



## Public Works

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**Date:** January 2024

**To:** Neighbor

**From:** Steve Leniszewski, PE, Public Works Director

**Re:** Speed bumps

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Thank you for your inquiry. The City Public Works Department routinely receives requests that speed bumps be added to roadways. We do not believe the installation of speed bumps are beneficial for controlling speed on public roadways and are a liability. While speed bumps sound like a good solution, it is our experience that speedbump / hump installation leads to negative outcomes including the following:

Reasons Speed bumps are not considered effective:

1. Speed bumps do not reduce the speed of those who do not obey posted speed limits, and often result in speeding between the bumps with rapid acceleration, resulting in increased vehicle noise and unsafe driving conditions.
2. Speed bumps reduce Fire and Police response time as the first responder's vehicles must slow down to clear the bumps.
3. Speed bumps cause drivers to try to avoid the bumps by travelling in the center of the road, or all the way off the edge of the road, bringing vehicles closer to other vehicles, sidewalks, private yards, and pedestrians.
4. Speed bumps limit surface water drainage and can create standing water issues. Standing water impacts the road and drivers. Standing water on asphalt can damage asphalt over time and in colder seasons turns to ice making travel more dangerous.
5. Speed bumps interfere with snowplow activities causing additional issues in colder seasons.

6. Travelling over and between speed bumps results in increased noise along with wear and impact to vehicles.

We understand that this may not be the response you were hoping for, but we can assist by requesting additional police enforcement to train drivers to obey the speed limit. If you let us know what time of day this issue is most severe we will contact the police department and ask that they complete additional speed patrols at that time.

Lastly, we can see if additional signage or other treatments might be warranted to help deter through-traffic or point out that it is a neighborhood and drivers need to travel at speeds appropriate for the safety/conditions/setting. Please feel free to call or email with any questions or additional thoughts.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a 'U' and a period.

Public Works Department