

criteria. Road humps are placed only on residential streets with not more than two lanes and with a speed limit of 30 mph. For safety reasons, road humps are not installed within sections which are curved or where the street slopes uphill/downhill. Road humps are also not installed on streets that are bus routes or principal response routes for emergency services. There are other roadway, traffic operational, and drainage requirements that must be met.

**Who pays for the road humps and how much do they cost?**

Those requesting road humps are responsible for the cost of installation and for the cost of notification. The minimum road hump cost is \$1,500 per hump.

**How can I get road humps on my street?**

The initial request for road humps must be made by residents on the street. The request must be in writing and signed by at least five residents (one per residence). A determination of eligibility will be made by City staff.

If a street is eligible, then the applicant must submit a petition from a minimum of 70% of the residential dwellings along the street approving of the road humps and a minimum of 50% agreeing to a road hump in front of or adjacent to their property.

After the petition of support is verified, the City will determine the road hump locations and the area that has the greatest likelihood of being impacted by the road humps. The City will notify property owners in the impact area and request their opinion. If less than 20% oppose the road humps, then the street will be eligible for installation of road humps. Once the City receives the required funds from the applicant, the humps will be scheduled for installation.

For more information contact:

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# ROAD HUMP PROGRAM



## **ROAD HUMPS**

Speeding on residential streets is a common complaint reported by concerned citizens. Although enforcement of speed limits by police departments is an effective means of reducing speeds, limited resources do not allow such enforcement on a regular and permanent basis. Road humps, sometimes referred to as speed humps or speed control humps, are one of a variety of traffic calming techniques being utilized by local governments to address traffic issues on local streets. Research has shown that road humps are an effective solution to speeding on residential streets.

### **What is a road hump and how is it different from a speed bump?**

A road hump is a gradual rise and fall of the pavement surface along the roadway extending across the pavement width. Generally, road humps are 12 or 22 feet in travel length with a maximum height of 3 to 4 inches. Road humps are different from speed bumps which are seen in many private parking lots. A speed bump is abrupt, having a height of 3 to 6 inches over a length of 1 to 3 feet. Speed bumps cause most

vehicles to slow down to almost a stop to go over it and can be a hazard for bicycles and motorcycles. Road humps are designed to achieve a specific result on vehicle operations without imposing an unreasonable or unacceptable safety risk.

### **How are road humps effective in controlling speeds?**

Road humps create a vehicle rocking motion that causes driver discomfort and thus results in most vehicles slowing down to about 20 mph at the hump. Speeds often increase downstream of a hump as motorists attempt to make up for lost time. Therefore, road humps are most effective when installed in a series. Depending upon street geometry, road humps are placed every 200 to 600 feet. The presence of road humps causes drivers to slow down at the humps and in between properly spaced successive humps.

### **What will happen if I go over road humps at high speeds?**

At high speeds, a road hump can cause significant driver discomfort. At such speeds it can act as a bump

and jolt the vehicle and its occupants or cargo.

### **Do road humps reduce cut-through traffic?**

The primary purpose of road humps is to reduce the speeds of vehicles traveling along a roadway. Traffic diversion due to road humps is a side effect which may or may not result. A possible disadvantage of road humps is that motorists may use other nearby streets in the area to avoid the road humps.

### **How is a driver warned of the presence of road humps?**

On any street with road humps, warning signs such as "Road Humps Ahead" are placed before the beginning of each series of humps. Also a "Road Hump" warning sign is placed at or immediately before each road hump. These signs may also indicate the speed at which drivers are advised to travel over the hump. Each road hump is also marked with white stripes.

### **Can road humps be placed on any street?**

To be considered for road humps, a street has to satisfy certain eligibility