distributing ballots, the DPW will inform residents in the study area regarding the pending vote. The DPW can distribute information regarding the upcoming vote through public notices, mailers, and/or newsletters. The combination of this step and the neighborhood meeting (Step 15) will help to ensure that residents of the study area are properly informed.

**19 – Distributed Neighborhood Ballots**

Ballots will be distributed to study area residents, property owners, apartment units, and businesses owners (if applicable). The ballots will include a description and map of the proposed plan indicating the type and location of devices being proposed. The ballot will also include a mail-back postcard with three questions for residents to respond to:

- Do you support the proposed plan?
- Would you oppose traffic calming devices adjacent to your property?
- Would you contribute to neighborhood funding for the construction of the proposed traffic calming measures?

The mail-back postcard will also provide a space for residents to write comments regarding the proposed plan.

### **20 – Determine General Public Support**

In addition to determining the local neighborhood support, the DPW will provide the opportunity for residents living outside of the immediate study area to voice their opinions. The DPW can use various methods to determine general public support, such as posting a neighborhood sign with DPW contact information or accepting comments through e-mail or a Web site. The magnitude of support by the general public will also be considered in the plan approval.

### **21 – Minimum Neighborhood Support**

The DPW requires a minimum response rate and approval rate before they can construct the proposed plan. At least 50 percent of all ballots must be returned with at least 67 percent of returned ballots in favor. For example, if 100 ballots are mailed out, at least 50 must be returned with 34 in favor of the proposed plan.

Apartments present a unique situation because residents may be less likely to respond. For this reason, ballots from apartment units are not counted toward the minimum response rate, but will be counted in favor or against the proposed plan.

### **22 – Tally Ballots**

DPW staff will count all received ballots and determine whether the minimum response rate and approval rate are satisfied. Staff will also tally the general public input.

### **23 – Neighborhood Support**

If the minimum response rate and approval rate is satisfied, the DPW will approve the proposed plan and authorize project funding for construction of devices.

If the DPW does not receive the minimum number of ballots, DPW staff can assist the NTC in reminding neighborhood residents to submit their mail-back postcards in order to meet the minimum response rate.

If the minimum response rate is met but the approval rate is not satisfied, the NTC has one opportunity to revise the plan. The DPW and NTC would determine the aspects of the plan not favored by the neighborhood residents. Modifying the plan would also require consulting the local service providers, holding a public meeting to present the revised plan, and redistributing ballots to the affected area. Before supplemental work, the DPW will need to assess the department's workload and financial needs to revise the plan.

### **24 – Department of Public Works Approves and Allocates Project Funding**

If the minimum response and approval rates are satisfied, the DPW will approve the plan and allocate funding to continue to the Plan Implementation phase.

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

The final component consists of preparing the design plans, constructing, and monitoring the approved traffic calming devices.

### **25 – Design and Consultation**

Upon approval of the proposed plan, DPW staff will prepare the necessary design plans for each traffic calming device and consult with the necessary local service providers if necessary. The DPW may conduct

field tests to verify local service providers' vehicles can navigate around the proposed designs. DPW will make modifications to the approved devices as necessary.

### **26 – Notification of Construction**

Before constructing the traffic calming devices, the DPW will inform the public and local service providers of the pending traffic calming devices. The DPW will also educate local residents how to drive around unfamiliar devices, as necessary.

### **27 – Construction**

The DPW or contractor will construct the approved traffic calming devices. The staff may decide to construct temporary devices based on previous experience with the device. DPW staff will design and construct temporary devices in an aesthetically pleasing manner (unless design is cost prohibitive).

### **28 – Monitoring**

The DPW will monitor the effectiveness and neighborhood perception of the constructed devices for three to six months. Following the monitoring period, the DPW will collect traffic speed and volume data for the treated streets and quantitatively determine the effects of the plan.

### **29 – DPW and NTC Determine Next Step**

After constructing the approved plan, the DPW will rely on the NTC and community members for feedback on the constructed devices. Based on the NTC and/or community members' feedback, the DPW will determine the next steps. For example, the approved plan may have produced reasonable and satisfactory results, and, therefore, no further action is required **(29a)**.

If the approved plan has not produced reasonable and satisfactory results, the DPW can recommend one of the following **(29b)**:

- Collect additional traffic data as deemed appropriate
- Modify constructed devices as deemed appropriate
- Construct additional speed control devices as deemed appropriate

If the DPW determines that additional speed control devices will not adequately address the traffic-related concern, the DPW can recommend the use of volume control measures.

Before supplemental work, the DPW must assess the department's workload and financial needs to revise the plan.

## **PROCESS FOR REMOVAL**

The DPW recognizes that after devices are approved and implemented, residents may wish to remove these devices. Historically, once installed, most traffic calming devices remain due to local support. This section provides guidelines for a systematic removal process.

Similar to the process for implementing neighborhood traffic calming devices, the removal process is resident-driven. The process requires that the same affected area be involved in the decision process for the removal of devices. Greater neighborhood support is also required to verify that the neighborhood truly wants the devices removed. Residents must bear the costs for removal.

The removal process is described below, and the flowchart in Figure 2 outlines the removal process. Each step below is numbered and corresponds to the flowchart on Figure 2.

### **1 – Citizen Petition for Removal of Device(s)**

To initiate the removal process, a resident living in the neighborhood where the device removal is being considered must submit a petition. The petition cannot be submitted within the first year of operation. The petition must be submitted with a minimum of 10 signatures from separate households. The petition must also state the location(s) of device(s) and reason for removal.

Once DPW staff receives the petition, they will send a letter to the individuals on the petition stating that the petition has been received and that the DPW will organize and distribute ballots for the removal process.

### **2 – Distribute Ballots**

Ballots will be distributed to those residents, property owners, and business owners from the original study area. Although tenants or property owners may have changed, the same addresses will be provided the opportunity to participate in the approval process. The ballots will contain descriptions and maps of devices and locations proposed for removal. The ballot will also include a mail-back postcard that residents can use to indicate their support for or against the proposed removal. The ballot will also provide a space for residents to write comments regarding the removal.

### **3 – Required Neighborhood Support**

A higher minimum response rate and approval rate must be met by those households on the treated street. A minimum of 75 percent of all ballots must be returned with at least 75 percent of all ballots in favor of removal.

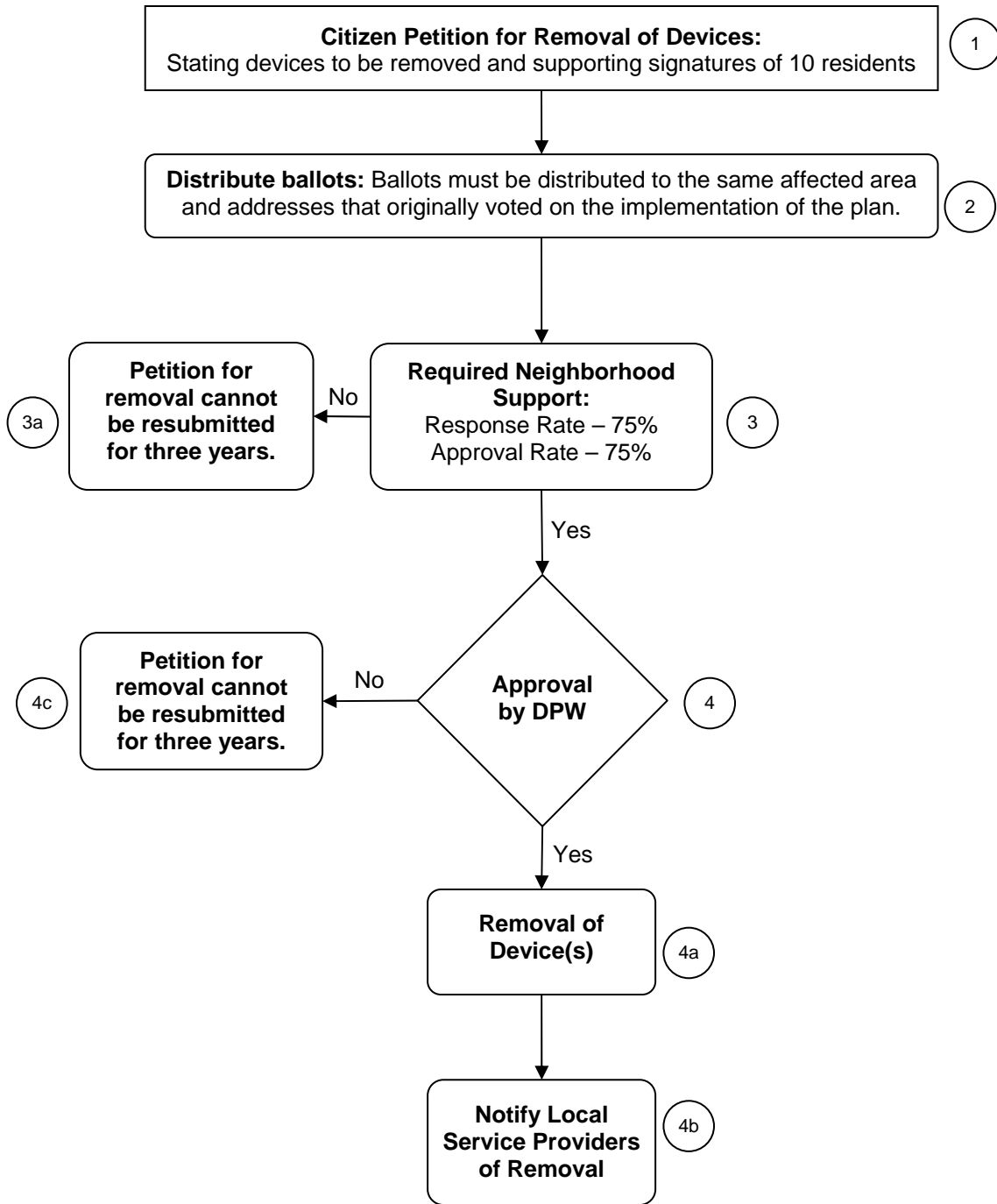
Similar to the installation process, apartment units do not count toward the minimum response rate. If the minimum response or approval rates are not met, residents must wait three years before refiling the petition **(3a)**.

### **4 – Approval by DPW**

If the neighborhood support meets the minimum response and approval rates, the DPW will calculate the estimated removal cost. The neighborhood must prove the ability to fund 100 percent of the anticipated costs. Upon proof of financial ability, the DPW can elect to authorize the removal of the specified devices **(4a)**. A letter will be sent to all local service providers (e.g., Fire Department) indicating the location of device(s) to be removed **(4b)**. If the minimum response or approval rates are not met, residents must wait three years before refiling the petition **(4c)**.



Figure 2 NTCP Process For Removal



### **3. TOOLBOX**

This chapter of the NTCP summarizes the “toolbox” of devices that are available to the Placer County Department of Public Works and community members when developing neighborhood traffic calming plans. The “toolbox” contains 31 different devices that address neighborhood traffic related concerns such as speeding vehicles, high traffic volumes, cut-through traffic, or collisions at neighborhood intersections. The devices vary in their ability to treat various traffic related concerns. For this reason, Chapter 4, “Toolbox Guidelines,” provides guidance on selecting the most appropriate devices given the type of specific traffic-related concern and street being treated.

The “toolbox” of neighborhood traffic management devices can be grouped into three categories:

- Non-Physical devices
- Speed Control
  - Narrowing devices
  - Horizontal devices
  - Vertical devices
- Volume Control devices

For each device in the “toolbox,” the following information relating to each device is provided:

- Description of the measure
- Photograph and/or schematic
- List of advantages and disadvantages
- Data sheet indicating speed, volume, or collision reduction potential
- Estimated costs

Cost approximations are based on 2006 costs and are provided for information purposes only. Actual costs depend on many factors, including dimensions of device, construction materials, and actual construction costs.

## **NON-PHYSICAL DEVICES**

### ***Description***

Non-physical devices include any measures that do not require physical changes to the roadway. Non-physical devices are intended to increase drivers' awareness of surroundings and influence driver behavior without physical obstructions. DPW staff will initially implement non-physical devices to treat traffic related concerns. However, these devices are not self enforcing and may have limited effectiveness as stand-alone devices. This category includes the following devices:

- Targeted Speed Enforcement
- Speed Radar Trailers
- Speed Feedback Sign
- Centerline/Edgeline Lane Striping
- Optical Speed Bars
- Signage
- Speed Legend
- Centerline Botts Dots
- High Visibility Crosswalks
- Angled Parking

### Targeted Speed Enforcement

County Staff or NTC members can identify locations for temporary targeted enforcement, based on personal observations and survey comments. A request can be submitted to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for the desired enforcement. Because of limited CHP resources, the duration of the targeted enforcement may be limited.



Targeted enforcement may also be used in conjunction with new neighborhood traffic management devices to help drivers become aware of the new restrictions.

#### Advantages

- Inexpensive if used temporarily
- Does not physically slow emergency vehicles or buses
- Quick implementation

#### Disadvantages

- Expensive to maintain an increased level of enforcement
- Effectiveness may be temporary

**Approximate Cost: No direct cost.**

### Radar Trailer

A radar trailer is a device that measures each approaching vehicle's speed and displays it next to the legal speed limit in clear view of the driver. They can be easily placed on a street for a limited amount of time then relocated to another street, allowing a single device to be effective in many locations.



#### Advantages

- Portable
- Does not physically slow emergency vehicles or buses
- Quick implementation

#### Disadvantages

- Effectiveness may be temporary
- Drivers may divert to alternate streets due to uncertainty of device implications
- Subject to vandalism

**Approximate Cost: No direct cost. (Purchase \$6,000 - \$12,000)**

### Speed Feedback Signs

Speed feedback signs perform the same functions as radar trailers but are permanent. Real-time speeds are relayed to drivers and flash when speeds exceed the limit. Speed feedback signs are typically mounted on or near speed limit signs.



**Approximate Cost: \$3,000 - \$10,000**

### Centerline/Edgeline Lane Striping

Lane striping can be used to create formal travel lanes, bicycle lanes, parking lanes, or edge lines. As a neighborhood traffic management measure, they are used to narrow the travel lanes for vehicles, thereby inducing drivers to lower their speeds. The past evidence on speed reductions is, however, inconclusive.



**Approximate Cost: \$2.00 per linear foot**

#### Advantages

- Real-time speed feedback
- Does not physically slow emergency vehicles or buses
- Permanent installation

#### Disadvantages

- May require power source
- Only effective for one direction of travel
- Long-term effectiveness uncertain
- Subject to vandalism

#### Advantages

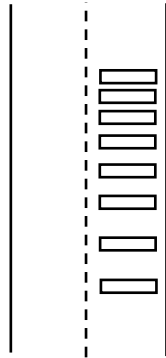
- Inexpensive
- Can be used to create bicycle lanes or delineate on-street parking
- Does not slow emergency vehicles

#### Disadvantages

- Has not been shown to significantly reduce travel speeds
- Requires regular maintenance

### Optical Speed Bars

Optical speed bars are a series of pavement markings spaced at decreasing distances. They have typically been used in construction areas to provide drivers with the impression of increased speed. They do not provide long-term speed reduction benefits.



#### Advantages

- Inexpensive
- Does not physically slow emergency vehicles or buses

#### Disadvantages

- Long-term effects in residential area unknown
- Increases regular maintenance

Approximate Cost: \$1.00 per linear foot

### Signage

Various signs may also be useful in alerting driver of certain conditions. Examples include:

- "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" Signs
- Truck Restriction Signs



#### Advantages

- Inexpensive
- Truck restrictions can reduce through truck traffic
- Does not slow emergency vehicles or buses

#### Disadvantages

- Requires regular maintenance
- Speed limit signs are not applicable because they do not necessarily change driver behavior
- If speed limits are set unreasonably low, drivers are more likely to exceed it

Approximate Cost: \$150 - \$500 per sign

## Speed Legend

Speed legends are numerals painted on the roadway indicating the current speed limit in miles per hour. They are usually placed near speed limit signposts. Speed legends can be useful in reinforcing a reduction in speed limit between one segment of a roadway and another segment. They may also be placed at major entry points into a residential area.



**Approximate Cost: \$75 per location**

## Centerline Botts Dots

Botts dots, or “raised pavement markers,” are small bumps lining the centerline or edgeline of a roadway. They are often used on curves where vehicles have a tendency to deviate outside of the proper lane, risking collision. Raised reflectors improve the nighttime visibility of the roadway edges.



**Approximate Cost: \$4.50 per marker**

### Advantages

- Inexpensive
- Helps reinforce a change in speed limit
- Does not slow emergency vehicles

### Disadvantages

- Has not been shown to significantly reduce travel speeds
- Requires regular maintenance

### Advantages

- Inexpensive
- Does not physically slow emergency vehicles or buses
- Can help keep drivers in the appropriate travel lane on curves and under low-visibility conditions

### Disadvantages

- Noise caused by Botts Dots
- Requires regular maintenance
- Has not been shown to significantly reduce travel speeds

### High Visibility Crosswalks

High-visibility crosswalks use special marking patterns and raised reflectors to increase the visibility of a crosswalk. A “triple-four” marking pattern is created by painting two rows of four-foot wide rectangles, separated by four feet of unpainted space across the roadway. Raised reflectors are placed at the approach edges of these rectangles. The unpainted space along the center of the crosswalk provides an untreated path for wheelchair users and foot traffic, as markings may become slippery in rainy/wet conditions.



**Approximate Cost: \$1,600 per location**

### Angled Parking

Angled parking reorients on-street parking spaces to a 45-degree angle, increasing the number of parking spaces and reducing the width of the roadway available for travel lanes. Angled parking is also easier for vehicles to maneuver into and out of than parallel parking. Consequently, it works well in areas with high parking demand and turnover rates.

**Approximate Cost: Dependent on amount of parking**



#### Advantages

- Increased visibility of crosswalk
- Focus crossing pedestrians at a single location

#### Disadvantages

- May give pedestrians a false sense of security, causing them to pay less attention to traffic
- Requires more maintenance than normal crosswalks

#### Advantages

- Reduces speeds by narrowing the travel lanes
- Increases the number of parking spaces
- Provides for easier parking maneuvers that take less time than parallel parking
- Favored by businesses and multi-family residences

#### Disadvantages

- Precludes the use of bike lanes (unless roadway is wider than 58 feet)
- Ineffective on streets with frequent driveways
- Potential for collisions when backing out



## **SPEED CONTROL – NARROWING DEVICES**

### ***Description***

Narrowing devices use raised islands and curb extensions to physically narrow the travel lane for motorists. The narrowing devices in the toolbox include:

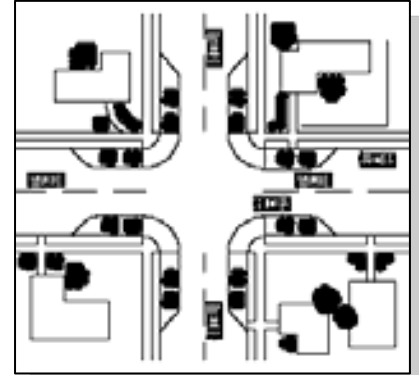
- Neckdown/Bulbout
- Center Island Narrowing
- Two-Lane Choker
- One-Lane Choker

**Neckdown/Bulbout**

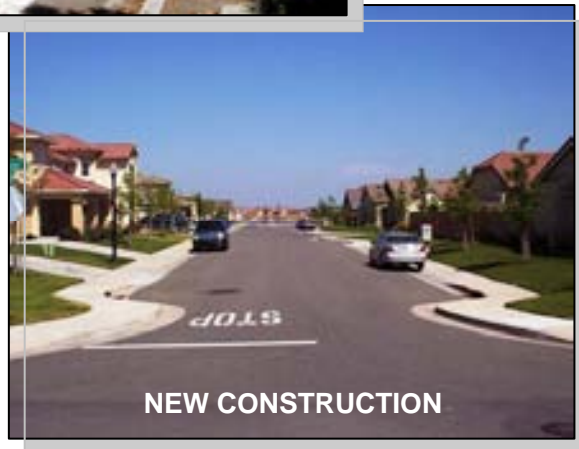
Neckdowns/bulbouts are raised curb extensions that narrow the travel lane at intersections or midblock locations. Neckdowns/bulbouts “pedestrianize” intersections by shortening the crossing distance and decreasing the curb radii, thus reducing turning vehicle speeds. Both of these effects increase pedestrian comfort and safety at the intersection.

The magnitude of speed reduction is dependent on the spacing of neckdowns between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). On average, neckdowns achieve a 7 percent reduction in speeds.

**Approximate Cost: \$5,000 – \$10,000 per corner**



Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-7%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-10%
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



**Advantages**

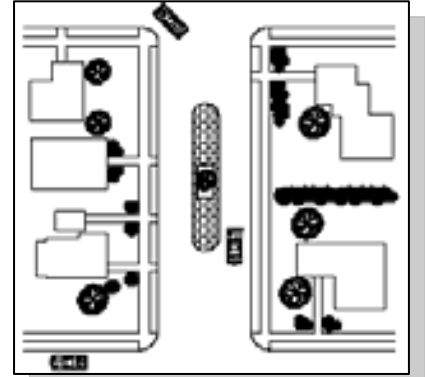
- Reduces pedestrian crossing distance and exposure to vehicles
- Through and left-turn movements are easily negotiable by large vehicles
- Creates protected on-street parking bays
- Reduces speeds (especially right-turning vehicles) and traffic volumes

**Disadvantages**

- Effectiveness is limited by the absence of vertical or horizontal deflection
- May slow right-turning emergency vehicles
- Potential loss of on-street parking
- May require bicyclists to briefly merge with vehicular traffic

### Center Island Narrowing

Center island narrowings are raised islands located along the centerline of a street that narrow the travel lanes at that location. Placed at the entrance to a neighborhood, and often combined with textured pavement, they are often called "gateways." Fitted with a gap to allow pedestrians to walk through at a crosswalk, they are often called "pedestrian refuges." They can also be landscaped to increase visual aesthetics.



