

SPEED HUMPS / CUSHIONS



ROADS & TRANSPORTATION

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<https://publicworks.venturacounty.gov>

In July 2013, the Board of Supervisors approved a Speed Hump/Cushion Policy. The policy allows residents to install speed humps/cushions on some residential streets to address speeding and cut-through traffic concerns.

Speed humps/cushions often generate significant opposition. Therefore, speed-limit enforcement or monitoring by a radar trailer should be considered as a first option.

The County's Speed Hump/Cushion policy also stipulates the following:

- Speed humps/cushions are located in the travel way. Therefore, additions, alterations, or removals of any or all speed humps/cushions may occur at any time.
- Prior to the approval of new speed humps/cushions on any street, the Ventura County Public Works Agency – Roads & Transportation (VCPWA-RT) Traffic Engineer must request concurrence from the Ventura County Fire Protection District, the Sheriff's Department, and the California Highway Patrol within 20 calendar days.
- Speed hump/cushion construction costs must be paid by the property owners who sign the required petition.

WHERE CAN SPEED HUMPS/CUSHIONS BE INSTALLED?

Speed humps/cushions may be installed under the following conditions:

- If the location meets the warrants established by the Board of Supervisors;
- Upon receipt of the required petition or when the Road Commissioner (or an appointed designee) initiates the proposal; and
- The Board of Supervisors or the Road Commissioner (or an appointed designee) approves the request; and
- The speed humps/cushions are in conformance with the standard design in effect at the time of installation.

WHAT QUALIFYING CRITERIA DOES A COUNTY ROAD HAVE TO MEET TO BE COVERED BY THE COUNTY'S POLICY?

Requests for speed humps/cushions will be approved if all of the following criteria are met:

- The proposed location meets the requirements of a residential road or residence district as defined in Section 515 of the California Vehicle Code as follows: that portion of a highway and the property contiguous thereto, other than a business district, (a) upon one side of which highway, within a distance of a quarter of a mile, the contiguous property fronting thereon is occupied by 13 or more separate dwelling houses or business structures, or (b) upon both sides of which highway, collectively, within a distance of a quarter of a mile, the contiguous property fronting thereon is occupied by 16 or more separate dwelling houses or business structures.

A residence district may be longer than one-quarter of a mile if the above ratio of separate dwelling houses or business structures to the length of the highway exists. The "residence district" determination shall be consistent with California Vehicle Code Section 240.

A local road is defined for the purpose of this guideline as a road intended primarily to provide direct access to abutting residential buildings;

- The speed limit is 25 miles per hour or less;
- A speed survey shows that 67 percent of the motorists exceed the 25-mph speed limit;
- The road paved width is 40 feet or less and has no more than two traffic lanes;
- The average traffic volume is greater than 1,000 vehicles in a 24-hour period;

Speed humps/cushions cannot be installed on streets where the Road Commissioner has determined that they cannot be safely installed due to severe horizontal or vertical curves, inadequate sight distance to enable drivers to see the humps/cushions, or excessive street downgrades.

Speed humps/cushions will not be permitted on streets where the Road Commissioner determines that they will create equal or greater traffic problems by diverting traffic to nearby residential roads.

WHERE CAN I OBTAIN A COPY OF THE SPEED HUMP/CUSHION POLICY?

If you have questions, requests or suggestions concerning traffic please call VCPWA-RT at: **(805) 654-2049** or by an email through the "Report a Concern" link at:

[VCPWA Connect \(https://publicworks.venturacounty.gov/report-a-concern/\)](https://publicworks.venturacounty.gov/report-a-concern/)