

DDOT Traffic Calming Fact Sheet

Q. What is Traffic Calming

A. Excessive speeding, cut-through traffic, and pedestrian safety are main concerns in residential neighborhoods. In order to maintain a pleasant living environment and ensure the safety of children and residents, physical measures are taken to make speeding more difficult and cutting-through less attractive. The implementation of such measures is known as Traffic Calming.

- Roundabout



Q. How does my neighborhood get started?

A. Citizens submit the Traffic Calming Assessment petition either online or through the mail

- Detailed description of the citizen's concerns.
- Petition must have signatures from the residents in the affected area.
- Contact information of the Petitioner and the local ANC official.
- Petition must have signatures from at least 75% of the households on the streets proposed for assessment.

Q. Who decides on the traffic calming plan?

A. DDOT staff will determine the best traffic calming solution after careful review of several factors such as:

- Description of the affected study area in the petition.
- Traffic counts, speed study and accident data.
- Field observations from the site visit.
- Location of schools and recreational centers near the assessment area.

Types of Traffic Calming Measures

Traffic calming measures include design strategies to achieve vehicle speed control and traffic volume control. Speed control measures reduce speeding of the motorists while volume control measures discourage the cut-through traffic in residential neighborhoods. Typical traffic calming measures used in the District of Columbia are:

- Speed Humps
- Raised Crosswalks
- Mini-Roundabouts/Traffic Circles
- Speed Monitoring Devices
- Traffic Diverters
- Signs and Markings
- Pedestrian refuge areas
- Rumble strips
- Speed management zones
- Electronic Speed Cameras



- Medians or Traffic Islands

Q. What are the criteria for traffic calming?

A.

- Be a local, residential street.
- Have speed limit of 30 mph or less.
- Be inside the limits of the District of Columbia.
- Have speeds higher than the posted speed 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, please submit a Traffic Calming Assessment Petition to:

District Department of Transportation
Customer Service Clearing House
55 M Street SE, Washington D.C, 20003

DDOT staff will promptly contact you upon the receipt of your Traffic Calming Assessment Petition.