The magnitude of speed reduction is dependent on the spacing of center island narrowings between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). On average, center island narrowings achieve a 7 percent reduction in speeds.

**Approximate Cost: \$5,000 - \$10,000 per location**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-7%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-10%
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect. Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



**Advantages**

- Can increase pedestrian safety
- Aesthetic upgrades can have positive aesthetic value
- Reduces traffic volumes if alternative routes are available

**Disadvantages**

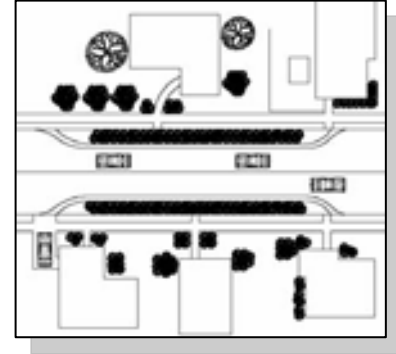
- Effect on vehicle speeds is limited by the absence of any vertical or horizontal deflection
- Potential loss of on-street parking

**Two-lane choker**

Chokers are curb extensions at midblock that narrow a street. Chokers leave the street cross section with two lanes that are narrower than the normal cross section.

The magnitude of speed reduction is dependent on the spacing of two-lane chokers between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). On average two-lane chokers achieve a 7 percent reduction in speeds.

**Approximate Cost: \$7,000 - \$8,000 per location**



Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-7%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-10%
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



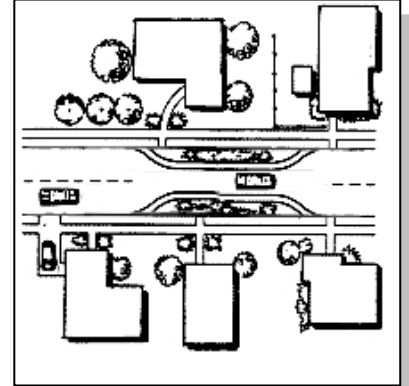
- Advantages**
- Easily negotiable by emergency vehicles and buses
  - Can have positive aesthetic value
  - Reduces both speeds and volumes
- Disadvantages**
- Effect on vehicle speeds is limited by the absence of any vertical or horizontal deflection
  - May require bicyclists to briefly merge with vehicular traffic
  - Loss of on-street parking
  - Build-up of debris in gutter

### One-lane choker

One-lane chokers narrow the roadway width such that there is only enough width to allow travel in one direction at a time. They operate similarly to one-lane bridges, where cars approaching on one side must wait until all traffic in the other direction has cleared before proceeding.

The magnitude of speed reduction is dependent on the spacing of one-lane chokers between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). On average, one-lane chokers achieve a 14 percent reduction in speeds.

**Approximate Cost: \$8,000 - \$9,000 per location**



Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-14%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-20%
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



#### Advantages

- Maintains two-way vehicle access, except at choker
- Very effective in reducing speeds and traffic volumes

#### Disadvantages

- Perceived as unsafe because opposing traffic is vying for space in a single lane
- Can be used only on low-volume, low speed roads
- Loss of on-street parking

## **SPEED CONTROL – HORIZONTAL DEVICES**

### ***Description***

Horizontal deflection devices use raised islands and curb extensions to physically eliminate straight-line paths along roadways and through intersections. The horizontal deflection devices in the toolbox include:

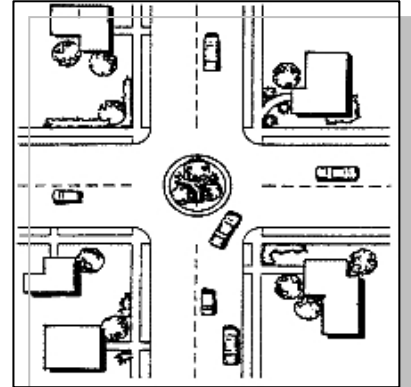
- Traffic Circle
- Roundabout (Single-Lane)
- Chicane
- Lateral Shift
- Realigned Intersection

### Traffic Circle

Traffic circles are raised islands, placed in intersections, around which traffic circulates. Stop signs or yield signs can be used as traffic controls at the approaches of the traffic circle. Circles prevent drivers from speeding through intersections by impeding the straight-through movement and forcing drivers to slow down to yield. Depending upon the size of the intersection and circle, trucks may be permitted to turn left in front of the circle.

The magnitude of speed reduction is dependent on the spacing of traffic circles between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). On average, traffic circles achieve an 11 percent reduction in speeds and a dramatic 71 percent decrease in collisions.

**Approximate Cost: \$10,000 - \$25,000 per location**



Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Impacts	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-11%
Volume Impacts	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-5%
Safety Impacts	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	-71%
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



#### Advantages

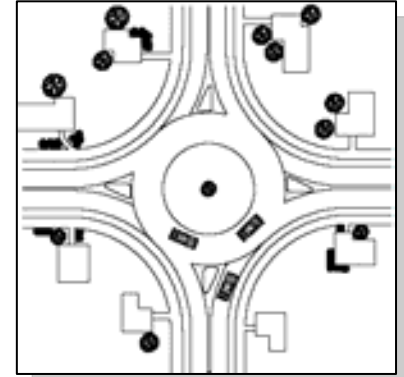
- Very effective in moderating speeds and improving safety
- Can have positive aesthetic value

#### Disadvantages

- If not designed properly, difficult for emergency vehicles or large trucks to travel around
- Must be designed so that the circulating traffic does not encroach on crosswalks
- Potential loss of on-street parking

### Roundabout (single-lane)

Like traffic circles, roundabouts require traffic to circulate counterclockwise around a center island. But unlike circles, roundabouts are used on higher volume streets to allocate right-of-way among competing movements. They are found primarily on collector streets, often substituting for traffic signals. They are larger than neighborhood traffic circles, have raised splitter islands to channel approaching traffic to the right, and do not have stop signs. Due to large amount of required right-of-way and construction costs, roundabouts may be most appropriate for new developments.



Roundabouts have an insignificant effect in reducing traffic speeds, but serve to allocate right-of-way at an intersection similar to a traffic signal. On average, roundabouts can reduce the average number of accidents up to 33 percent when compared to a signalized intersection.

**Approximate Cost:** Varies by intersection and whether new construction or a retrofit.

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Impacts	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D
Volume Impacts	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	I/D
Safety Impacts	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	-15% to -33%
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		
Source: Roundabouts: An Informational Guide, 2000.		



#### Advantages

- Enhanced vehicle safety compared to a traffic signal or stop sign
- Minimizes queuing at approaches to the intersection
- Less expensive to operate than traffic signals
- Can have positive aesthetic value
- Shorter pedestrian crossing distance

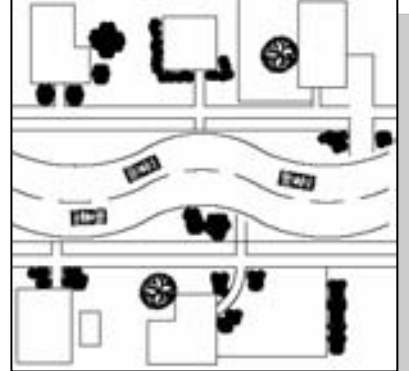
#### Disadvantages

- May require major reconstruction of an existing intersection
- Loss of on-street parking
- Continuous flow of traffic limits opportunity for pedestrians to cross (compared to signal)



## Chicane

Chicanes are curb extensions that alternate from one side of the street to the other, forming S-shaped curves. Chicanes can also be created by alternating on-street parking between one side of the road and the other. Each parking bay can be created either by restriping the roadway or by installing raised center islands at each end, creating a protected parking area. Chicanes have limited effectiveness in reducing traffic speeds and volumes as compared to other devices. Little data has been collected to predict the reduction in speed, traffic volumes, or collisions, and use of this device may not result in significant decreases. Resources permitting, DPW staff can collect before and after data to determine the effectiveness of chicanes.



**Approximate Cost: \$8,000 - \$14,000 per location**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Impacts	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D
Volume Impacts	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	I/D
Safety Impacts	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient data to predict reduction effect.		



### Advantages

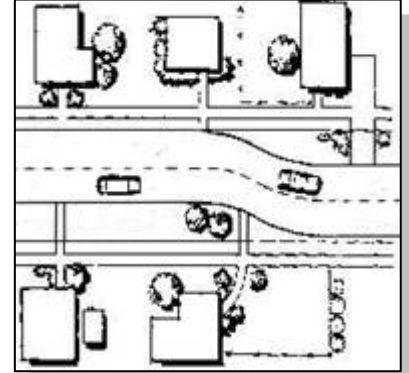
- Discourages high speeds by forcing horizontal deflection
- Easily negotiable by emergency vehicles and buses

### Disadvantages

- Must be designed carefully to discourage drivers from deviating out of the appropriate lane
- Curb realignment and landscaping can be costly, especially if there are drainage issues
- Loss of on-street parking

**Lateral Shift**

Lateral shifts are curb extensions on otherwise straight streets that cause a shift in the travel. Lateral shifts, with just the right degree of deflection, can be effective. However, lateral shifts have had limited use in the United States, and, consequently, insufficient data prevents accurate prediction of speed reduction and traffic volumes.



**Approximate Cost:** Dependent on size of offset and length of transition

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	I/D
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		



**Advantages**

- Can accommodate higher traffic volumes than many other neighborhood traffic management measures
- Easily negotiable by large emergency vehicles and buses

**Disadvantages**

- Potential for loss of on-street parking
- Must be designed carefully to discourage drivers from deviating out of the appropriate lane

### Realigned Intersection

Realigned intersections provide deflection on an otherwise straight approach of a T-intersection. By providing deflection in the form of a curb extension or realignment, drivers are required to slow through the intersection or come to a stop before turning. Little data has been collected to predict the reduction in speed, traffic volumes, or collisions, and use of this device may not result in significant decreases. Resources permitting, DPW staff can collect before and after data to determine the effectiveness of realigned intersections.

**Approximate Cost: \$15,000 - \$30,000 per location**



Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	I/D
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		



#### Advantages

- Can be effective at reducing speeds at T-intersections
- Can be effective in increasing safety at T-intersections

#### Disadvantages

- Modifying curbs or drainage can be costly
- Acquiring additional right-of-way can be costly

## **SPEED CONTROL – VERTICAL DEVICES**

### ***Description***

Vertical deflection devices use variations in pavement height and alternative paving materials to physically reduce travel speeds. The design speeds for these devices are approximately 15 to 20 mph depending on the device. The vertical deflection devices in the toolbox include:

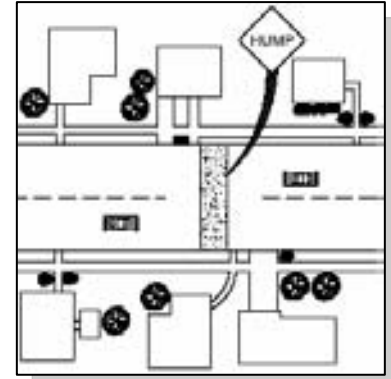
- Speed Hump
- Speed Lump
- Speed Cushion
- Speed Table
- Raised Crosswalk
- Rumble Strip
- Raised Intersection
- Textured Pavement

## Speed Hump

Speed humps are rounded raised areas placed across the road. They are generally 12 feet long (in the direction of travel), 3 to 3 ½ inches high, parabolic in shape, and have a design speed of 15 to 20 mph. They are usually constructed with a taper on each side to allow unimpeded drainage between the hump and curb. When placed on a street with rolled curbs or no curbs, bollards are placed at the ends of the speed hump to discourage vehicles from veering outside of the travel lane to avoid the device.

The magnitude of reduction in speed is dependent on the spacing of speed humps between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). On average, speed humps achieve a 22 percent reduction in speeds.

**Approximate Cost: \$2,000 - \$3,000 per location**



Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Impacts	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-22%
Volume Impacts	Reduction in Average Daily Traffic	-18%
Safety Impacts	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	-13%
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



### Advantages

- Relatively inexpensive
- Relatively easy for bicyclists to cross
- Very effective in slowing travel speeds

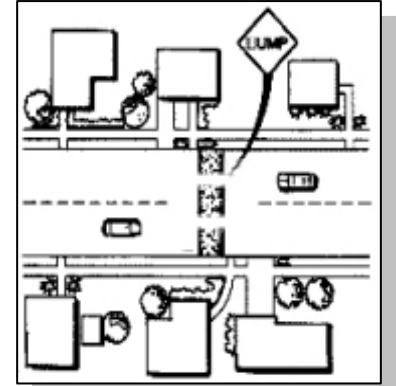
### Disadvantages

- Causes a “rough ride” for drivers, and can discomfort people with certain skeletal disabilities
- Slows emergency vehicles and buses
- Aesthetics
- Signs may be unwelcome by adjacent residents
- Increased noise for nearby residents

### Speed Lump

The speed lump is a variation on the speed hump, adding two wheel cut-outs designed to allow large vehicles, such as emergency vehicles and buses, to pass with minimal slowing. The design limits passenger cars and mid-size SUVs from fully passing through the cut-outs, but allows one set of wheels to pass through the cut-out while the other set is required to travel over the lump.

The magnitude of speed reduction is dependent on the spacing of speed lumps between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). Speed lumps have a similar reduction in speeds when compared to speed humps.



**Approximate Cost: \$2,000 - \$3,000 per location**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D, but comparable to speed humps
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Average Daily Traffic	
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		



#### Advantages

- Effective in reducing speeds
- Maintains rapid emergency response times
- Relatively easy for bicyclists to cross

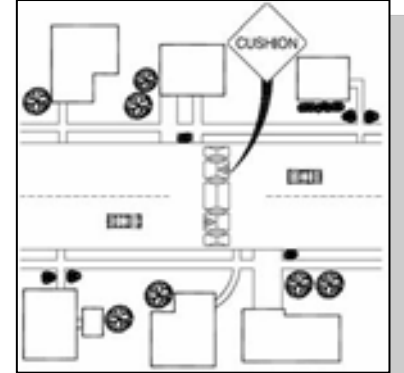
#### Disadvantages

- Passenger vehicles with wide wheel base can pass through the lump using the wheel cut-outs
- Aesthetics
- Signs may be unwelcome by adjacent residents
- Increased noise for nearby residents

### Speed Cushion

Speed cushions are a variation of the speed lump that is constructed from durable recycled rubber. These prefabricated devices consistently have a more uniform shape than asphalt humps. Speed cushions provide wheel gaps for emergency vehicles and buses, and can be arranged to fit any street width.

The magnitude of speed reduction is dependent on the spacing of speed cushions between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). On average, speed cushions achieve a 14 percent reduction in speeds.



**Approximate Cost: \$4,500 - \$6,000 per location**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-14%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Average Daily Traffic	Comparable to Speed Lumps
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	
Source: City of Portland, Rubber Speed Bump Research, 1995.		



#### Advantages

- Provides a more consistent ride than asphalt humps
- Can be used as a temporary device during a testing phase
- Reduces impacts to emergency vehicles due to cut-outs
- Easily accommodates street resurfacing

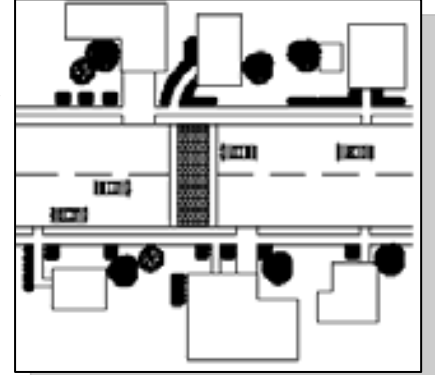
#### Disadvantages

- Aesthetics (but may be better than lumps)
- Signs may be unwelcome by adjacent residents
- Increased noise for nearby residents

### Speed Table

Speed tables are flat-topped speed humps approximately 22 feet long. They are typically long enough for the entire wheelbase of a passenger car to rest on top. Their long, flat fields, plus ramps that are more gently sloped than speed humps, give speed tables higher design speeds than humps, and, thus, may be more appropriate for streets with higher ambient speeds. Brick or other textured materials improve the appearance of speed tables, draw attention to them, and may enhance safety and speed reduction.

The magnitude of speed reduction is dependent on the spacing of speed tables between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). On average, speed tables achieve an 18 percent reduction in speeds.



**Approximate Cost: \$4,000 for basic treatment**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Impacts	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-18%
Volume Impacts	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-12%
Safety Impacts	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	-45%
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



#### Advantages

- Smoother on large vehicles (such as fire trucks) than speed humps
- Effective in reducing speeds, though not to the extent of speed humps

#### Disadvantages

- Aesthetics
- Textured materials, if used, can be expensive
- Signs may be unwelcome by adjacent residents
- Increased noise for nearby residents



### Raised Crosswalk

Raised crosswalks are speed tables striped with crosswalk markings and signage to channelize pedestrian crossings, providing pedestrians with a level street crossing. Also, by raising the level of the crossing, pedestrians are more visible to approaching motorists.

The magnitude of speed reduction is dependent on the spacing of raised crosswalks between points that require drivers to slow (see page 55). On average, raised crosswalks achieve an 18 percent reduction in speeds.

**Approximate Cost: \$5,000 for basic treatment**



Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Impacts	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-18%
Volume Impacts	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-12%
Safety Impacts	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	-45%
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



#### Advantages

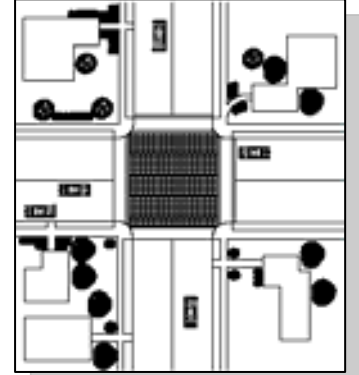
- Improve safety for both vehicles and pedestrians
- Aesthetic upgrades can have positive aesthetic value
- Effective in reducing speeds, though not to the extent of speed humps

#### Disadvantages

- Textured materials, if used, can be expensive
- Impact to drainage needs to be considered
- Textured pavement can increase noise to adjacent residents
- Signs may be unwelcome by adjacent residents

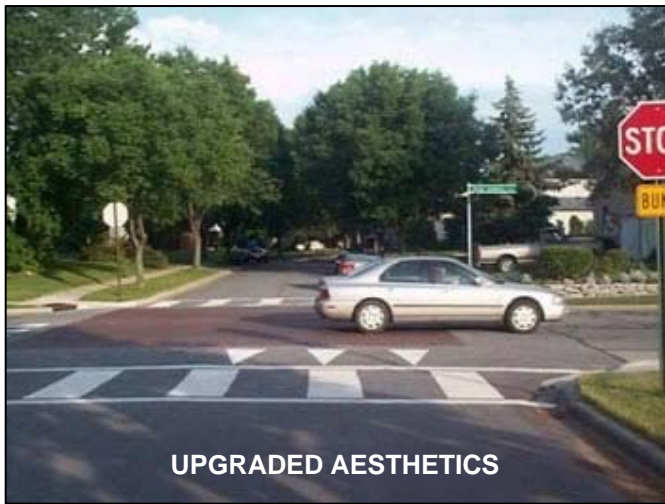
**Raised Intersection**

Raised intersections are flat raised areas covering entire intersections, with ramps on all approaches. They usually rise to sidewalk level, or slightly below, to provide a “lip” for the visually impaired. By modifying the level of the intersection, the crosswalks are more readily perceived by motorists to be a pedestrian area. They are particularly useful where loss of on-street parking due to other traffic calming devices is considered unacceptable. Raised intersections are ineffective at reducing traffic speeds or volumes.



**Approximate Cost: Varies based on size of intersection**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-1%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Average Daily Traffic	I/D
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



**Advantages**

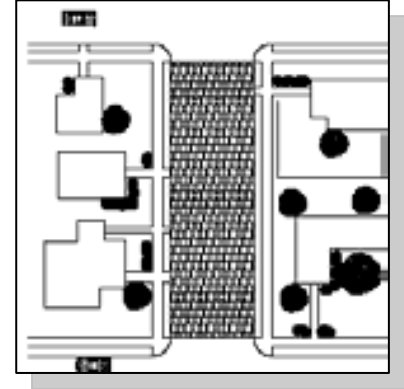
- Can improve safety for pedestrians and motorists
- Aesthetic upgrades can have positive aesthetic value
- Can treat two streets at once

**Disadvantages**

- Less effective in reducing vehicle speeds than speed humps and speed tables
- Expensive, particularly as a retrofit
- Textured pavement can increase noise to adjacent residents

### Textured Pavement

Textured colored pavement includes the use of stamped pavement (asphalt) or alternate paving materials to create an uneven surface for vehicles to traverse. Textured pavement may have limited effectiveness as a standalone device and should be used to supplement other devices such as raised crosswalks or center median islands. Little data has been collected to predict the reduction in speed, traffic volumes, or collisions, and use of this device may not result in significant decreases. Resources permitting, DPW staff can collect before and after data to determine the effectiveness of textured pavement.



