

TRAFFIC CALMING

TYPICAL USES AND EXAMPLES

WHAT IS TRAFFIC CALMING?

Traffic calming is the combination of signage, road markings, devices, and physical, built features seen in or along streets that reduces the negative impacts of motor vehicles (e.g. cut through traffic), improves driver behavior (e.g. reduces speeding), and enhances safety for vulnerable street users like pedestrians, bicyclists, children, and people with disabilities. Traffic calming also benefits drivers by reducing the occurrence and severity of collisions.

SPEED HUMPS



Photo: NACTO.org

Speed humps are raised areas of pavement designed to slow traffic. Varieties include rounded and flat topped humps.

RAISED CROSSWALKS



Photo: NACTO.org

Raised crosswalks are pedestrian crossings at an intersection or midblock that are raised above the street grade to improve safety and accessibility.

MINI-ROUNDBABOUTS / TRAFFIC CIRCLES



Photo: safety.fhwa.gov

Mini-roundabouts or traffic circles are constructed islands or medians at an intersection that improve safety by requiring drivers to reduce their speed in order to comfortably maneuver around them.

SPEED MONITORING DEVICES



Photo: Philly.com

Speed monitoring devices alert drivers to their speed and encourage compliance with speed limits.



TRAFFIC DIVERTERS



Photo: Portland DOT

Traffic diverters redirect traffic away from low-volume, low-speed streets and prevent cut-through traffic.

SIGNS AND MARKINGS



Photo: hawaiicounty.gov

Signs and markings help notify street users of changing traffic conditions or to make drivers aware of potential conflicts.

PEDESTRIAN REFUGE AREAS



Photo: safety.fhwa.gov

Pedestrian refuge areas reduce the time pedestrians are exposed to turning or through vehicle traffic.

RUMBLE STRIPS



Photo: sanantonio.gov

Rumble strips are small, physical bumps in the street that make drivers aware of changing traffic conditions such as reduced speed limits or potential conflicts.

SLOW ZONES



Photo: streetsblog.org

Slow zones are areas in which speeds are reduced through a variety of traffic calming techniques.

ELECTRONIC SPEED CAMERAS



Photo: popville.com

Electronic speed cameras allow for speed limit enforcement.

