Traffic Calming Measures and Devices

There are many types of traffic calming measures and devices that can be implemented through the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program. Each measure and device has advantages and disadvantages and may vary in effectiveness depending on the characteristics of your street.

- Speed Humps
- Traffic Circles
- Raised Crosswalks
- Roundabouts
- Speed Monitoring Devices
- Traffic Diverters
- Medians or Traffic Islands

The Department of Traffic and Transportation determines the best traffic calming solution after careful review of street conditions and taking into account safety factors.

For more information on

Traffic Calming

or to request a

Traffic Calming Study

mail a written request to:

CITY OF CHARLESTON

Department of Traffic and Transportation
Attn: Traffic Calming Program
180 Lockwood Drive

Or fax your request to:

(843) 722-5956

CITY OF CHARLESTON

Traffic Calming Program

Department of Traffic and Transportation

Charleston, South Carolina

Traffic Calming

Residents and local governments often face the difficult task of dealing with concerns involving traffic speed, pedestrian safety, and cut-through traffic in residential neighborhoods. These concerns are often dealt with through procedures known as traffic calming.

What is traffic calming and its purpose?

Roundabout

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.

-Institute of Transportation Engineers

The purpose of traffic calming is to slow speeding traffic on residential streets without restricting access.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program

In 1999, the City of Charleston's Department of Traffic and Transportation developed the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program.

Speed Reader and Speed Hump sign

Program Objectives:

- Improve neighborhood livability by reducing the negative impact of vehicular traffic on residential streets.
- Promote safe and pleasant conditions for non-motorized street users (i.e., pedestrians, children, bicyclists) while maintaining the safe movement of local residential vehicular traffic.
- Encourage citizen involvement in all phases of neighborhood traffic management activities.
- Prioritize traffic calming projects through efficient use of City resources.

The Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program assists the City and its neighborhoods by improving the overall safety and quality of life for residents and in some cases restoring the residential character of neighborhoods.

To qualify for traffic calming your street must meet the following requirements:

- **Be a local, residential street**
- **Have a speed limit of 30 MPH or less**
- **Be entirely within the City Limits of Charleston**
- **Have speeds higher than posted limits**
- **Have a minimum Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 350 vehicles.**

If you believe your street meets the minimum requirements and should be considered for traffic calming, you may mail or fax a written request for consideration to the City of Charleston's Department of Traffic and Transportation.

Advanced Speed Hump and Speed Limit Signs

You will be contacted upon the receipt of your written or faxed request.