**Approximate Cost: \$8.00 per square foot**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Average Daily Traffic	I/D
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		



#### Advantages

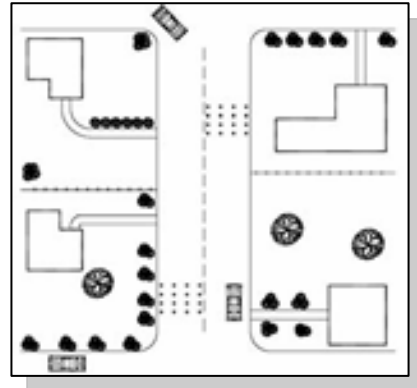
- Can reduce vehicle speeds
- Aesthetic upgrades can have positive value
- Placed at an intersection, it can slow two streets at once

#### Disadvantages

- Expensive, varying by materials used
- Can be uncomfortable for bicyclists or handicapped.
- Textured pavement can increase noise to adjacent properties

### Rumble Strip

Rumble strips are closely spaced raised pavement markers at regular intervals on the roadway that create noise and vibration to the vehicle. Rumble strips can be used to warn drivers of a change in speed limit, leading up to a residential or school area, and upcoming stop sign or intersection. Rumble strips should be used only in areas where the noise impact would be minimal. Little data has been collected to predict the reduction in speed, traffic volumes, or collisions, and use of this device may not result in significant decreases. Resources permitting, DPW staff can collect before and after data to determine the effectiveness of rumble strips.



**Approximate Cost: \$500 per location**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Average Daily Traffic	I/D
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		



**Advantages**

- Relatively inexpensive
- Can be effective in slowing travel speeds in specific locations

**Disadvantages**

- Raised pavement markers can be slippery when wet
- Increased noise in vicinity of rumble strips
- Maintenance of raised pavement markers
- Aesthetics
- Uncomfortable for motorcyclists and bicyclists

## **VOLUME CONTROL – DEVICES**

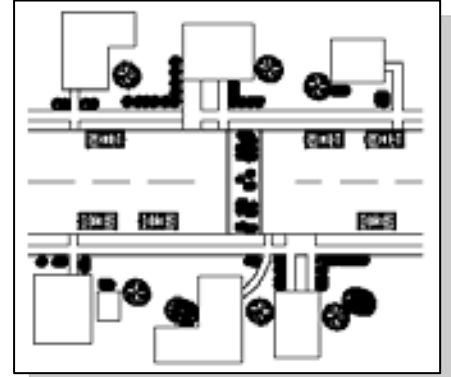
### ***Description***

Diversion devices use raised islands and curb extensions to physically preclude particular vehicle movements, such as left-turn or through movements, usually at an intersection. These devices can be considered only after all other devices have been attempted and failed to resolve the traffic problem. The diversion devices in the toolbox include:

- Full Closure
- Partial Closure
- Diagonal Diverter
- Median Barrier
- Forced Turn Island
- Turn-Movement Restriction

**Full Closure**

Full street closures are barriers placed across a street to close the street completely to through traffic, usually leaving only sidewalks or bicycle paths open. The barriers may consist of landscaped islands, walls, gates, side-by-side bollards, or any other obstructions that leave an opening smaller than the width of a passenger car. Emergency vehicles can be accommodated via removable bollards or similar devices.



**Approximate Cost: \$30,000 - \$100,000 per location (dependent on size and treatment)**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-44%
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect. Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



**Advantages**

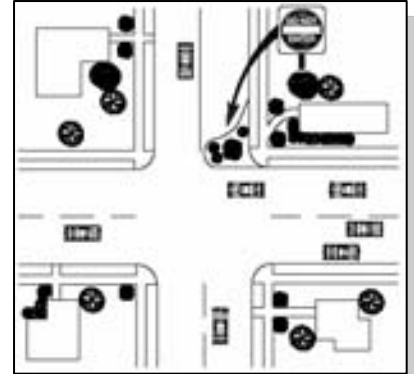
- Very effective in reducing cut-through traffic volumes
- Able to maintain pedestrian and bicycle connectivity

**Disadvantages**

- Requires statutory actions for public street closures
- Causes circuitous routes for local residents
- Diverts traffic to another street
- Delays for emergency services unless through access is provided
- May limit access to businesses
- Cost

### Partial Closure

Half street closures are barriers that block travel in one direction for a short distance on otherwise two-way streets. Half closures are the most common volume control measure after full street closures. Half closures are often used in sets to make travel through neighborhoods with a grid street pattern circuitous rather than direct.



Approximate Cost: \$5,000 - \$7,000 per location

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-19%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-42%
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect. Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



#### Advantages

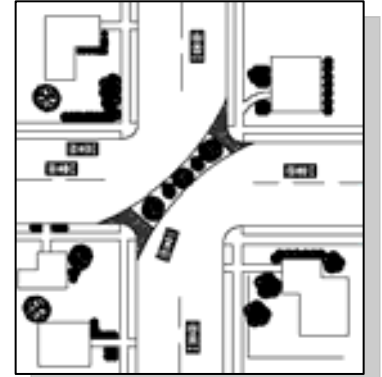
- Able to maintain two-way bicycle access
- Effective in reducing traffic volumes

#### Disadvantages

- Causes circuitous routes for local residents
- May limit access to businesses
- Drivers can bypass the barrier

### Diagonal Diverter

Diagonal diverters are barriers placed diagonally across an intersection, blocking through movement. Like half closures, diagonal diverters are usually staggered to create circuitous routes through neighborhoods.



Approximate Cost: \$20,000 - \$25,000 per location

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	-4%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-35%
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



#### Advantages

- Able to maintain full pedestrian and bicycle access
- Reduces traffic volumes

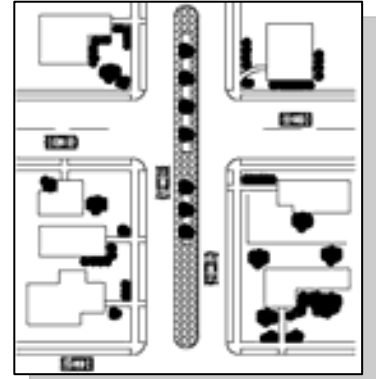
#### Disadvantages

- Causes circuitous routes for local residents
- Delays for emergency services
- May be expensive
- May require reconstruction of corner curbs



### Median Barrier

Median barriers are raised islands that are located along the centerline of a street and continue through an intersection so as to block through (and left-turn) movement at a cross street.



**Approximate Cost: \$15,000 - \$20,000 per 100 feet (dependent on length and width)**

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-31%
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		
Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



#### Advantages

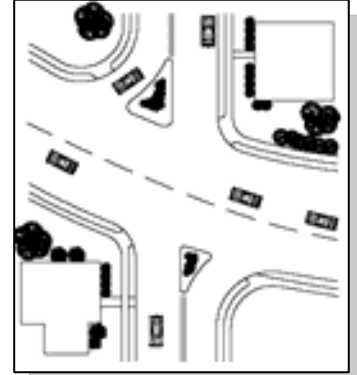
- Can improve safety at an intersection of a local street and a major street by prohibiting critical through or left-turn movements
- Can reduce traffic volumes on a cut-through route that crosses a major street

#### Disadvantages

- Requires available street width on the major street
- Limits turns to and from the side streets and driveways for local residents and emergency services

### Forced-Turn Island

Forced turn islands are raised islands that prohibit certain movements on approaches to an intersection.



Approximate Cost: \$3,000 - \$5,000 per location

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D%
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	-31%
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect. Source: Traffic Calming: State of the Practice, 2000.		



#### Advantages

- Can improve safety at an intersection by prohibiting critical turning movements
- Reduces traffic volumes

#### Disadvantages

- If designed improperly, drivers can maneuver around the island to make an illegal movement
- May divert a traffic problem to a different street

### Turn-Movement Restrictions

Turn movement restrictions involve the use of signs to prevent undesired turning movements without the use of physical devices. The restrictions may generally apply to turning movements in or out of a residential street to a larger street. The turn movement restrictions may be permanent or only during peak commute hours.

Measured Effectiveness		
Speed Reduction	Reduction in 85th Percentile Speeds between Slow Points	I/D
Volume Reduction	Reduction in Vehicles per Day	I/D
Safety Reduction	Reduction in Average Annual Number of Collisions	I/D
Note: I/D = Insufficient Data to predict reduction effect.		

**Approximate Cost: \$150 per sign (enforcement may be necessary to be effective)**



#### Advantages

- Can reduce cut-through traffic at specific times of day
- Can increase safety at an intersection by prohibiting certain turning movements
- Low cost

#### Disadvantages

- Restrictions apply to resident and non-residents
- Requires enforcement during time of restriction to be effective
- May divert a traffic problem to another street

## 4. TOOLBOX GUIDELINES

This section provides guidance on selecting the most appropriate neighborhood traffic management measure for a specific problem. This involves narrowing the toolbox of neighborhood traffic management measures to those that will most closely target the key traffic issue; are appropriate for the type of location concerned; and are compatible with the traffic volumes, geometrics, and adjacent land uses near the given location. When the list has been narrowed, devices should be considered that are likely supported by affected residents. Finally, the selected devices need to be placed in a manner that will produce the desired results.

### GUIDELINES

#### ***Traffic Related Concern***

The first task when selecting the most appropriate traffic calming device is to narrow the field of devices to those that address the primary traffic concern. The most common traffic related concerns are:

- Speeding – motor vehicle speeds are too high
- Traffic Volumes – motor vehicle usage levels (all trips or non-local trips only) are too high
- Vehicle Safety – motor vehicle speeds or volumes create an inordinate level of risk

Each device in the toolbox is appropriate to a different subset of the above traffic-related concerns. Table 1 summarizes the appropriateness of each device.

*Non-Physical Measures* – The first solutions to consider should be Non-Physical Measures, such as signs and markings, since these can devices increase driver awareness and are relatively inexpensive.

#### ***Speed Control Measures***

Speed control measures can address any of the major problem types:

- ***Narrowing Measures*** – Narrowing devices, such as neckdowns, center island narrowings, or chokers, are less obtrusive than other devices and can be more aesthetically pleasing if residents opt to fund upgraded landscaping.
- ***Horizontal Measures*** – Horizontal deflection devices, such as chicanes and traffic circles, are more intrusive but also more effective than narrowings because they force vehicles to navigate horizontally around physical objects. Residents can also elect to fund upgraded landscaping.
- ***Vertical Measures*** – Vertical deflection devices provide the greatest speed reduction, and consequently have the greatest potential to slow emergency response vehicles, buses, and trucks. Therefore, the placement of these devices should be carefully considered, especially to limit any potential impact on emergency vehicles or transit access.

#### ***Volume Control Measures***

If speed-control measures fail to produce desired results, then diversion measures, such as street closures or forced turns may be considered. These devices redirect traffic to an adjacent street, and, therefore, should be considered after all other measures fail to produce the desired results. Volume control measures limit through

traffic or turning movements at specific locations for both residents and non-residents. The full effect of the traffic diversion should be investigated before device implementation.

***Location Type***

The appropriate device for a given problem is a function of the location (midblock or at an intersection). Special consideration should be given to streets used by the Fire Department as primary response routes when responding to emergencies.

Table 2 indicates the location(s) where each type of traffic calming measure is applicable.

***Street Classification, Location, and Other Constraints***

The third step in determining the most appropriate device is to consider how each device is compatible with the street classification, traffic volumes, posted speeds, and special roadway users. Table 3 illustrates where each device is appropriate with certain constraints.

**TABLE 1  
APPLICABILITY OF TREATMENTS BY TRAFFIC RELATED CONCERN**

Types of Measures		Type of Traffic Related Concern				
		Speeding	Traffic Volume	Vehicle Collisions	Pedestrian Safety	Noise
<b>Non-Physical Control Measures</b>						
	Targeted Speed Enforcement	●	○	◐	◐	◐
	Speed Radar Trailer	●	○	○	○	◐
	Speed Feedback Sign	●	○	○	○	◐
	Centerline/Edgeline Lane Striping	●	○	○	○	○
	Optical Speed Bars	◐	○	○	○	○
	Signage	●	◐	◐	○	○
	Speed Legend	●	○	○	○	○
	Centerline Botts Dots	○	○	●	◐	○
	High Visibility Cross Walks	◐	○	○	●	○
	Angled Parking	●	◐	○	○	○
<b>Speed Control – Narrowing Measures</b>						
	Neckdown/Bulbout	●	◐	○	●	○
	Center Island Narrowing/ Pedestrian Refuge	●	◐	◐	●	○
	Two-Lane Choker	●	◐	○	○	○
	One-Lane Choker	●	◐	○	○	○
<b>Speed Control - Horizontal Measures</b>						
	Traffic Circle	●	◐	●	◐	○
	Roundabout (Single-Lane)	◐	◐	●	○	●
	Chicane	●	◐	○	○	○
	Lateral Shift	◐	◐	○	○	○
	Realigned Intersection	◐	◐	●	○	○
<b>Speed Control – Vertical Measures</b>						
	Speed Hump	●	●	◐	◐	×
	Speed Lump	●	●	◐	◐	×
	Speed Cushion	●	●	◐	◐	×
	Speed Table	●	◐	◐	◐	×
	Raised Crosswalk	●	◐	◐	●	×
	Raised Intersection	●	◐	◐	●	×
	Textured Pavement	◐	○	○	◐	×
	Rumble Strips	◐	○	○	○	×
<b>Volume Control Measures</b>						
	Full Closure	●	●	○	○	○
	Partial Closure	●	●	○	○	○
	Diagonal Diverter	●	●	○	○	○
	Median Barrier	○	●	◐	○	○
	Forced Turn Island	○	●	◐	○	○
Key:	● = Strongly Appropriate ◐ = Moderately Appropriate ○ = Indifferent × = Inappropriate/Counterproductive					

**TABLE 2  
APPLICABILITY OF TREATMENTS BY LOCATION**

Type of Measure	Mid-Block	Intersection	Study Perimeter	Collectors*	Transit Routes
<b>Non-Physical Control Measures</b>					
Targeted Speed Enforcement	●	●	●	●	●
Radar Trailer	●	●	●	●	●
Speed Feedback Sign	●	●	●	●	●
Centerline/Edgeline Lane Striping	●	x	x	●	●
Optical Speed Bars	●	x	x	●	●
Signage	●	●	●	●	●
Speed Legend	●	●	●	●	●
Centerline Botts Dots	On Curves	x	x	●	●
High Visibility Crosswalks	●	Unsignalized Intersections	Unsignalized Intersections	●	●
Angled Parking	●	x	x	●	○
<b>Speed Control – Narrowing Measures</b>					
Neckdown/Bulbout	x	●	●	●	●
Center Island Narrowing/ Pedestrian Refuge	●	●	●	●	●
Two-Lane Choker	●	x	x	x	●
One-Lane Choker	●	x	x	x	x
<b>Speed Control – Horizontal Measures</b>					
Traffic Circle	x	●	○	●	●
Roundabout (Single-Lane)	x	○	○	●	●
Chicane	●	x	x	●	●
Lateral Shift	●	x	x	●	●
Realigned Intersection	x	Unsignalized Intersections	Unsignalized Intersections	●	●
<b>Speed Control – Vertical Measures</b>					
Speed Hump	●	x	x	x	x
Speed Lump	●	x	x	○	●
Speed Cushion	●	x	x	○	●
Speed Table	●	x	x	○	○
Raised Crosswalk	●	○	○	○	○
Raised Intersection	x	●	●	○	○
Textured Pavement	●	●	●	●	●
Rumble Strips	●	●	○	●	●
<b>Volume Control Measures</b>					
Full Closure	x	●	●	x	x
Partial Closure	x	●	●	●	●
Diagonal Diverter	x	●	x	x	x
Median Barrier	x	○	●	x	x
Forced Turn Island	x	○	●	○	○
Key: * Due to Emergency Response Concerns					
x = Never applicable.      ○ = Seldom, except in some cases.      ● = Generally applicable.					

**TABLE 3  
APPLICABILITY BY STREET TYPE**

Types of Measures	Roadway Classification			
	Local	Collector	Other Considerations	
<b>Non-Physical Control Measures</b>				
Targeted Speed Enforcement			None	
Radar Trailer				
Speed Feedback Sign	No			
Centerline/Edgeline Lane Striping	No Limitations with respect to ADT or Speed			
Optical Speed Bars				
Signage				
Speed Legend				
Centerline Botts Dots				Not applicable on snow removal routes above 2,000 feet
High Visibility Crosswalks				
Angled Parking	ADT <4,000; Width ≥48 feet: Speed Limit ≤30 mph			None
<b>Speed Control – Narrowing Measures</b>				
Neckdown/Bulbout	ADT ≤ 20,000; Speed Limit ≤ 35		Not applicable on snow removal routes above 2,000 feet	
Center Island Narrowing/ Pedestrian Refuge				
Two-Lane Choker			Requires provisions on snow removal routes	
One-Lane Choker	ADT ≤ 3,000; Speed Limit ≤ 30	No	DPW must review sight distance. Not applicable on snow removal routes above 2,000 feet	
<b>Speed Control – Horizontal Measures</b>				
Traffic Circle	Daily Entering Volume <10,000; Speed Limit ≤ 35 mph		Grades ≤ 4% Requires provisions on snow removal routes	
Roundabout (Single-Lane)	No	Daily Entering Volume <16,000; Speed Limit ≤ 45 mph		
Chicane	No	ADT ≤ 5,000; Speed Limit ≤ 35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grades ≤ 8%</li> <li>Requires provisions on snow removal routes</li> </ul>	
Lateral Shift	No	ADT ≤ 20,000; Speed Limit ≤ 35	Not applicable on snow removal routes above 2,000 feet	
Realigned Intersection	Daily Entering Volume <5,000; Speed Limit ≤ 35 mph		Requires provisions on snow removal routes	
<b>Speed Control – Vertical Measures</b>				
Speed Hump	ADT<3,000; Speed Limit ≤ 30mph		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grades ≤ 8%</li> <li>Not applicable on snow removal routes above 2,000 feet</li> </ul>	
Speed Lump				
Speed Cushion				
Speed Table <sup>1</sup>	ADT<7,500: Speed Limit >25 mph and ≤ 35 mph			
Raised Crosswalk				
Raised Intersection	No			
Textured Pavement <sup>2</sup>	No	Yes	Noise impact to adjacent residential units	
Rumble Strips <sup>2</sup>	Yes	Yes	Noise impact to adjacent residential units	
Notes: <sup>1</sup> Not appropriate for streets without curbs, gutter, or sidewalks. <sup>2</sup> Use of this device should be limited to locations where noise impacts would be minimal.				



Types of Measures	Roadway Classification		
	Local	Collector	Other Considerations
<b>Volume Control Measures</b>			
Full Closure		No	Requires provisions on snow removal routes
Partial Closure	≥ 25% non-local traffic. Evaluation should be conducted to determine effects of diverted traffic to alternate routes		Not applicable on snow removal routes above 2,000 feet
Diagonal Diverter			
Median Barrier			
Forced Turn Island			

### EFFECTIVENESS COMPARISON

When more than one traffic calming device is available, it is helpful to understand the levels of effectiveness for each device to better determine which device will have the greatest effect in meeting the specified objective(s). Table 4 summarizes the effectiveness data (including excluded devices) that has been compiled for each of the neighborhood traffic management measures in the toolbox. These data are averages and the actual effectiveness will vary based on site-specific circumstances, such as proximity to major roads and the availability of alternate routes.

### PLACING THE NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Strategies for the specific placement of devices differ depending on whether the concern is speed-control, volume-control, or safety related. The placement of devices is described below.

#### Placing Speed-Control Measures

Where feasible, neighborhood traffic management measures should be spaced in such a way to achieve the following two design speeds:

- **Slow-Point 85th Percentile Design Speed:** the speed that 85 percent of vehicles are traveling less than, when they are crossing a neighborhood traffic management device; the target slow-point speed is defined as 5 mph below the posted speed limit.
- **Midpoint 85th Percentile Design Speed:** the speed that 85 percent of vehicles are traveling less than, when they are halfway between a traffic calming device or other roadway feature that requires significant slowing (e.g., stop sign or curve). The target midpoint speed is defined as 5 mph above the posted speed limit.

Figure 3 illustrates how to estimate the midpoint speed.

