

Traffic Calming Devices Application

Policy & Procedures

PURPOSE:

These policies and procedures are intended to regulate the uniform application of traffic calming measures in Osceola County. Traffic calming devices are considered to be safety measures designed to counter the adverse impact of speeding and non-resident cut-through traffic on residential streets. There is an array of effective devices that may be used ranging from non-restrictive to restrictive, including but not limited to the following:

Non-Restrictive

Neighborhood Education
Selective Enforcement
Regular Signing
Temporary Radar Signs
Permanent Radar Signs
Landscaping

Restrictive

Median Chokers
Speed Tables
Speed Humps
Traffic Circles
Turn Prohibition

There may be other types of traffic calming measures not listed above with varying degree of success and cost-effectiveness. Consideration should only be given to those measures that have proven to be effective in practice.

POLICY:

To be effective, traffic calming devices must be carefully considered and applied on local streets where speeding and non-resident cut-through traffic may adversely impact the safety and quality of life in the community. The following general policies shall apply:

- Less restrictive and the least costly methods should be attempted prior to the application of more restrictive traffic calming such as speed tables or humps, street closures, etc.
- Restrictive traffic calming devices should not be applied on classified roadways (collectors and arterials).
- Installation of restrictive devices on horizontal curvatures, near intersection, or in combination with other safety or regulatory measures is not recommended.
- Unwarranted “STOP” signs shall not be used as traffic calming devices.
- Traffic calming on un-improved (dirt) roads is not recommended.

WARRANTS:

In order for a candidate location to be considered for restrictive traffic calming, Osceola County’s Traffic Engineer must determine that the installation of such devices are justified based on a traffic study. A candidate location may be considered for traffic calming if all of the criteria are satisfied:

- 1) The candidate roadway is a local street or qualifying collector, and
- 2) The average daily traffic (ADT) is less than 2000 vehicle per day (VPD); and
- 3) The candidate roadway length is greater than 1500 feet.
- 4) The official posted speed is 35 mph or less, and
- 5) The median speed is at least 25% over the posted speed.

Collector roads with an ADT of less than 2000 VPD may be considered for restrictive traffic calming on a case-by-case basis if in the County Traffic Engineer's opinion further increases in traffic volumes or congestion level are not anticipated.

Nothing here shall limit Traffic Engineer's ability to install any devices upon County roadway system that in Traffic Engineer's sole opinion is justified for the maximum safety of the motorists or the residents.

PROCEDURES:

In order to apply the policies in a uniform manner, the following procedures are established:

1. Applicant files an application with the County's Traffic Engineer. A standard application is attached on page 3.
2. If resident is a renter, the application must be filled out by the actual homeowner. **Applications filled out by renters will not be processed.**
3. The County's Traffic Engineer conducts a traffic study within 45 days of receipt of the application to determine if the candidate location meets the minimum criteria for traffic calming; and if the minimum criteria are satisfied, what type of device are recommended.
4. If the location is determined to be a good candidate for traffic calming, it will be placed on the eligible list for funding.
5. If the applicant is an individual homeowner and no Homeowners Association (HOA) exists; upon written notification by the County's Traffic Engineer, the applicant must conduct and return a petition drive in the format requested within 30 days. If there is a HOA, the applicant must first receive written approval from the HOA prior to submission to the County. An HOA resolution approving the application and the petition must be included with the petition documents.
6. If the applicant is a HOA, they shall be subject to the same petition process described in number 5 and 7.
7. The petition shall be in County's approved format and is subject to the following criteria:
 - a) **Sixty (60) percent** of the homeowners of record (not renters) residing in the affected area **shall agree** to the installation of the traffic calming devices.
 - b) The affected area shall be determined by the County's Traffic Engineer.
8. Projects shall be prioritized based on the anticipated reductions in **preventable** crashes and **reduction in speeds** and **volumes** as determined by the County's Traffic Engineer.
9. If public funding is not available, the candidate location will remain on the eligible list for three (3) years pending programming of funds. HOA will have the option of funding projects that have been declared eligible by the County's Traffic Engineer.

Application for Traffic Calming

Part 1 - Applicant Information

Applicant's Name: _____ Date of Application: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

Applicant's Day Time Phone #: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Is Applicant a Homeowners Association? _____ If yes, HOA's Name: _____
(If you live in a community with an active HOA, please contact your HOA to address the concerns. Your HOA may initiate an inquiry by submitting an application for traffic calming.)

Name of Community or Sub-Division (if applicable): _____

Part 2 – Problem Identification

Identify street or streets with traffic concerns: _____

Briefly describe traffic concerns: _____

Is the street subject to non-resident cut-through? _____ If yes, identify the origin and the destination: _____

What is the posted speed? _____ Is street in question more than 1500 feet long? _____

Provide other information: _____

Please return this application to:

Osceola County Transportation & Transit -Traffic Engineering
1 Courthouse Square, Suite 3100
Kissimmee, FL 34742
P: (407) 742-0552, F: (407) 742-0560
traffic@osceola.org