

# GREEN TOWNSHIP TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ON RESIDENTIAL TOWNSHIP STREETS

## INTRODUCTION

The Green Township Trustees are committed to the effective use of traffic monitoring, police enforcement, and/or speed humps to provide a safe and effective solution to documented problems or deficiencies on Township streets, without creating an adverse impact on the surrounding areas. This Speed Humps Policy is adopted effective October 22, 2012 for a period of 24 months, and will be reexamined at that time.

## A. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

1. **Speed Enforcement:** The Green Township Police Department, with the assistance of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, is responsible for the enforcement of the 25 mph speed limit on residential streets. When a citizen is concerned with excessive speed on residential Green Township streets, the Police Department will review the situation and take corrective action where and when appropriate. Information collected by the Police Department and historical police records will provide the basis for targeted intensive police enforcement. Although it is impractical to provide round-the-clock enforcement, the Township will attempt to intensify enforcement where correctable speeding problems occur and there is sufficient manpower to address the situation. When enforcement efforts are not deemed effective, speed humps will be considered.
2. **Speed Humps:** Many communities have found that speed humps have produced positive effects in reducing the average speed along some residential streets. Speed humps are not the only solution to excessive speed in residential neighborhoods but may be a partial solution on selected streets. Speed humps are gradual changes in the roadway surface, usually 22 ft. long and 3 – 4 inches high. The humps differ dramatically from speed bumps that are traditionally installed on private property. Speed bumps tend to jolt a vehicle and can cause damage if taken at excessive speeds. Speed humps have less effect on a vehicle driving the speed limit, but produce discomfort when the speed limit is exceeded. Speed humps are generally placed approximately 300 ft. apart and require signage in each direction that warns the oncoming driver of their presence.

## B. PUBLIC PROCESS TO REQUEST SPEED HUMPS ON RESIDENTIAL TOWNSHIP STREETS

1. A citizen's group or several individual residents must submit a written request to seek a traffic study for their residential street. Township staff will then conduct

a study to determine if the average speed on the street is 29 mph or greater in order to qualify the street for further consideration as a possible location for speed humps. If the average speed is less than 29 mph, no further action will be taken to install speed humps.

2. Green Township staff will give the residents a copy of this policy and request a petition from the residents on streets requesting speed humps. The petition needs to have signatures from at least 50% of the residents on the street in order to move to the next step (only one signature per household is necessary). The citizens need to gather signatures for this petition within 60 days and return the petition to Green Township.
3. Green Township personnel will verify the petition signatures and coordinate a traffic study which includes data on average speed, accidents, and volume of traffic. Green Township personnel in the Police Department and in the Public Services Department will analyze the data and prioritize which streets will be considered for speed humps.
4. Green Township personnel will send a post card survey directly to the affected residents on the predetermined streets. This survey may include adjoining streets at an intersection, if considered appropriate. Green Township personnel will review the returned surveys from residents and verify that at least 60% of the households on the affected street are in favor of speed humps. Township personnel will notify residents through written correspondence of the survey results.
5. Township personnel will review all appropriate data and submit a written recommendation to the Green Township Trustees by May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. If approved by the Green Township Board of Trustees, Green Township staff will implement the construction of speed humps on selected residential streets. The order of priority may change from year to year.

**C. REVIEW PROCESS FOR CONSIDERING SPEED HUMPS ON GREEN TOWNSHIP RESIDENTIAL STREETS**

1. Township residents must gather signatures from a majority of the affected street residents and submit that petition to the Township within 60 days.
2. At least 60% of the households on the street must respond in favor of speed humps.
3. The average speed on a street needs to be greater than 29 mph. The Green Township Police Department and the Department of Public Services will conduct

a speed study of the selected street to determine the actual average speed on that street.

4. The frequency and severity of accidents on the street will be examined. The volume of cars on the street needs to be in excess of the normal ODOT parameters in order to merit further consideration.
5. Subject to budget constraints, the maximum amount of funds dedicated to the construction of speed humps on residential streets will be \$15,000 to \$20,000 per year. Budget constraints and the availability of contractors to install these speed humps is an important aspect of implementation.
6. The Board of Trustees is very cognizant of liability issues on Township streets. All legal considerations will be reviewed by the Township Attorney before approval of speed humps.
7. Community development issues such as the adjacent land use, the presence of elementary/high schools, bicycle routes, number of residences on street, road grades, site considerations, and pedestrian concerns will also affect the decision concerning implementation of speed humps on residential Township streets.

## **CONCLUSION**

During the 24 month trial period, speed humps may be constructed on Township roads in select areas for specific reasons to help maintain a healthy neighborhood environment. The safety and security of all citizens is paramount to the Green Township Board of Trustees. After extensive evaluation, speed humps may also be altered or removed at any time in the future. Other factors affecting safety and/or quality of life issues will be continually evaluated and may alter decisions.

All questions concerning speed humps may be directed to the Green Township Police Chief or the Green Township Administrator. Please feel free to call the Green Township Administrator for more information at #(513) 574-4848.