**TABLE 4  
QUANTITATIVE IMPACTS OF NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

Types of Measures	Effectiveness										
	85 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Change				Vehicles Per Day		Average Annual Collisions				
	Before	After	Change	Percent Change	Change	Percent Change	Before	After	Change	Percent Change	
<b>Non-Physical Measures</b>											
All Non-Physical Measures	Limited Effectiveness as stand alone device										
<b>Speed Control – Vertical Measures</b>											
Entry Feature	I/D				I/D		I/D				
Speed Hump	35.0	27.4	-7.6	-22%	-355	-18%	2.62	2.29	-0.33	-13%	
Speed Lump	Comparable to speed hump but I/D										
Speed Cushion <sup>1</sup>	Comparable to speed hump but I/D			-14%	Comparable to speed hump but I/D						
Split Speed Hump	37	32	-5	-14%	I/D		I/D				
Speed Table	36.7	30.1	-6.6	-18%	-415	-12%	6.71	3.66	-3.05	-45%	
Raised Crosswalk											
Raised Intersection	34.6	34.3	-0.3	-1%	Ineffective						
Rumble Strips	I/D and Limited Effectiveness										
Textured Pavement	Limited Effectiveness as stand alone device										
<b>Speed Control – Narrowing Measures</b>											
Neckdown/Bulbout											
Center Island Narrowing	34.9	32.3	-2.6	-7%	-293	-10%	I/D				
Two-Lane Choker											
One-Lane Choker	I/D			-14%	I/D	-20%					
<b>Speed Control – Horizontal Measures</b>											
Traffic Circle	34.2	30.3	-3.9	-11%	-293	-5%	2.19	0.64	-1.55	-71%	
Roundabout (Single-Lane)	Insignificant Speed Effects				Insignificant Volume Effects		Not Recorded			-15% to -33%	
Chicane	I/D and Limited Effectiveness										
Lateral Shift	Ineffective										
Realigned Intersection	I/D				I/D		I/D				
<b>Volume Control Measures</b>											
Full Closure	I/D	I/D	I/D	I/D	-671	-44%	I/D				
Partial Closure	32.3	26.3	-6.0	-19%	-1,611	-42%	I/D				
Diagonal Diverter	29.3	27.9	-1.4	-4%	-501	-35%	I/D				
Median Barrier											
Forced Turn Island	I/D				I/D		I/D				
Turn-Movement Restrictions											
<b>Stop Signs</b>											
Stop Signs	I/D				I/D		I/D				
Notes: I/D = Insufficient Data											
Source: Traffic Calming State-of-the Practice (Ewing, 1999)											
<sup>1</sup> City of Portland, Rubber Speed Bump Research, 1995											

**Figure 3 Estimating Midpoint Speed**

In mathematical terms, the following exponential function gives the relationship between midpoint speed and spacing of slow points:

$$85^{\text{th}}_{\text{midpoint (mph)}} = 85^{\text{th}}_{\text{slow point (mph)}} + (85^{\text{th}}_{\text{street (mph)}} - 85^{\text{th}}_{\text{slow point (mph)}}) * 0.56 * (1 - e^{-0.004 * \text{spacing (ft.)}})$$

where;

- 85<sup>th</sup><sub>midpoint</sub> = resulting 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed at midpoint after treatment;
- 85<sup>th</sup><sub>slow point</sub> = estimated 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed at the slow point after treatment;
- 85<sup>th</sup><sub>street</sub> = 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of street before treatment;
- spacing = distance in feet between two devices.

When placing speed-control measures, use the above formula to test proposed spacings to determine whether the estimated midpoint speeds would meet the targeted midpoint speed.

**Example (speed humps on street with starting speed of 32 mph):**

Where spacing is 350 feet:

$$85^{\text{th}}_{\text{midpoint (mph)}} = 15 \text{ mph} + ((32 \text{ mph} - 15 \text{ mph}) * 0.56 * (1 - e^{-0.004 * 350 \text{ feet}}))$$

$$85^{\text{th}}_{\text{midpoint (mph)}} = \underline{22 \text{ mph}}$$

Where spacing is 750 feet:

$$85^{\text{th}}_{\text{midpoint (mph)}} = 15 \text{ mph} + ((32 \text{ mph} - 15 \text{ mph}) * 0.56 * (1 - e^{-0.004 * 750 \text{ feet}}))$$

$$85^{\text{th}}_{\text{midpoint (mph)}} = \underline{24 \text{ mph}}$$

The spacing of neighborhood traffic management measures directly affects the midpoint speeds: the farther apart they are, the higher the midpoint speed. In general, speed control measures placed 350 to 750 feet from another slow-point can result in speed reductions similar to those indicated in Table 4. Measures placed at intervals of less than 350 feet can become a nuisance to drivers, and measures placed greater than 750 feet apart decrease the ability to slow speeds to the target midpoint speed. In addition, vertical measures should be placed a minimum of 250 feet from an adjacent intersection.

**Placing Volume-Control Measures**

Neighborhood traffic management devices intended to divert traffic can be located either external or internal to the neighborhood.

- Gateway Measures – Volume-control measures placed at entrances or gateways to neighborhoods can be more effective in reducing volumes because drivers encounter these devices upon entering a neighborhood, which may deter future use. However, these measures can also cause local traffic to take more circuitous paths than internal measures would.
- Internal Measures – When placed within a neighborhood, measures have a less direct effect on non-local traffic. First-time attempts to travel through the neighborhood will occur more frequently, and drivers will seek alternative routes within the neighborhood. However, this type of placement can cause less of an inconvenience to local traffic.

***Placing Safety Measures***

The placement of safety-oriented neighborhood traffic management devices is dependent on the particulars of the traffic-related concern and on the characteristics of the selected neighborhood traffic management device. For example, if the traffic related concern involves pedestrian safety, then the solution—a raised crosswalk, for example—should be placed at a location where it is likely to be heavily used by pedestrians.

## **5. NEW DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES**

Proposed developments can benefit from neighborhood traffic management strategies. Developers can anticipate and prevent concerns about speeding and traffic volumes by reviewing neighborhood plans and proposing refinements to reduce or avoid future traffic-related concerns. In addition, neighborhood traffic management measures incorporated with project construction often receive greater acceptance than a retrofit approach. Traffic calming measures can be included as off-site mitigation measures for infill or redevelopment projects that are surrounded by existing developments that may be impacted by project traffic.

This chapter is intended to be a tool for staff and project designers to identify potential problem areas and suggested remedies. Anticipating future problems and remedies is a subjective activity, not conducive to absolute standards. However, it may be appropriate to incorporate general language into Placer County's Development Guidelines regarding the role of staff in identifying potential neighborhood traffic problems and suggesting remedies.

In most cases, staff and the developer's representatives should be able to identify mutually acceptable neighborhood traffic management features, which are then incorporated into the proposed plans. However, in some cases, staff may need to develop conditions-of-approval that can be discussed, modified, and/or approved by the relevant governing bodies.

### **SUGGESTED DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCESS**

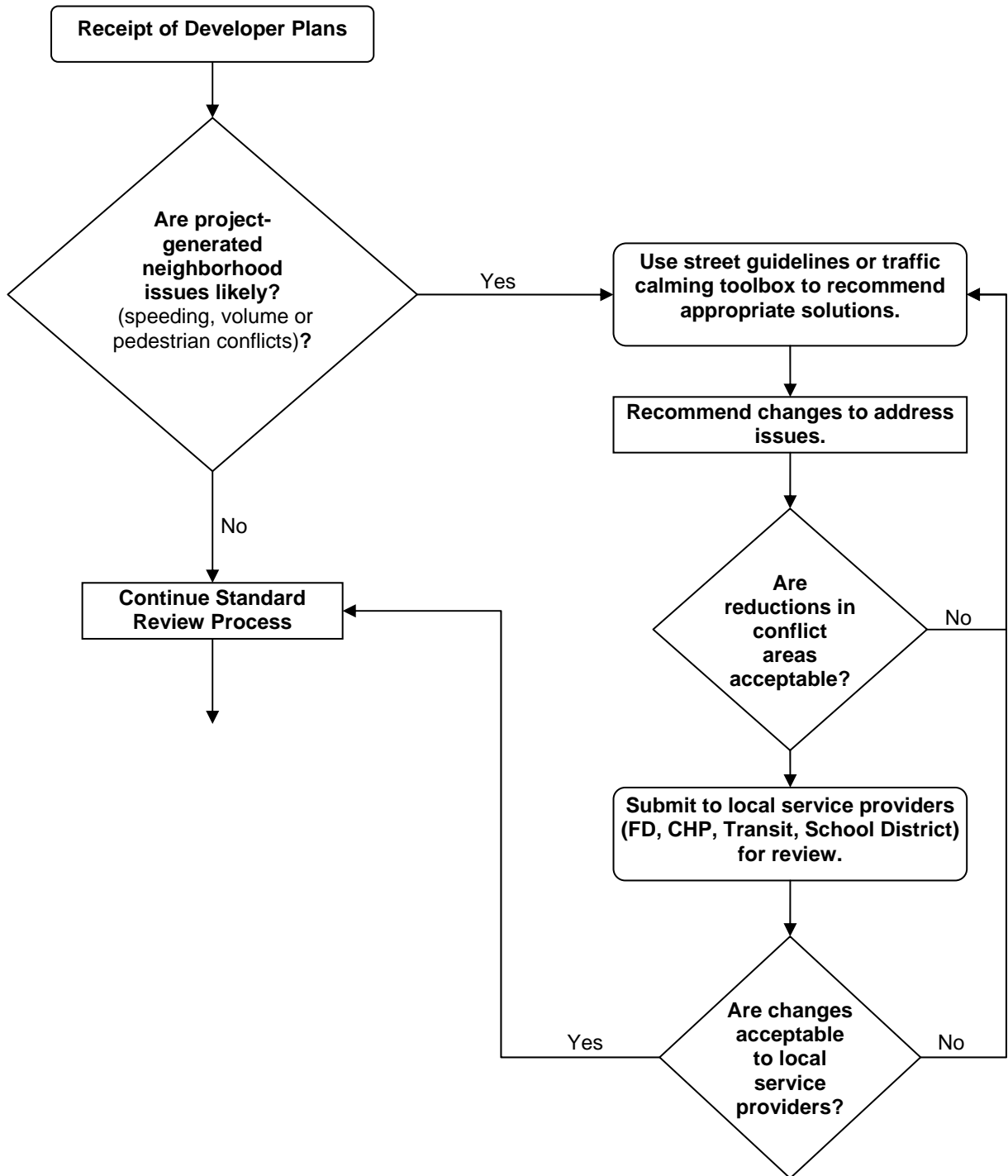
As part of the Placer County development review process, County staff may consider the need for neighborhood traffic management measures within the proposed development or off-site. New development and redevelopment projects may be required to design, build, and maintain traffic calming features as part of the development project through the subdivision improvement agreement, development agreement, homeowners' association, and other development-related mechanisms.

The County's process of reviewing new residential subdivisions varies and is dependent on the decision type. Information contained in the development application determines the permit type and subsequent process. Although the processes differ, they all require staff review after the submission of the plans. At this point, County staff may recommend or condition the inclusion of traffic calming measures.

The toolbox and application guidelines contained in other sections of this document should provide staff and developer representatives with both ideas and guidance on selecting the most appropriate treatments for the identified problem.

The following flowchart is a suggested approach for County staff during the development review process.

Figure 4 New Development Review Process



## **DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PRACTICES**

During the development review process, staff should review the street network and intersection traffic controls to determine areas of potential speeding, excessive volume on residential streets, or pedestrian conflict areas. Where appropriate, developers should be required to incorporate traffic calming measures into their development plan. The process for reviewing street and lot plans for new developments and prescribing refinements may include the following, at staff discretion:

- **Traffic Volumes** – Estimate the average daily traffic (ADT) on residential roadways within and surrounding the proposed project.
  - If traffic volumes on residential streets are projected to be less than 1,500 vehicles per day (vpd), then no action is needed.
  - If the projected traffic volume on a residential street is 1,500 - 2,500 vpd, then consider traffic calming treatments depending upon the context (such as area history, resident expectations, or magnitude of change).
  - For projected volumes of above 2,500 vpd on a residential street, incorporate traffic calming measures to lessen the impact. In addition, consider driveway treatments that do not require vehicles to back out of driveways, such as loop or hammer head driveways.
- **Traffic Speeds** – Identify potential speeding concerns on new streets and adjacent existing streets. Potential problem areas may include:
  - Streets with unimpeded block lengths (i.e. slow points) greater than 600 feet between traffic control or traffic calming devices, or as determined by staff.
  - Areas where roadway grades may increase the potential for speeding, as determined by staff.
  - Areas with potential pedestrian/vehicle conflicts, such as schools, parks, or community centers.
  - Areas with design attributes that encourage speeding, such as wide travel lane width, absence of on-street parking lane, absence of a bike lane, and long block lengths.
- **Street Layout** – Staff may request street design and layout modifications if an area is likely to experience cut-through traffic.
- **Adjacent Neighborhoods** – Consider traffic calming measures in new developments where adjacent neighborhoods include traffic calming, as determined by staff.
- **Traffic Calming Plan** – Based on the size and nature of the proposed development, staff will determine if a traffic calming plan is necessary. As described above, a traffic calming plan should be developed when the proposed street layout cannot be modified in such a way that will eliminate foreseeable traffic problems. The applicant's representative should develop the traffic calming plan with DPW oversight.

## **DESIGNING STREET NETWORKS**

Neighborhood traffic management measures have traditionally been installed as retrofit measures in existing neighborhoods, in response to a particular traffic concern. The guidelines below describe some common street design features and their propensity to lead to neighborhood traffic management concerns such as speeding and cut-through traffic. The guidelines should assist developers in laying out streets in new

residential developments and staff in reviewing them pursuant to the process described above. This chapter is by no means comprehensive on the layout of new residential streets. For detailed information on street design and layout, refer to the following Placer County documents:

- Placer County General Plan, August 1994
- Land Development Manual, Placer County 1988
- Placer County Design Guidelines, September 2003
- Placer County Community Plans (various)

The following documents provide supplemental readings on the subject of designing residential streets. These are guidance documents only:

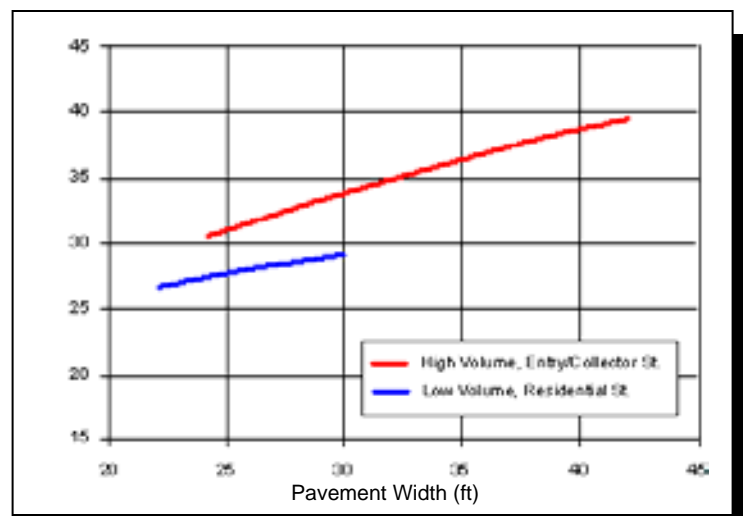
- *Residential Street Design and Traffic Control*, Homburger, Deakin, Bosselmann, Smith, and Beukers (Institute of Transportation Engineers), 1989
- *Residential Streets*, 3rd Edition, American Society of Civil Engineers, Institute of Transportation Engineers, National Association of Home Builders, and the Urban Land Institute, 2001
- *Traditional Neighborhood Development: Street Design Guidelines*, Institute of Transportation Engineers, 1999

## DESIGNING FOR APPROPRIATE SPEEDS

The design of residential streets can often influence vehicles speeds. Residential streets that are wide, long, straight, and have few uninterrupted blocks have been shown to have a positive correlation to higher vehicle speeds. To minimize vehicle speeds, consider the following attributes when designing residential streets:

- **Travel Lane Width** – Current County standards for street width varies depending on the lot size, number of lots served, and presence of on-street parking. Plates R-1 through R-7 of the Land Development Manual specifies the requirements for new streets. Provisions for on-street parking are also provided within these standards. The chart shows a positive correlation between pavement width and increased traffic speeds.<sup>2</sup>

New streets should not exceed the current County standards. However, if additional width is provided in anticipation of high on-street parking demand, the roadway should be treated with appropriately spaced chokers, center median islands or other neighborhood traffic calming devices.

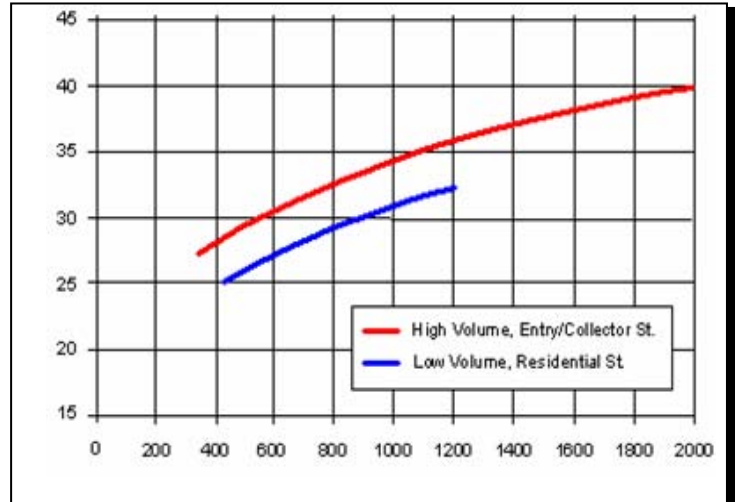


<sup>2</sup> Ballard, Andrew J. and Haldeman, David M. "Low Speed Design Criteria for Residential Streets." *ITE Journal* December 2002: 44-46.



- **Block Length** – Some street networks leave excessively long blocks with few side street intersections. Drivers who travel distances 600 feet or greater, as illustrated in the chart below, without being required to slow or stop by traffic control or neighborhood traffic management devices, tend to travel at speeds higher than the posted limit. To minimize this effect, the street network can be designed such that street blocks are frequently interrupted by streets of sufficient traffic volumes to warrant a traffic control device (e.g., stop sign) or a traffic calming device. Shorter block lengths also facilitate pedestrian movement throughout the neighborhood. The chart shows the correlation between unimpeded block length and travel speed.

Acceptable block lengths for urban local streets should not exceed 600-800 feet, while urban collector street block lengths should not exceed 1,000 feet.



- **Parking Lanes** – In circumstances where adjacent land uses generate low on-street parking demand (such as large-lot subdivisions or collectors without fronting uses) the street can function as if it were wider than intended. If the parking demand can be accommodated elsewhere, the parking lanes should be eliminated or restricted to one side of the street and the street width reduced accordingly.

## DESIGNING FOR LOCAL TRAFFIC

Some residential collector streets can become cut-through routes, or routes used by non-local motorists as a means of bypassing congested or circuitous arterial roads. In these cases, the residential collector should be modified in one of two ways:

- The collector can be designed with a deviating path so that the overall distance by collector is greater than the distance by arterial.
- The residential roadway network can be designed such that traffic-controlled intersections interrupt the parallel collector route sufficiently that the travel time by collector is greater than the travel time by arterial.

## PEDESTRIAN/VEHICLE CONFLICT AREAS

Some elements of residential areas, such as schools, parks, community centers, or other high pedestrian generators, have particularly high potential for vehicle and pedestrian conflicts. The major pedestrian routes to school should be identified and traffic controls should be structured so that the number of crossings at uncontrolled cross-streets is minimized and pedestrians are directed to the most appropriate crossing locations. For both schools and parks, entrances tend to focus pedestrian street crossings at particular locations. These entrances can be made safer by combining them with roadway intersections, so that the intersection's traffic control can also allocate right-of-way to pedestrians.

If a pedestrian-oriented land use is located in an area where speeding or high traffic volumes are unavoidable, then select neighborhood traffic management measures that accommodate and provide benefit to pedestrians. For example, at an intersection, bulbouts or center island narrowings should be given some preference over other measures, such as intersection realignment or speed humps. While a realigned intersection or speed hump may slow traffic in the area, a bulbout or center island narrowing assists pedestrians by creating a shorter crossing distance and physical roadway narrowing, thereby reducing driver speed.

## **DEVELOPING A NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN**

When a proposed street layout cannot be modified in such a way that will eliminate foreseeable potential traffic problems, develop a neighborhood traffic management plan. Follow the procedure for developing a neighborhood traffic management plan as described in the Toolbox Chapter, with the following exceptions:

- For speed-related problems, existing travel speed data will not be available. Consequently, a response to anticipated speeding problems must rely on roadway geometry. For example, if a block length is greater than 600 feet, then you could use neighborhood traffic management measures to divide the block into segments that are each shorter than 600 feet.
- For volume-related problems, traffic volume data will be available only in the form of traffic forecasts, and these will typically be limited to the major roads. You may need some manual traffic volume estimates using land use quantities and trip generation rates for the proposed development.
- Anticipated safety problems will likely revolve around land uses that generate pedestrian activity, such as schools, parks, and community centers. For these land uses, consider the planned locations of walkways, gates, and building entrances when placing neighborhood traffic management devices (such as raised crosswalks or bulb-outs) . Likewise, the land use planning should consider existing and planned traffic safety features.
- For some neighborhood traffic management measures, particularly those involving modified curbs, you can achieve significant cost-savings by constructing them concurrent with roadway construction. Consequently, when selecting a type of neighborhood traffic management measure, give additional preference to measures that take advantage of these cost-savings.

## APPENDIX A – DESIGN GUIDELINES

This section describes the guiding design principles relating to various physical traffic calming devices. The design guidelines are based on recommended designs published in *Traffic Calming State-of-the Practice*<sup>3</sup> and *Canadian Guide to Traffic Calming*<sup>4</sup>. Appendix B contains standard engineering design templates for the most common traffic calming devices.

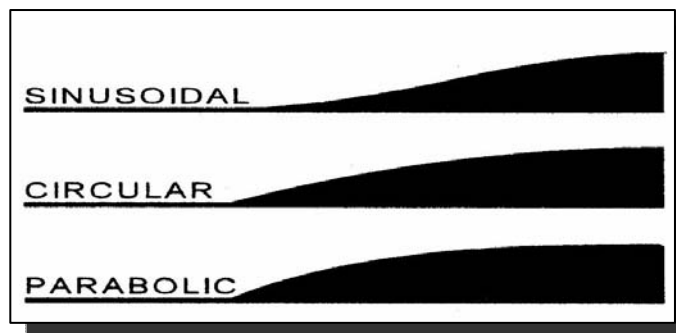
### SPEED CONTROL – VERTICAL MEASURES

#### *Ramp Profiles*

Ramp profile describes the angle or approach of the vertical measure that a vehicle would traverse. Vertical measures (e.g., speed humps) should use Parabolic profiles on the approach and departure ramps to the device. Parabolic profiles have consistently been used in other programs around the nation and are a recommended design according to Institute of Transportation Engineers: *Guidelines for the Design & Application of Speed Humps* (ITE, 1993). Figure A-1 shows three commonly used profiles, and a description of each follows below:

- Sinusoidal profiles have slightly less reduction effects on speed than circular and parabolic profiles but higher comfort levels for vehicles and bicyclists and are typically more difficult and expensive to construct due to the slope of the profile.
- Circular profiles have moderate reduction effects on speeds (compared to the two other profiles) and comfort levels for vehicles and bicyclists.
- Parabolic profiles have the greatest reduction effects on speeds but have the lowest comfort levels for vehicles and bicyclists due to the greater rise in the slope of the profile.

**Figure A-1 Vertical Measure Ramp Profiles**



<sup>3</sup> Ewing, R. (1999). *Traffic Calming: State of the Practice*. Washington, DC: Institute of Transportation Engineers/Federal Highway Administration.

<sup>4</sup> *Canadian Guide to Neighbourhood Traffic Calming*, (1998) Ottawa, Canada: Transportation Association of Canada.

### Edge Tapers

The edge taper refers to the transition area between a vertical measure at its full height and the edge of the device. Edge tapers on vertical measures (e.g., speed humps and excluding raised crosswalks) should extend to the edge of the pavement (i.e., not into the gutter) to prevent blocking the gutter drainage.

On streets without vertical curbs, the edge taper should extend the full length of the pavement width to discourage drivers from straddling or driving around the vertical measure. In addition, an advisory sign (or other barrier) should be placed on either approach of the vertical device to prevent drivers from driving around the device.



**Example:** Bollards and advisory sign encourage drivers to travel over speed hump.

### Edge Tapers – Parking and Bikeways

Vertical devices should extend across any parking or bike lane to prevent drivers from veering into the bike lane. Consequently, bicyclists will traverse the even section (as opposed to the tapered portion) of the device. In addition, vehicles parking on the street will have the option to park on a portion of the device or avoid the device entirely.



**Example:** Speed lump extends to the edge of pavement across bike lane.

### Raised Crosswalk Tapers

Raised crosswalks should always be designed to a height equal to the curb height, but not fully extend to the curb, as this will impede drainage. To bridge the gap between the sidewalk and raised crosswalk, a metal connector plate or other approved device may be used to allow unimpeded flow of the gutter. The design should also include truncated dome plates to indicate the entrance to the crosswalk from the sidewalk. Raised crosswalks may not be appropriate where curbs do not exist.



**Example:** Unimpeded drainage.

## HORIZONTAL DEFLECTION MEASURES

### *Traffic Circle Center Island Profile*

Traffic circles should be designed with both a vertical inner curb and a mountable apron. The vertical inner curb prevents vehicles from driving over the circle. The apron is a shallow-sloped curb extending out from the bottom of a vertical curb; the apron has a low lip at its pavement-side edge. This apron effectively reduces the diameter of the center island for large vehicles, facilitating easier turns. The lip at the apron's edge discourages vehicles from using it unnecessarily.



**Example:** Vertical inner curb and mountable apron.

### *Traffic Circle Turn Operations*

All vehicles should circulate around the center island on left-turns. However, an exception can be made for large trucks and buses in some cases if geometric constraints require it. If a specific intersection has a high proportion of trucks and/or bus traffic, alternative treatments may provide similar results without impact to trucks or busses. All traffic circles should be designed using the appropriate truck turning templates from Caltrans Highway Design Manual (Caltrans, 2006). Software packages such as AutoCAD or AutoTURN may also be used to identify whether emergency response vehicles and buses can maneuver around the circle.

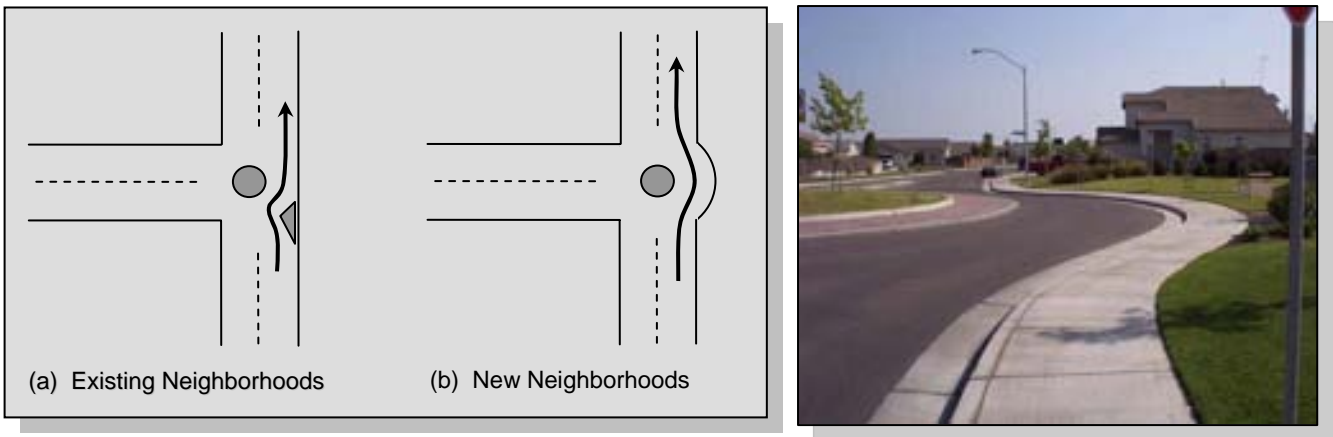


**Example:** Truck turning radius using mountable apron.

### Traffic Circles at T-Intersections

Traffic circles should have deflection on all approaches if implemented at a T-intersection. This can be implemented in both existing neighborhoods in retrofit situations and in new neighborhoods. First, a raised island can be placed at the right side of the un-deflected approach to the traffic circle to artificially introduce deflection, as shown in Figure A-2 (a). In new neighborhoods, the street curbs can be modified to allow the center island to be located at the center of the intersection, as shown in Figure A-2 (b).

Figure A-2 Traffic circles at T-Intersections



## NARROWING MEASURES

### Drainage

Narrowing measures, such as chokers, should be constructed to minimize or avoid blocking gutter flow, as illustrated in the photo. Modifying the drainage can be cost prohibitive and could require regular maintenance to clear debris from the modified gutter.



**Example:** Retrofit design with unimpeded drainage.

**Neckdowns/Bulbouts**

Narrowing measures, such as neckdowns or chokers, should not be constructed wider than the approximate width of a parked vehicle. Extension of these devices any further than the width of a parked vehicle could present potential safety issues to other drivers.



**LANDSCAPING**

**Example:** Neckdown at intersection.

The standard treatment for all neighborhood traffic management devices will be hardscape (i.e., grouted cobblestone). Residents may fund aesthetic upgrades to neighborhood traffic calming devices such as landscaping or stamped and colored concrete (i.e., simulated brick work). Aesthetics upgrades not only improve the aesthetic quality of the device but increase the visual presence of the device. Landscaping should be limited to low-lying shrubs and plants. Trees planted on center islands must allow adequate sight distances for motorists.



**Example:** Standard treatment



**Example:** Upgraded aesthetics

## SIGNAGE AND STRIPING

### Signage

Signage should be provided at or near traffic calming devices advising motorists of the device. Signage should be visible to both motorists and bicyclists. The signs should be comprised mostly of symbols and be easily understandable to motorists. Figure A-3 illustrates examples of several common warning signs.

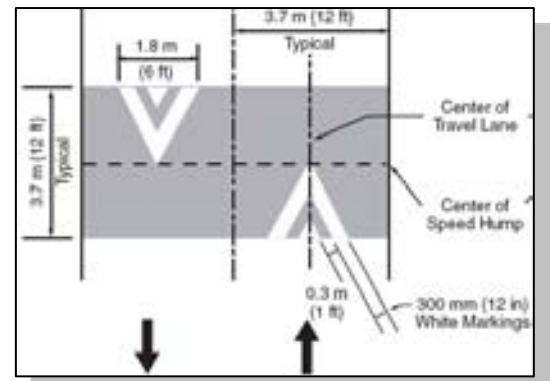
The warning sign for a traffic circle or roundabout shown on Figure A-3 should be the standard used at such intersections. The warning sign is clear and concise, showing drivers the route around and turning options of the upcoming traffic circle or roundabout.

Special signing specific to bicyclists may be used as determined by Public Works staff. Examples of this signing include advising motorists not to pass bicyclists through narrow traffic calming devices or informing bicyclists of proper maneuvering of devices. This signage should be used when the travel rights of bicyclists warrant emphasis.

### Striping

Pavement markings assist in warning motorists and bicyclists of traffic calming devices in the roadway. Vertical devices should always include pavement markings on the device and may also include advanced warning legends (see Figure C-6). In certain situations, vertical devices may be unmarked, such as revitalization or beautification plans in a given area. In such cases, the device must be designed to provide a clear contrast with the surrounding environment.

The example image to the right illustrates the preferred striping option for vertical devices, such as speed humps. This marking option is compliant with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (FHWA, 2003).



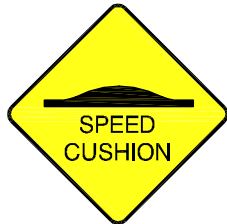
**Example:** Recommended striping.

## COMBINED MEASURES

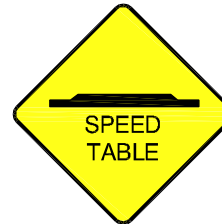
Some measures from the toolbox can be combined to increase the combined effect on traffic volumes and speeds. For example, a raised crosswalk may be combined with neckdowns, the effect being a crosswalk that is both shortened and raised above the level of the roadway. Motorists must then react to both a vertical deflection and a narrowing. In assessing the suitability of combined measures, the guidelines in Tables 1, 2, and 3 should be applied for both devices.



Sign Dimensions	Color Code		
	Background	Message	Border
30" x 30"	Flourescent Yellow or Yellow-Green	Black	Black



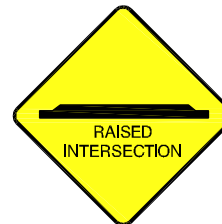
SPEED CUSHION



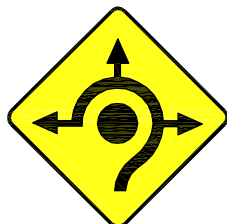
SPEED TABLE



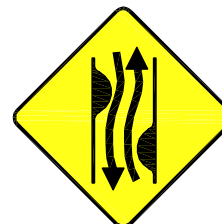
RAISED CROSSWALK



RAISED INTERSECTION



TRAFFIC CIRCLE OR ROUNDABOUT



CHICANE

## **APPENDIX B – TRAFFIC CALMING ON SNOW REMOVAL ROUTES**

This section identifies applicable traffic calming devices and the unique physical design considerations necessary to implement traffic calming in geographic areas of the county that receive snowfall. The guidelines in this chapter apply to those geographic areas above 2,000 feet. At first glance, traffic calming would seem difficult in areas of snowfall due to the needs of snow removal equipment. However, a review of other jurisdictions' traffic calming practices<sup>5</sup> in areas of snowfall has proven otherwise. Many jurisdictions have adapted their approach to snow removal, allowing the coexistence of traffic calming on snow removal routes.

Experience shows that typical traffic calming devices do not prevent snow removal or create unsafe conditions due to residual snow build-up. The best practices for snow removal on streets where traffic calming measures have been installed include:

- Using modified equipment to accommodate traffic calming measures, such as rubber-tipped plows or rollers attached to the underside.
- Assigning staff to set routes, creating familiarity with traffic calming device locations.
- Appropriately marking the location of traffic calming devices.
- Customizing the geometric design of traffic calming devices.

The concepts presented above represent techniques employed by other agencies and does not imply changes will be made to the DPW's current practice for snow removal.

### **APPLICABLE TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES**

Table B-1 summarizes the traffic calming devices applicable on snow removal routes. To determine which device(s) is most appropriate given the traffic related concern, location of concern, and roadway constraints, refer to Tables 1 through 3 in Chapter 3. The DPW, at their discretion, may elect to construct any of the devices shown in Table B-1 in a temporary fashion during the summer months.

---

<sup>5</sup> Based on information contained in *Traffic Calming: State of the Practice* (Ewing, Reid H., ITE and FHA 1999), *Traffic Calming Practice Revisited* (Ewing, R., Brown, S., Hoyt, A., 2005), and *City of Grass Valley Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program*, (2002).

<b>TABLE B-1 APPLICABILITY OF PHYSICAL TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES ON SNOW REMOVAL ROUTES</b>		
<b>Type of Measure</b>	<b>Applicability above 2,000 feet</b>	
	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b><i>Speed Control – Narrowing Measures</i></b>		
Neckdown/Bulbout	√	
Center Island Narrowing/ Pedestrian Refuge	√	
Two-Lane Choker		√
One-Lane Choker	√	
<b><i>Speed Control – Horizontal Measures</i></b>		
Traffic Circle		√
Roundabout (Single-Lane)		√
Chicane		√
Lateral Shift	√	
Realigned Intersection		√
<b><i>Speed Control – Vertical Measures<sup>1</sup></i></b>		
Speed Hump	√	
Speed Lump	√	
Speed Cushion	√	
Speed Table	√	
Raised Crosswalk	√	
Raised Intersection	√	
Textured Pavement		√
Rumble Strips <sup>2</sup>		√
<b><i>Volume Control Measures</i></b>		
Full Closure		√
Partial Closure	√	
Diagonal Diverter	√	
Median Barrier	√	
Forced Turn Island	√	
Notes:		
<sup>1</sup> Vertical devices should be constructed with a sinusoidal profile. <sup>2</sup> Rumble strips should not be constructed with raised pavement markers.		

## DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

This section summarizes various techniques for designing traffic calming measures in areas of snowfall. The techniques presented below do not represent detailed engineering designs, but rather principles to consider in such situations.

### ***Vertical Deflection Devices***

Most snowplows are capable of climbing the gentle rise of vertical devices such as speed humps, which rise to an approximate height of three inches over a six foot distance (4 percent).

Consider a sinusoidal profile for speed humps and/or speed lumps rather than a parabolic profile. The sinusoidal profile creates a zero slope gradient at the point where the hump meets the asphalt. The gradual slope allows a gentler transition of the plow blade over the hump.

Design speed tables or raised crosswalks with the above profile, or with a flat-topped ramp with sloping profiles of three to six percent. Residual snow build-up may accumulate on the down slope of vertical devices, and salt or sand applications may help to remove residual build-up.

Clearly identify speed humps with advanced warning signs and/or a sign or plastic bollard at the actual location.

Instead of raised pavement markers or Botts dots, use recessed strips into the asphalt to create rumble strips.

### ***Narrowing and Horizontal Deflection Devices***

Vertical curbs associated with narrowing devices or horizontal deflection devices are similar to those at the edge of the pavement and thus do not present additional challenges to snowplow operators.

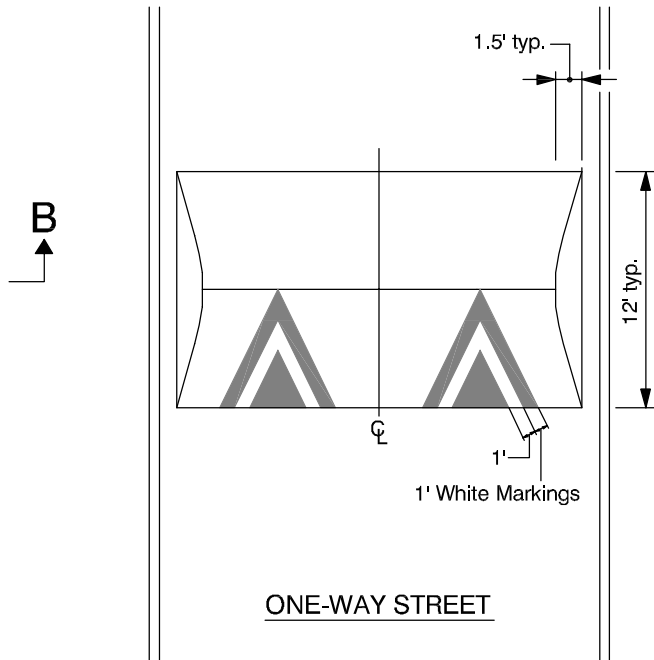
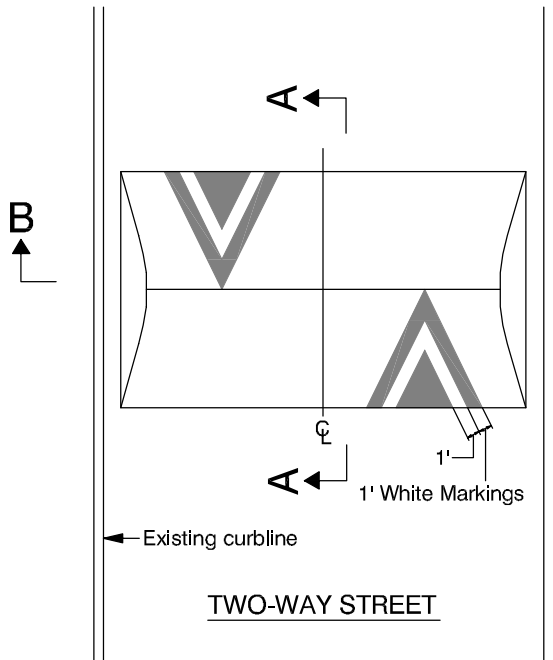
Where typical curb lines are straight, a curb line of a two-lane choker or similar device may be unexpected and unseen without special signing. Clearly identify narrowing or horizontal deflection devices with object markers, plastic bollards, or landscaping.

Where snow cannot be plowed to the edge of the roadway (due to a traffic calming device), operators may be required to push snow to the centerline and remove it with a front-end loader.

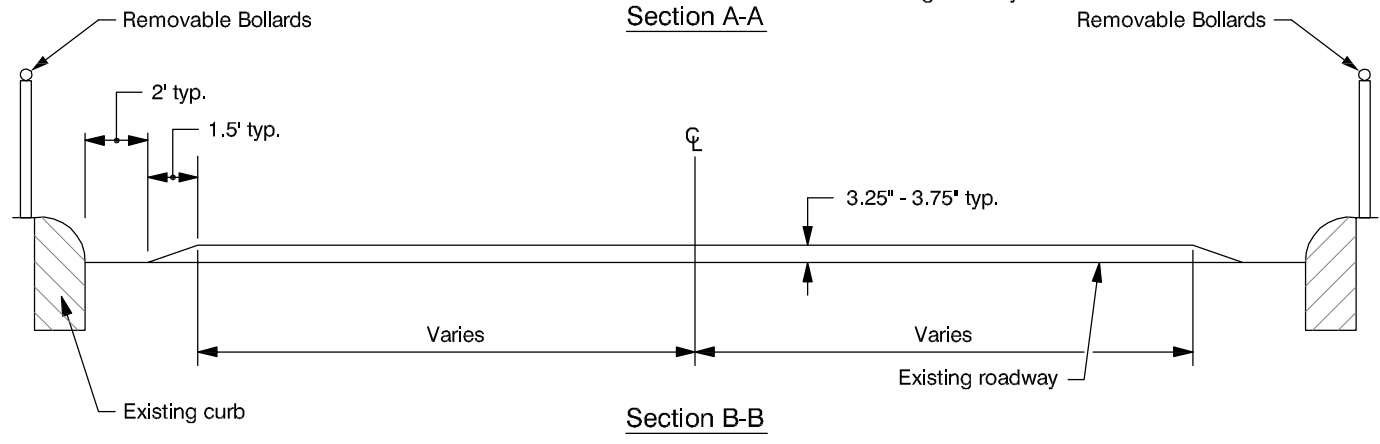
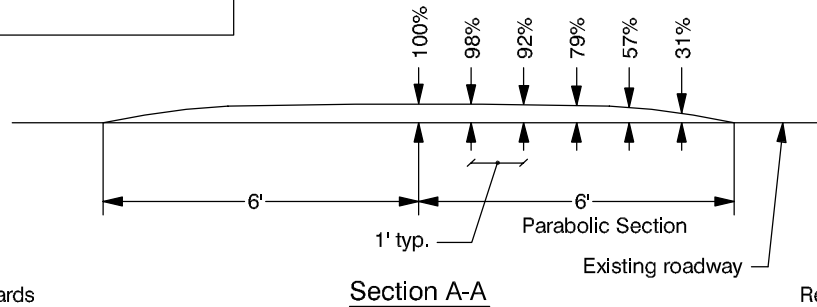
## **APPENDIX C – STANDARD TRAFFIC CALMING TEMPLATES**

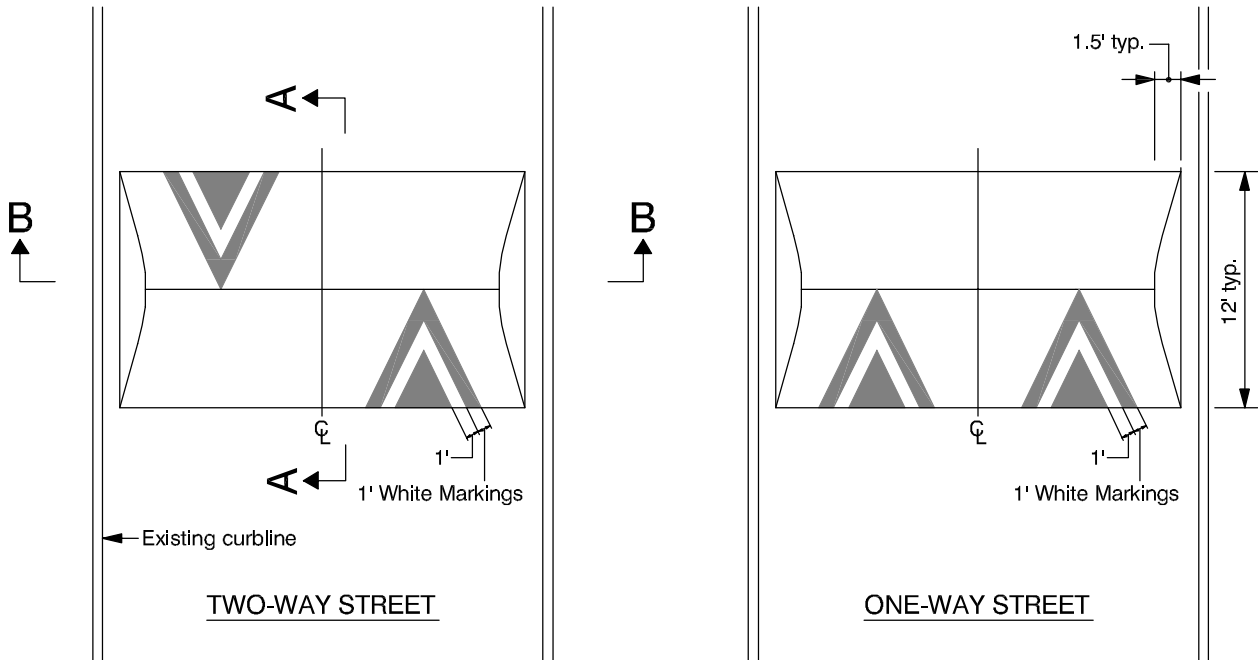
Standard neighborhood traffic management device designs are provided for the following measures. Measures that do not have standard designs should be designed according to each situation specific to the roadway and traffic conditions.

<b><u>Measure</u></b>	<b><u>Figure</u></b>
Speed Hump (parabolic profile).....	C-1a
Speed Hump (sinusoidal profile) .....	C-1b
Speed Lump .....	C-2
Speed Table .....	C-3
Raised Crosswalk .....	C-4
Raised Intersection.....	C-5
Vertical Device – Advance Warning Markings .....	C-6
Neckdown/Bulbout (intersection).....	C-7
Neckdown/Bulbout (midblock).....	C-8
Center Island Narrowing.....	C-9
Two-lane Choker .....	C-10
Traffic Circle.....	C-11
Chicane.....	C-12
Partial Closure .....	C-13
Diagonal Diverter.....	C-14
Median Barrier .....	C-15
Forced Turn Island.....	C-16

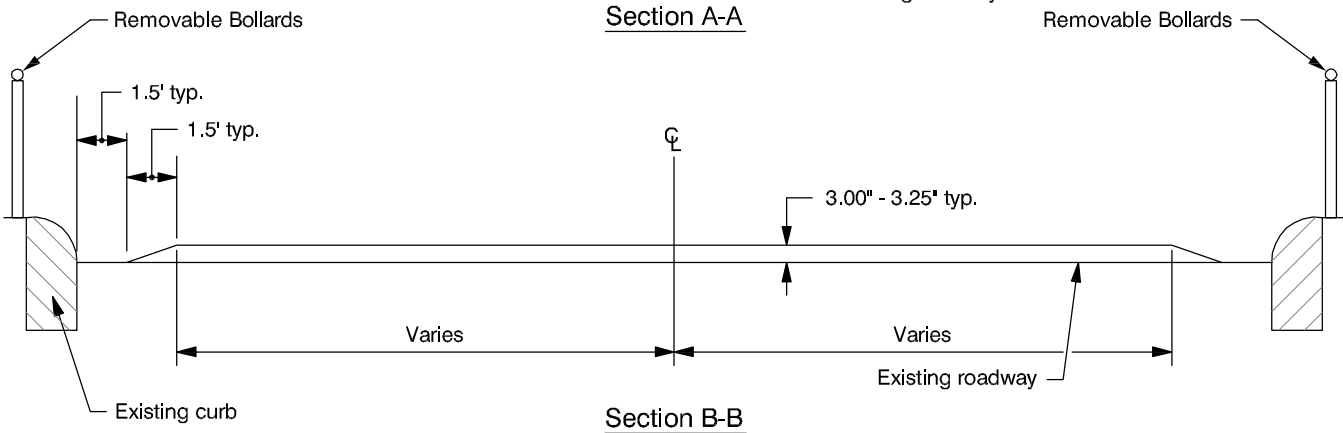
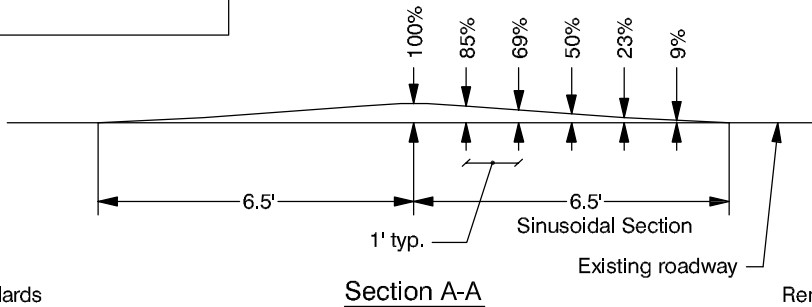


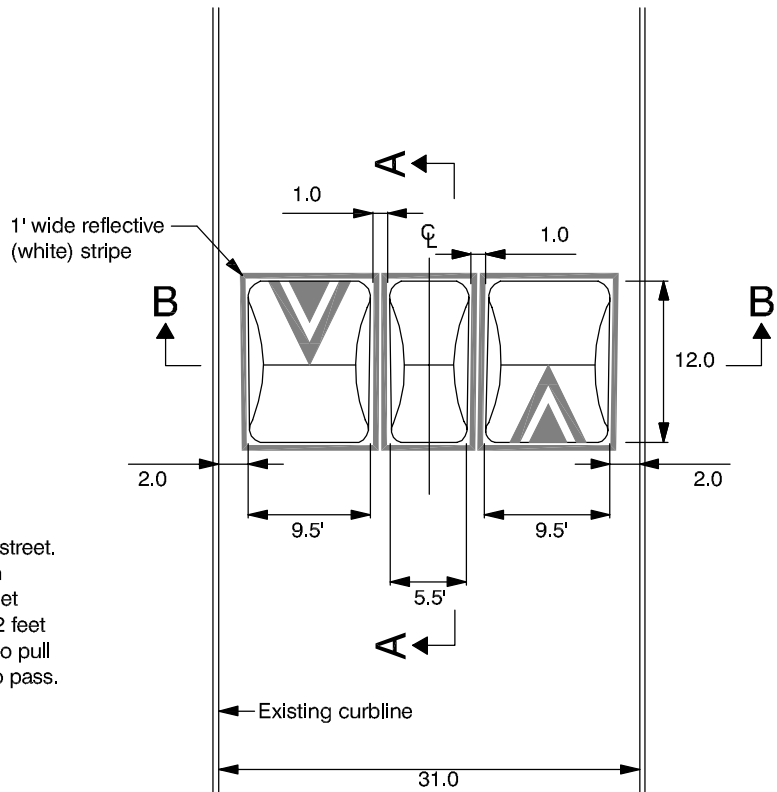
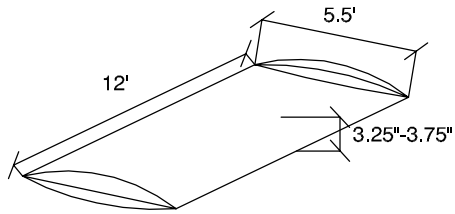
Install speed hump warning signs W17-1





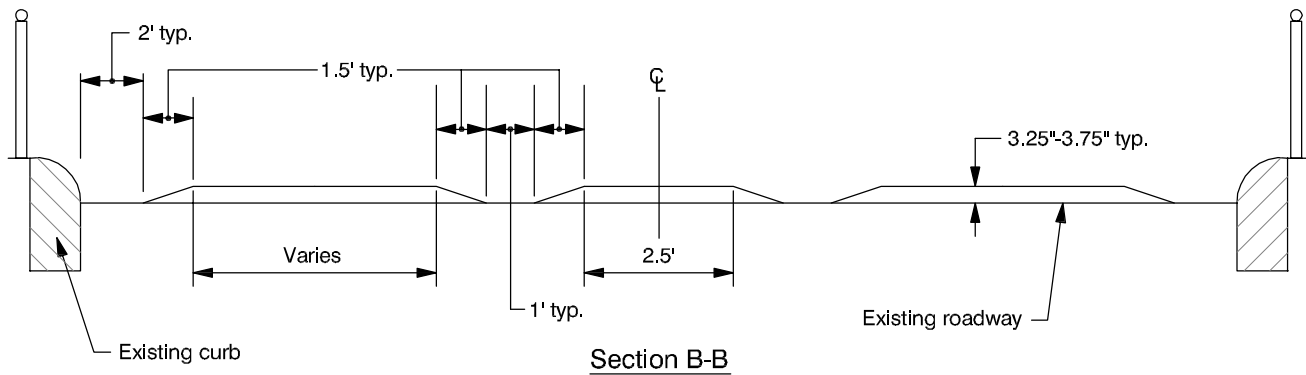
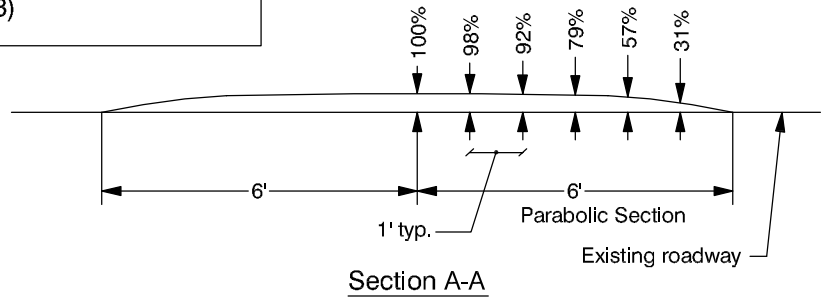
Install speed hump warning signs W17-1



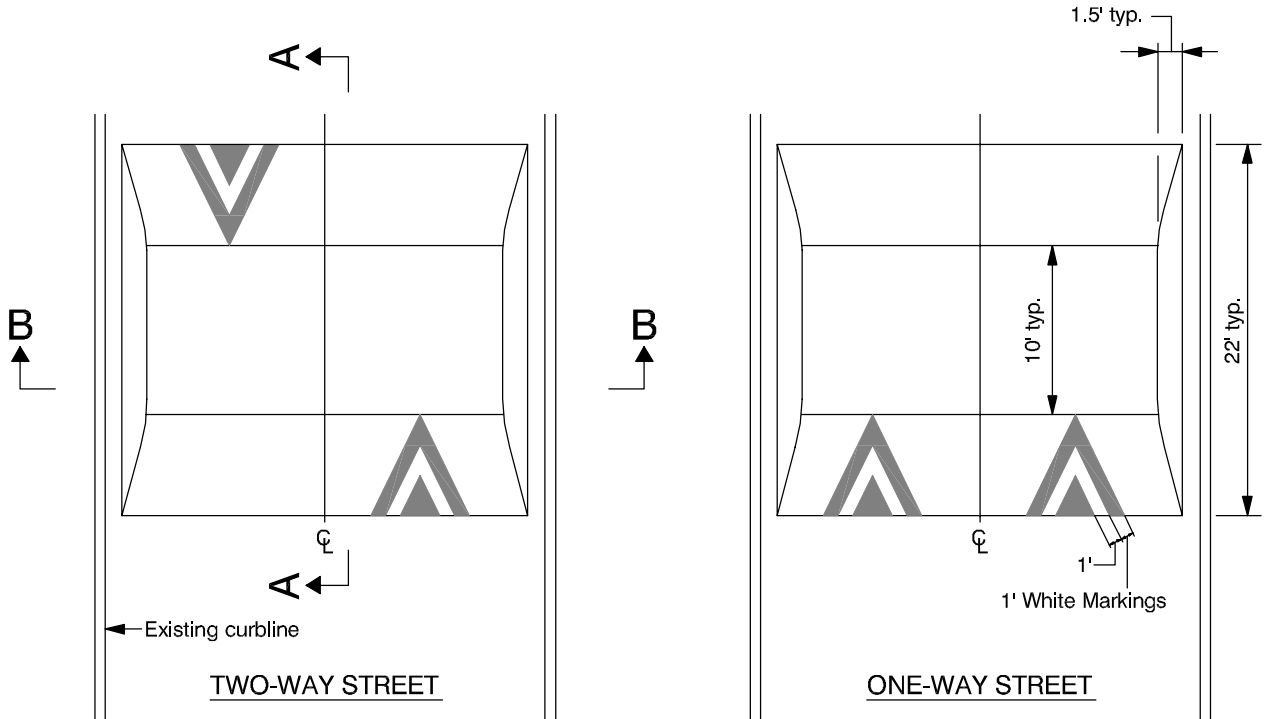


The speed cushion drawing shown is for a 31-foot wide street. If a street is wider, another cushion may be added. Each center cushion (only one shown) is 12 feet deep, 5 1/2 feet wide, 1 foot between outer lumps and center lump and 2 feet from curb & drainage. It may be necessary for vehicles to pull to the right and allow an opposing emergency vehicle to pass.

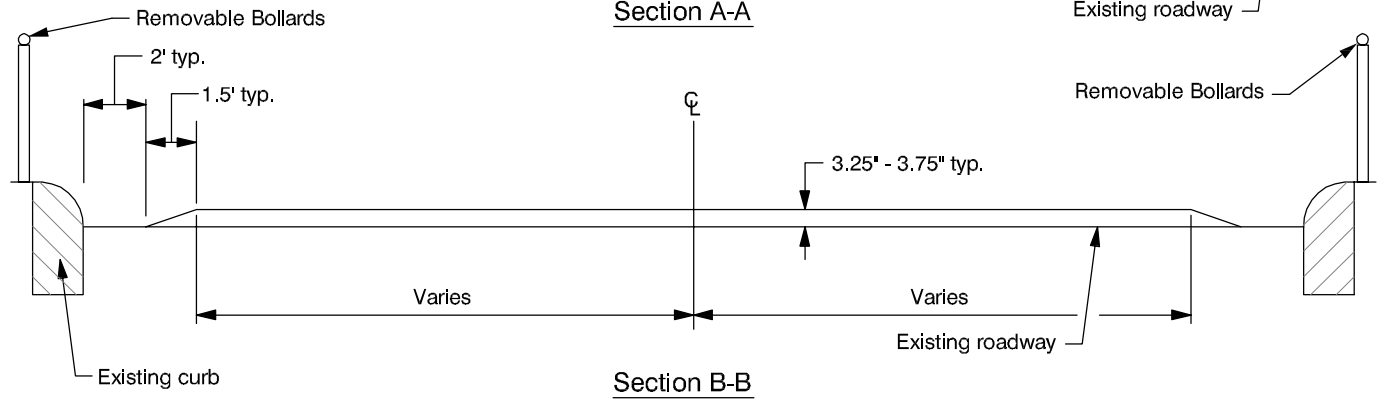
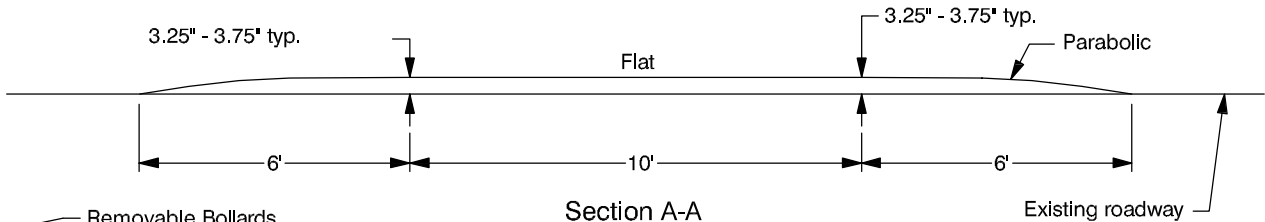
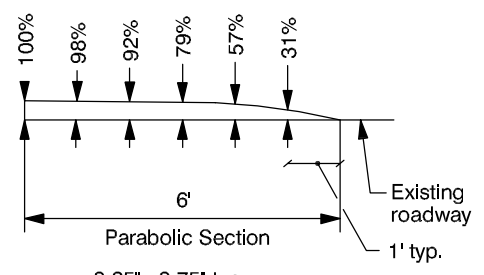
Install speed cushion warning signs  
(See Figure A-3)







Install speed table warning signs  
(See Figure A-3)



Sign Description  
W11-2 Pedestrian Crossing

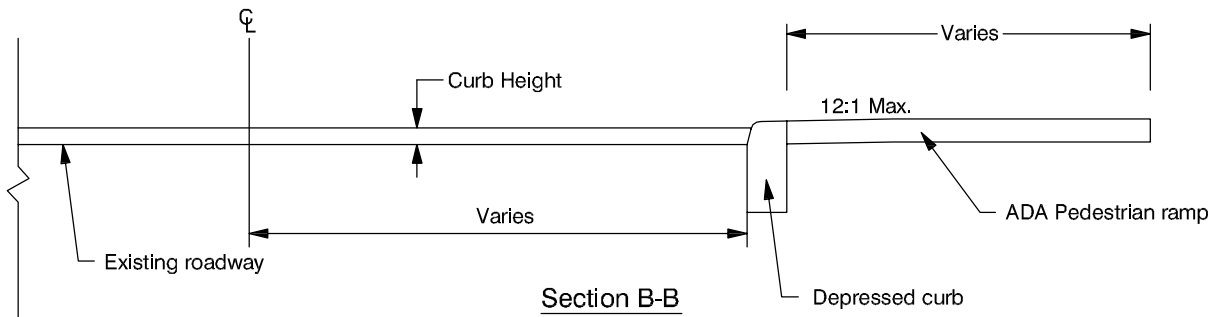
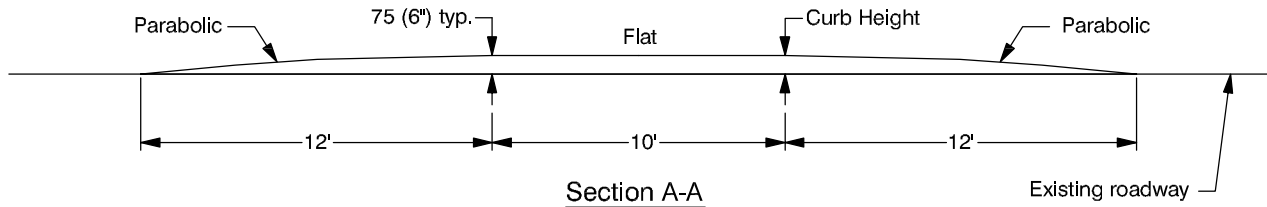
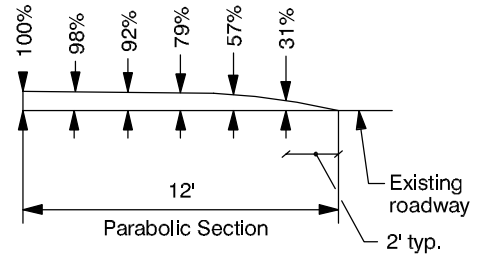
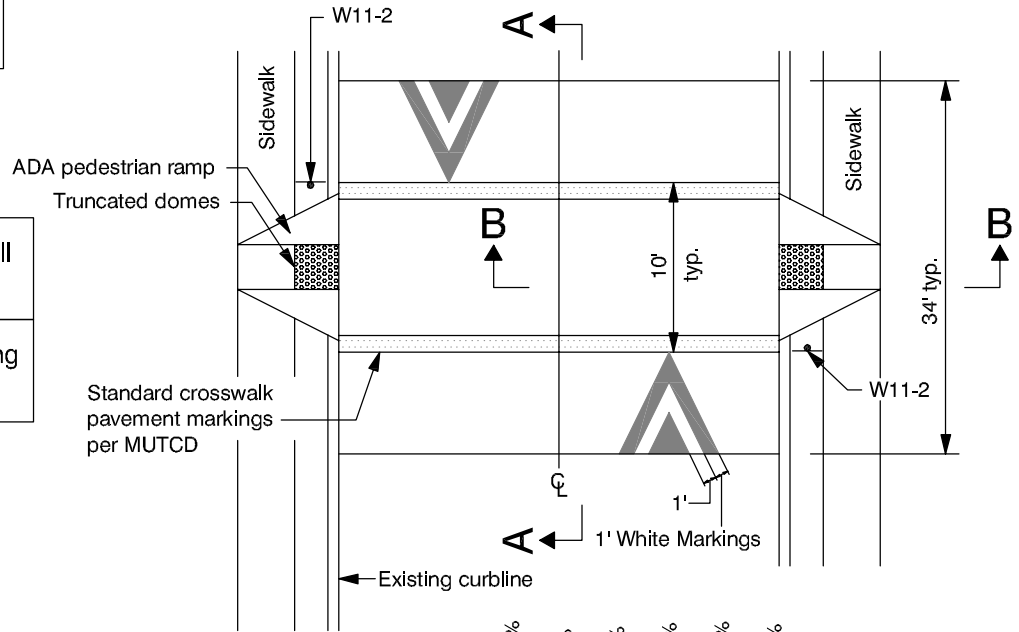
Inlets are required on the uphill side of a raised crosswalk

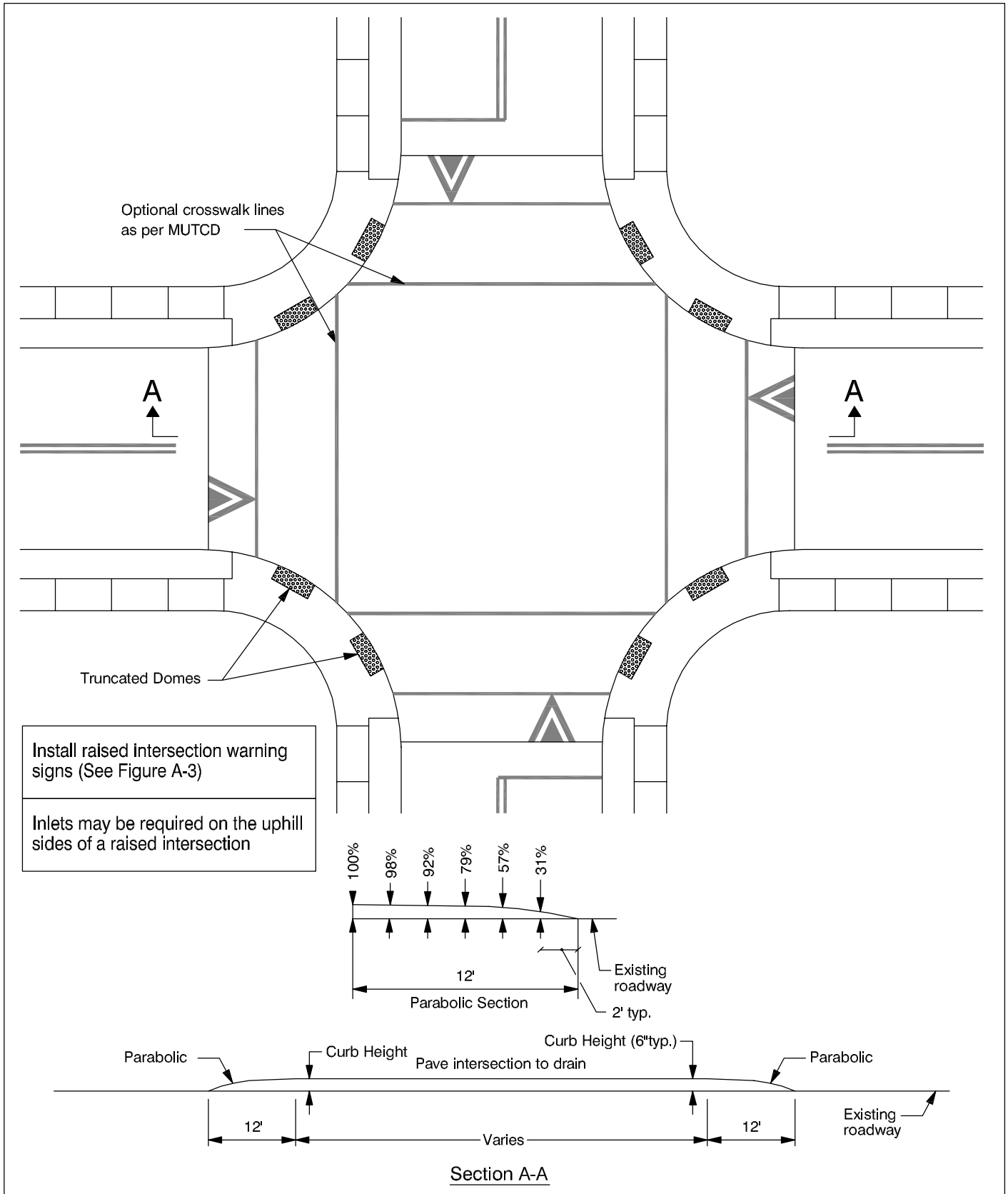
Install raised crosswalk warning signs (Shown below)

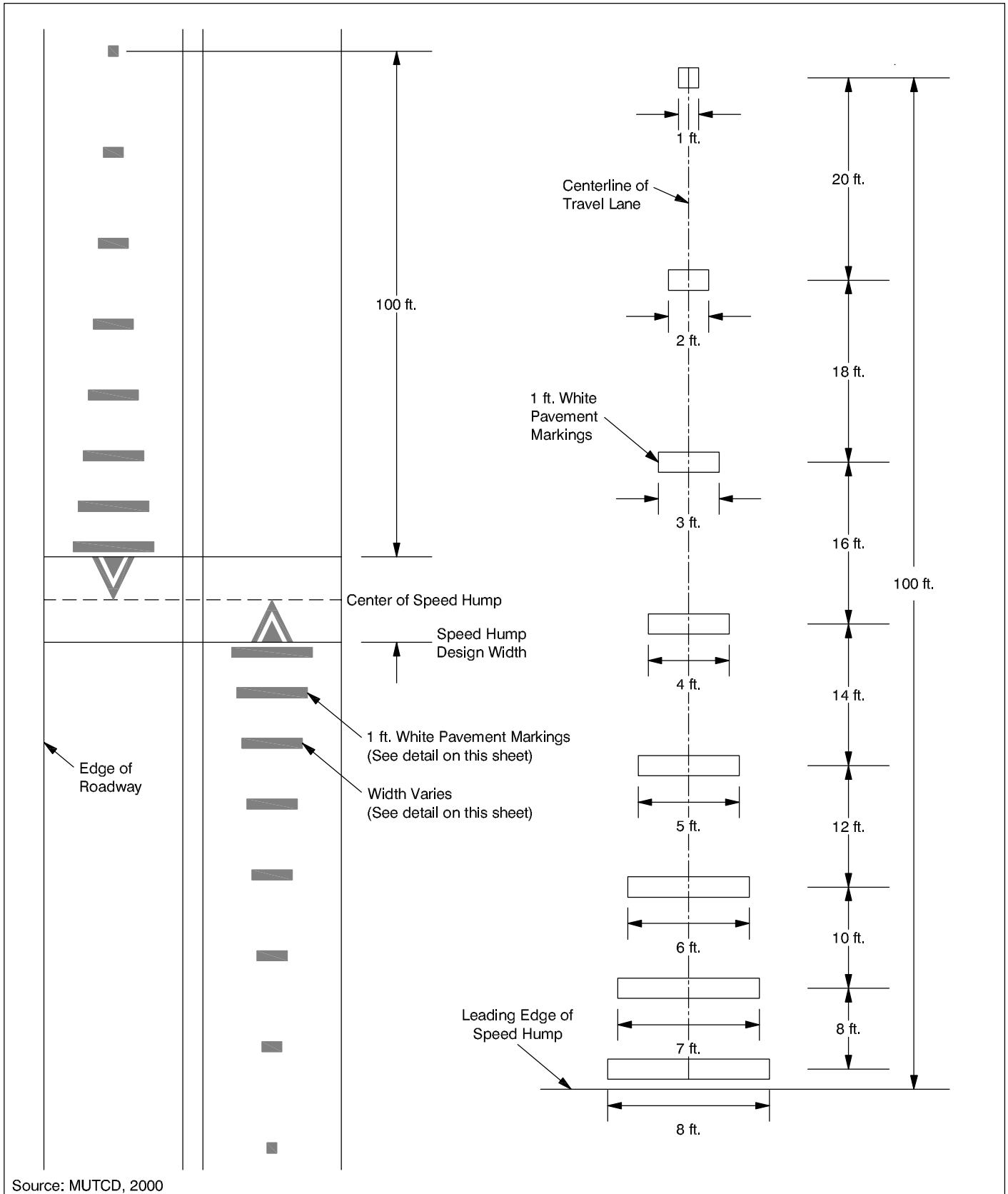


RAISED CROSSWALK

Sign Dimensions	Color Code		
	Background	Message	Border
30" x 30"	Flourescent Yellow or Yellow-Green	Black	Black





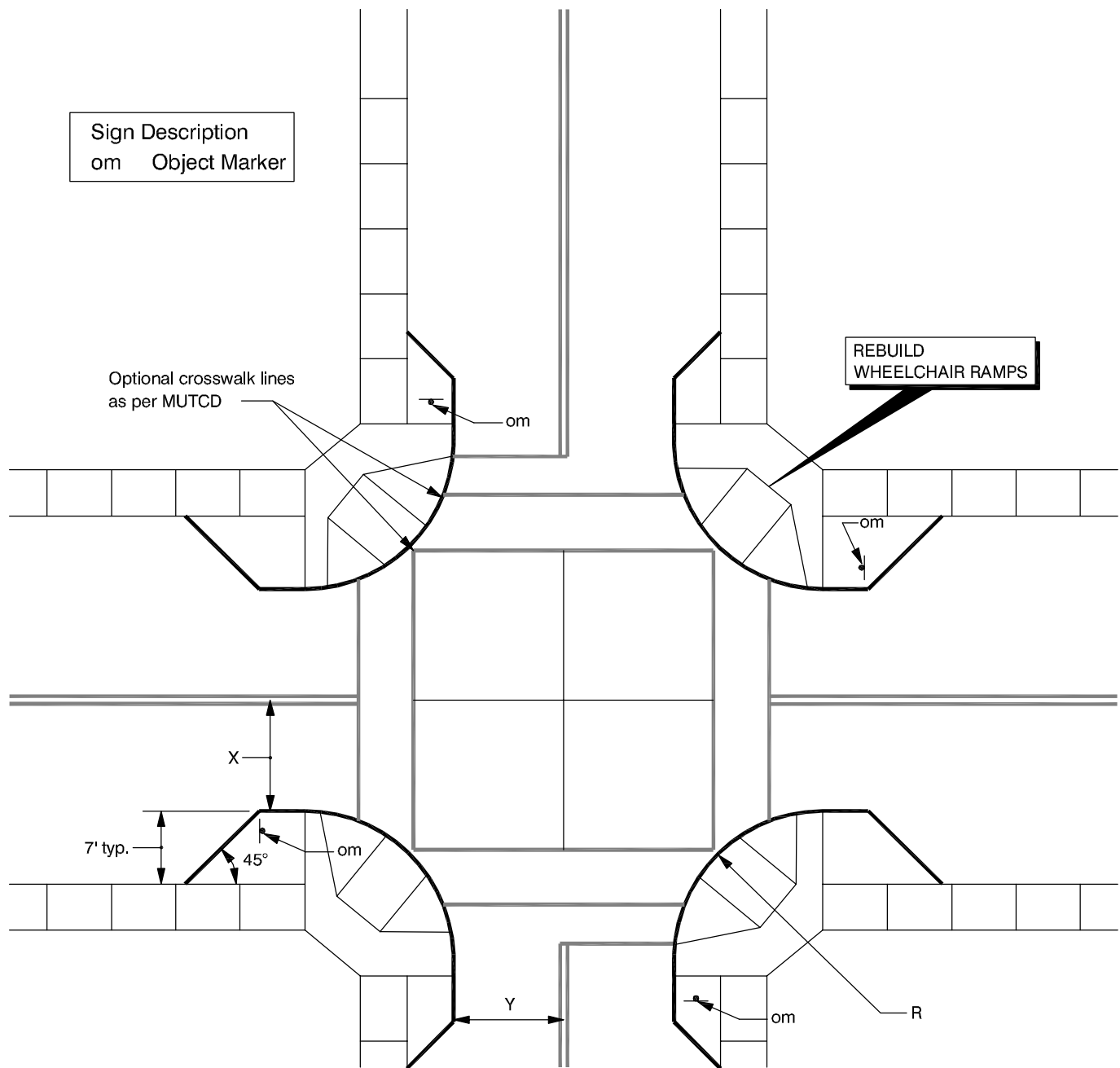


Source: MUTCD, 2000

Sign Description  
om Object Marker

Optional crosswalk lines  
as per MUTCD

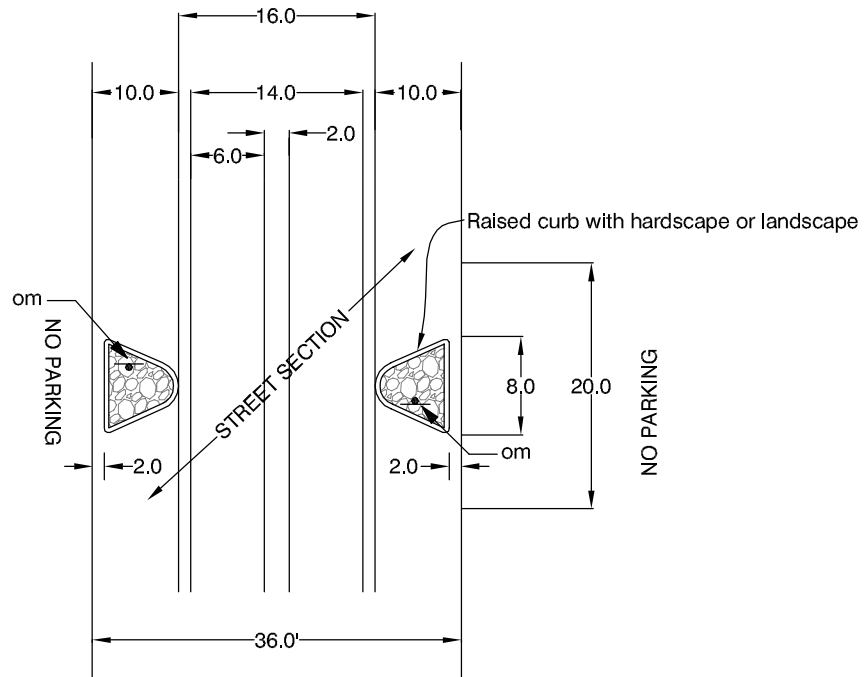
REBUILD  
WHEELCHAIR RAMPS



For The Street Widths:		Use This Curb Radius:
X	Y	R
12'	12'	40'
12'	14'	32'
12'	16'	26'
14'	12'	37'
14'	14'	35'
14'	16'	24'

NOTES: 1. Distance X is referenced from the center of the roadway to the lip of gutter.

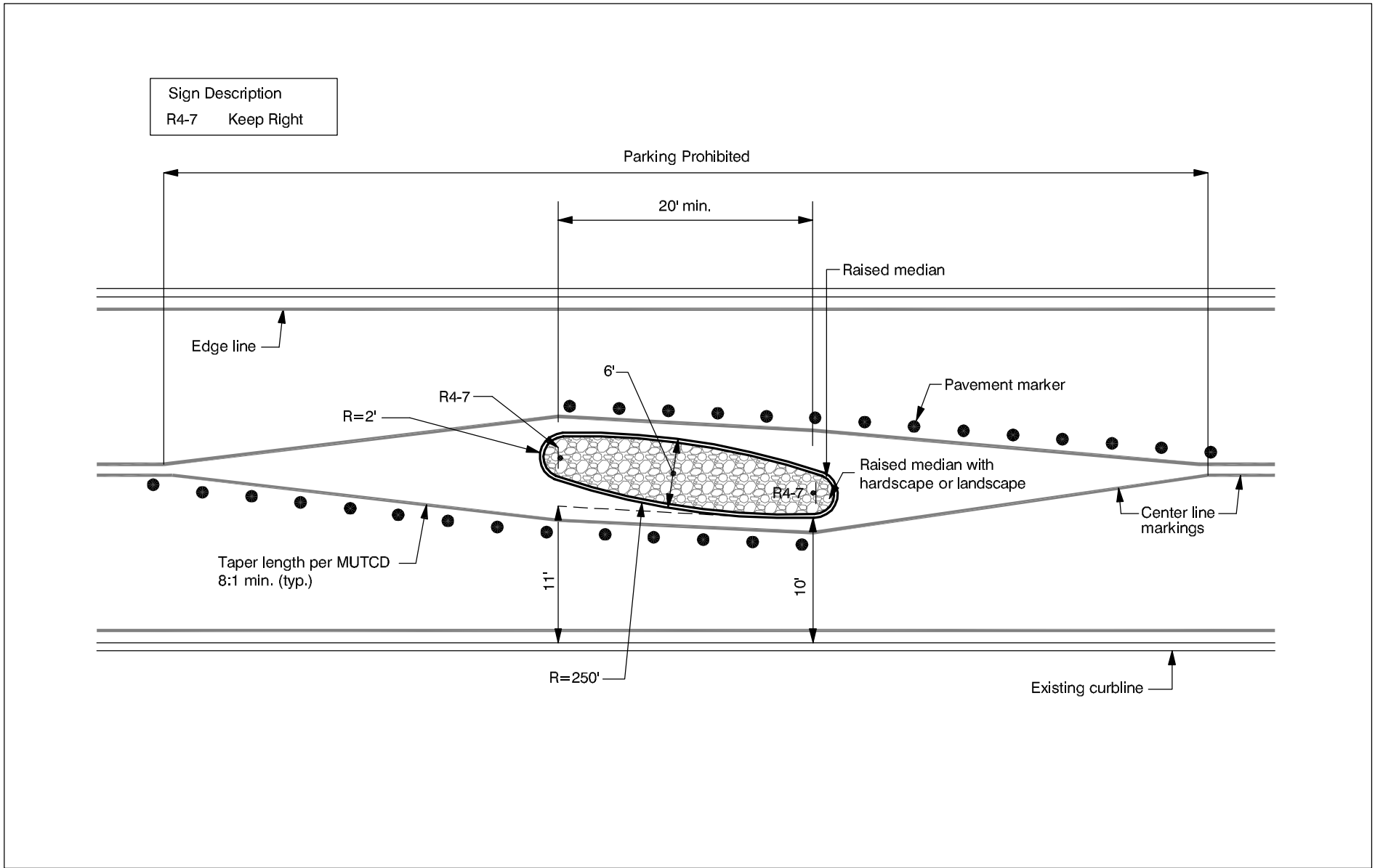
Sign Description
om Object Marker

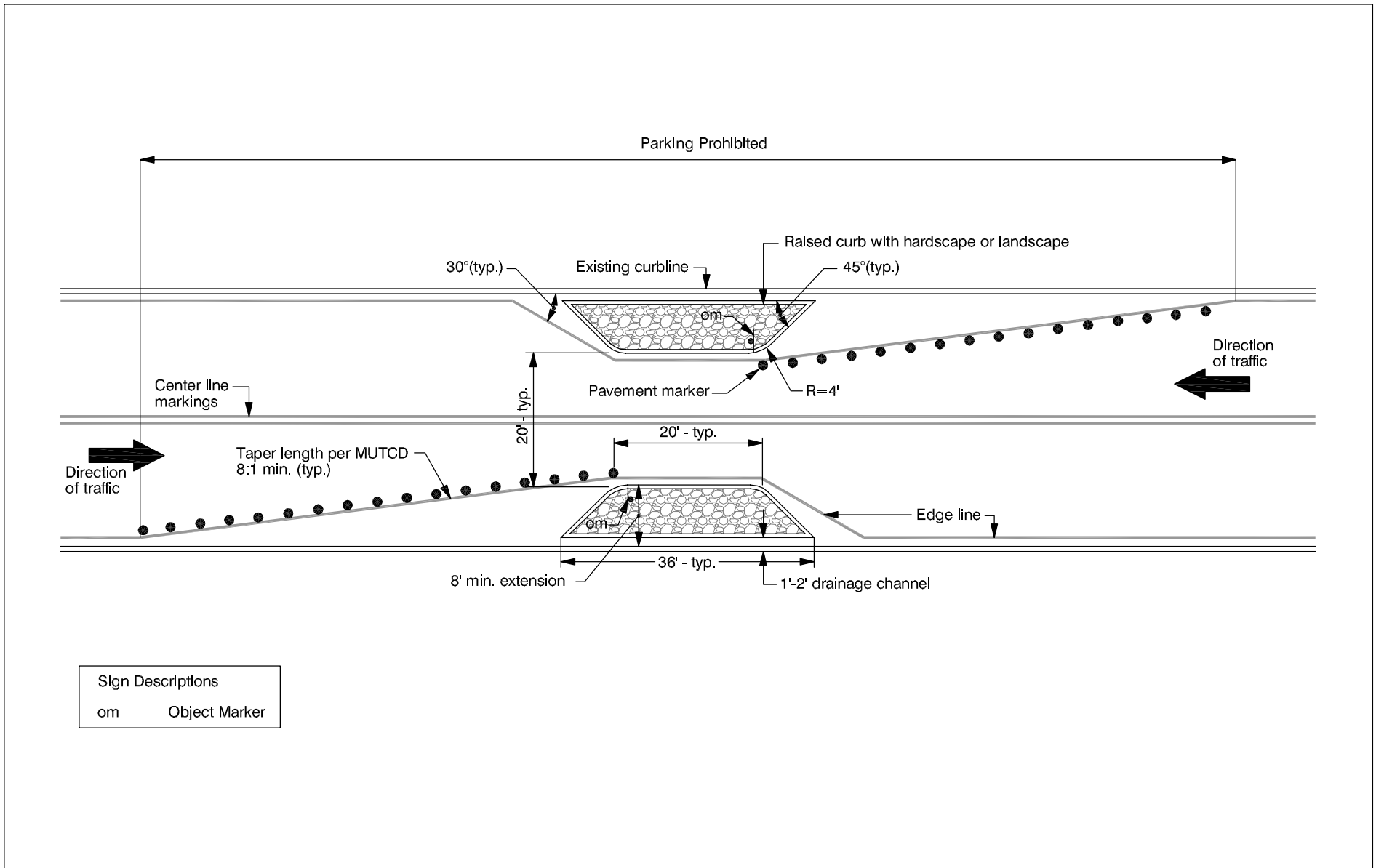


MIN. 36.0' WIDE STREET  
FOR WIDER STREETS  
MAKE BULB DEEPER

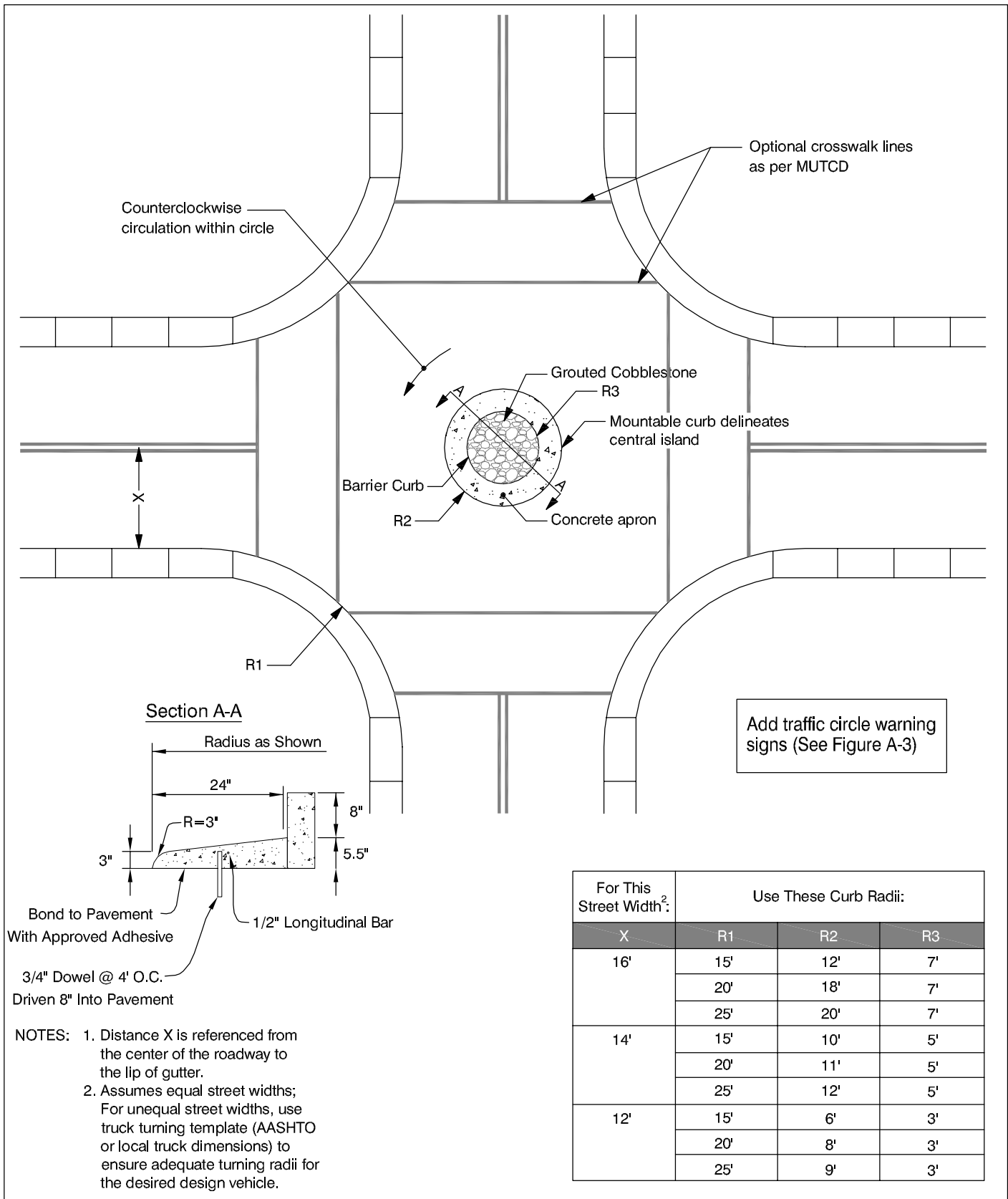
THE BULB-OUT DRAWING SHOWN IS FOR A 36 FOOT WIDE STREET. IF A STREET IS WIDER, THE BULB WOULD BE DEEPER; EACH BULB SHOWN IS EIGHT FEET DEEP SET TWO FEET OFF OF CURB. THE WIDTH BETWEEN BULBS SHOULD BE 16 FEET, WHICH ALLOWS FOR ONE FOOT BETWEEN BULB AND CAR, SIX FEET PER CAR AND TWO FEET BETWEEN CARS. THIS WOULD REQUIRE CARS TO SLOW DOWN SUBSTANTIALLY IN ORDER TO PASS. THE BULB WOULD RESTRICT PARKING FOR APPROXIMATELY 20 FEET (ONE CAR LENGTH FOR PARKING PURPOSES) IN ORDER FOR THE BULB TO BE VISIBLE, ALLOW WIDER VEHICLES TO PULL TO THE RIGHT AND ALLOW AN OPPOSING VEHICLE TO PASS.

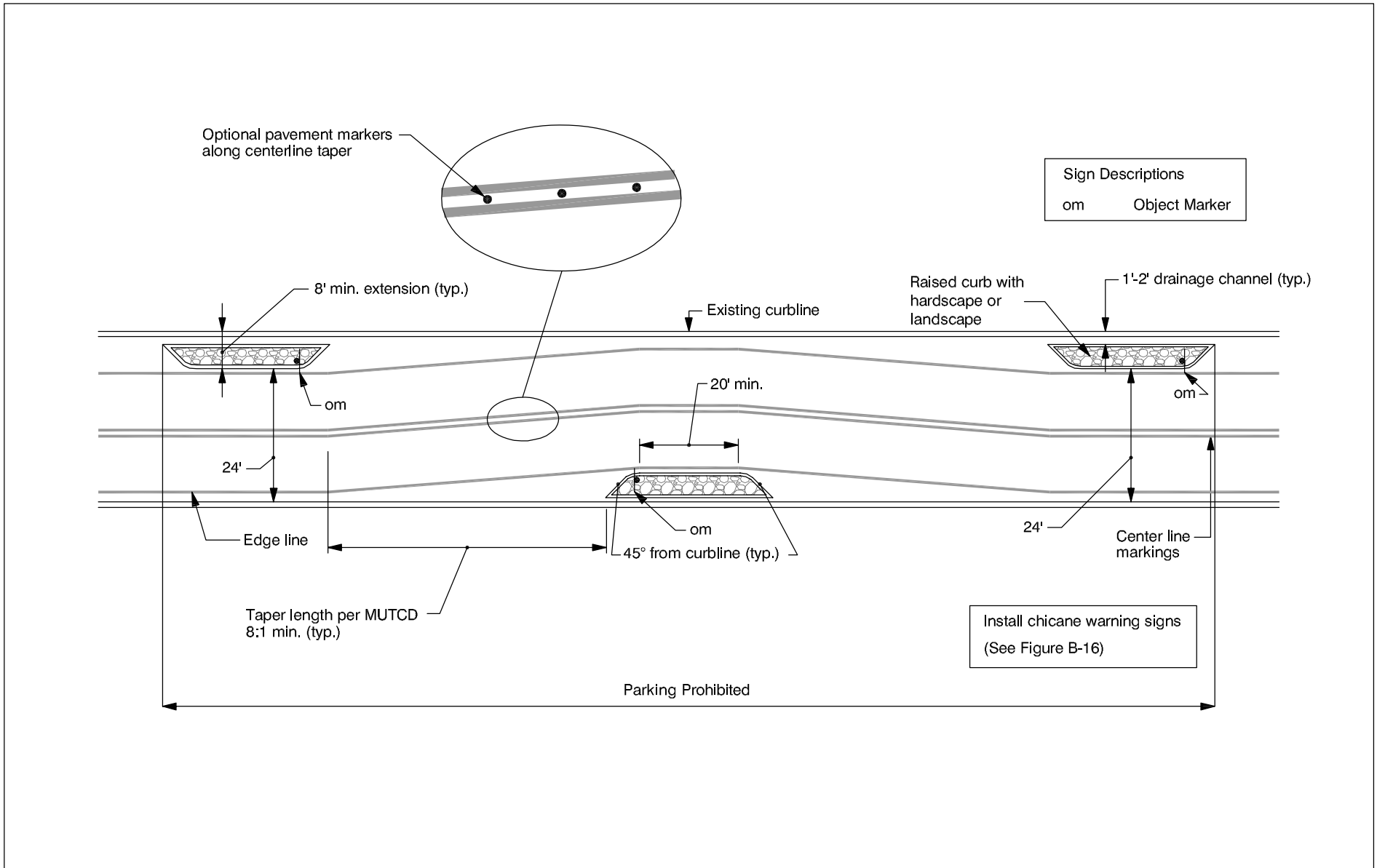
NOTE: ON STREETS WITH EDGELINE STRIPING, TAPER EDGELINE PER MUTCD (8:1 MIN TYP.)





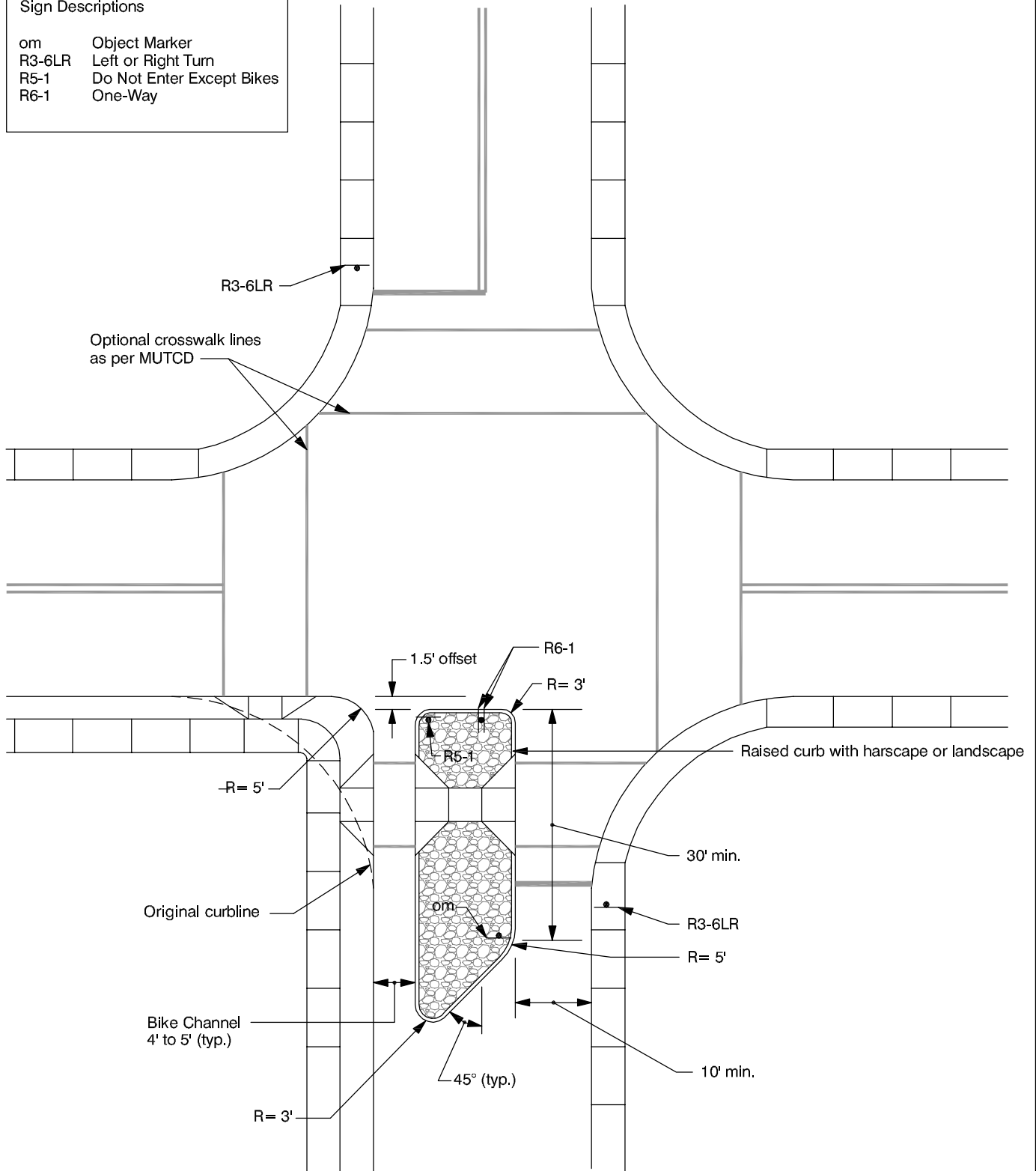






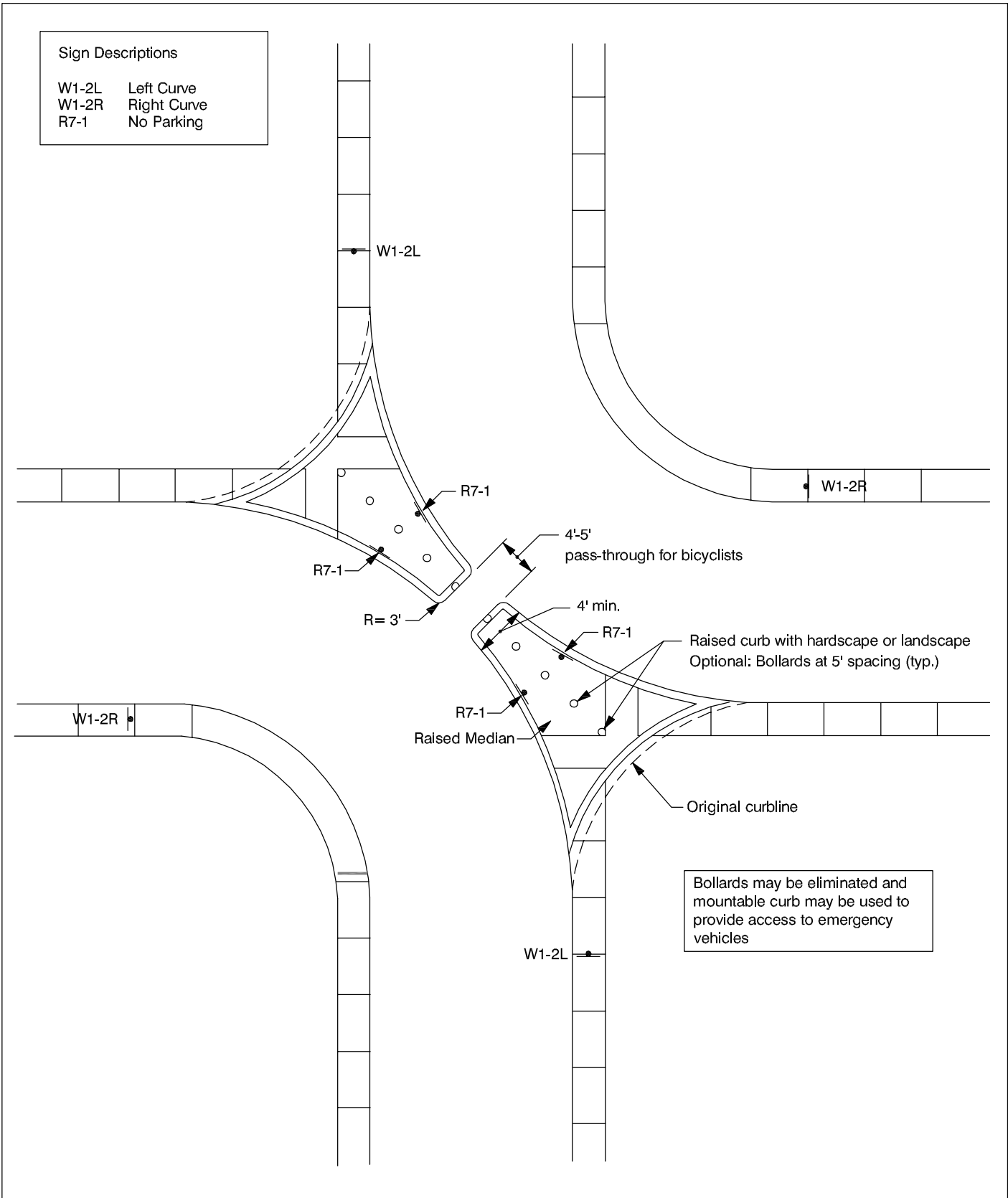
Sign Descriptions

- om Object Marker
- R3-6LR Left or Right Turn
- R5-1 Do Not Enter Except Bikes
- R6-1 One-Way

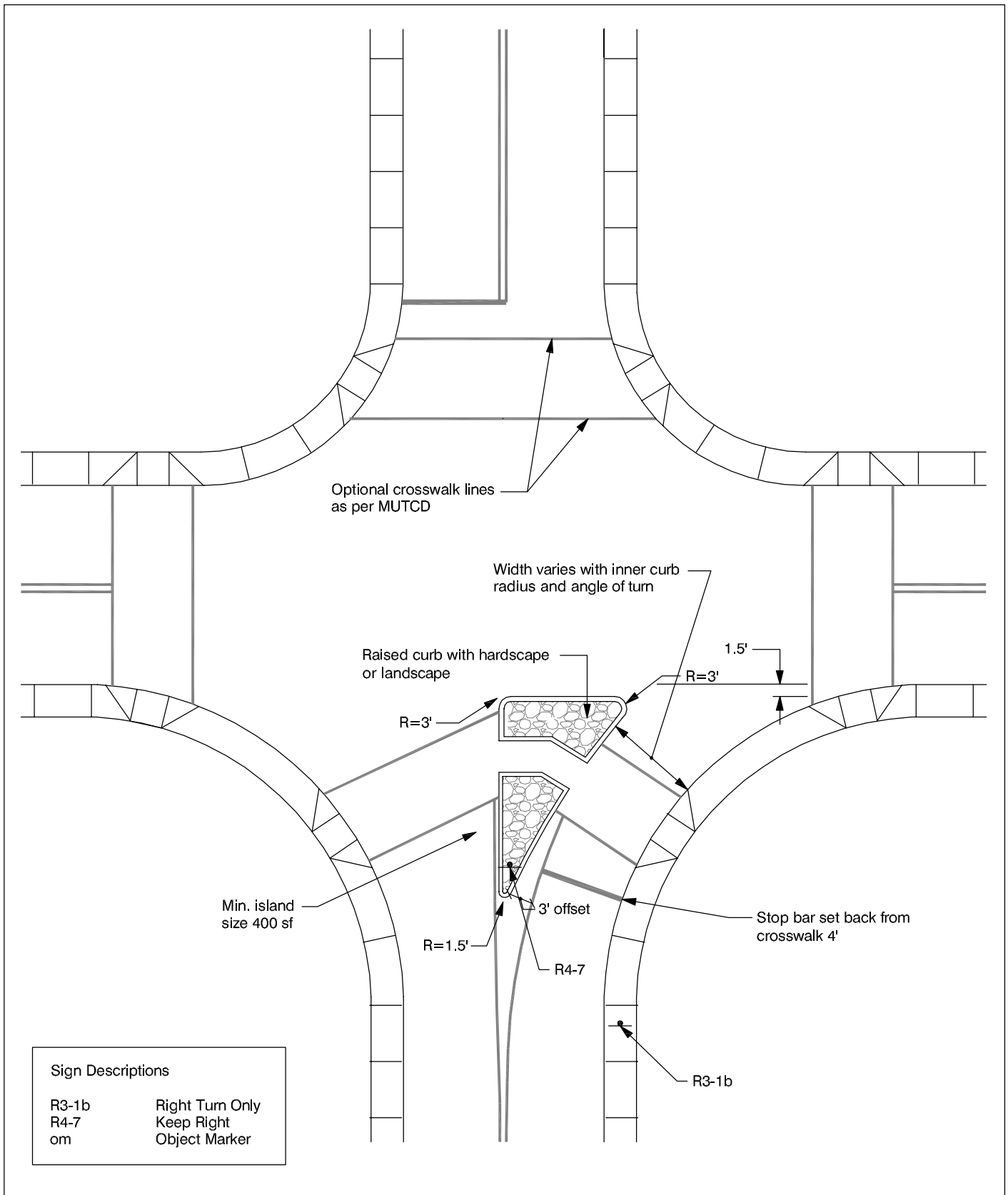


Sign Descriptions

- W1-2L Left Curve
- W1-2R Right Curve
- R7-1 No Parking

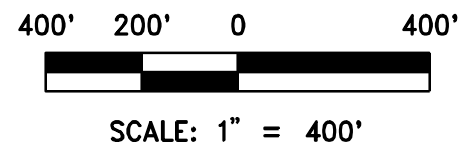








# RUTHERFORD CANYON ROAD SPEED LUMP LOCATIONS

TOWN OF LOOMIS CALIFORNIA  
FEBRUARY 2024



- LEGEND**
-  SPEED LUMP
  -  W17-1 "SPEED LUMP", WITH W13-1P "25 MPH" ADVISORY SPEED PLAQUE



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