



COUNTY OF BEXAR

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

233 N. Pecos La Trinidad, Suite 420
San Antonio, Texas 78207-3188
Main 210-335-6700 Fax 210-335-6713

BEXAR COUNTY SPEED HUMP PROCEDURE

A speed hump is a gentle rise and fall of pavement surface placed in the roadway to reduce the speed of vehicles on residential streets. This document provides the procedure established by Bexar County Public Works for the evaluation and installation of speed humps on Bexar County roadways. The homeowners' association (HOA) or property owners along a public street requesting speed humps are responsible for all costs associated with the installation of speed humps. Bexar County may be able to incur a small percentage of the costs if funds are available.

A. PROCEDURE

1. A formal request by letter from the HOA Representative (or property owners' representative) and the Request for Speed Hump Investigation form with 10 resident's signatures must be submitted to the Bexar County Public Works Operations Manager at the following address:

Bexar County Public Works
Attn: Operations Manager
233 N. Pecos, Suite 420
San Antonio, TX 78207

The letter and form should identify the requested street name and the boundary of the street segment.

2. Once the letter and the Request for Speed Hump Investigation form are received, the appropriate Commissioner's Office regarding the request will be contacted. With the approval of the Commissioner's Office, Public Works will conduct a traffic study to determine if conditions meet the necessary warrant criteria for speed humps.

3. A traffic study will be scheduled to determine if the operational and geometric characteristics of the street warrant speed humps. Characteristics such as traffic volume and speed, and street type, length and grade will be evaluated.

4. Public Works will notify the HOA Representative as to the results and recommendations of the traffic study.

- If the speed hump criteria are not met, Public Works will determine if other remedial measures are necessary. Public Works will discuss the recommendations with the HOA representative.

- If the criteria are met, Public Works will identify the appropriate location of speed humps and contact the HOA Representative. The HOA will be required to circulate a petition and diagram showing location of speed humps. Two-thirds (2/3) of property owners along the street where speed humps are proposed to be installed must be in favor.

5. If there are sufficient signatures, Public Works will verify the signatures and forward the petition to the Commissioner's Court for final approval.

6. Once approved by the Commissioner's Court, Public Works will provide the HOA Representative with the results of the traffic study.

Speed hump costs range from \$7,900 - \$13,100 a pair depending on width of roadway. Funds are limited, and will be handled on a prioritized basis. The cost includes speed humps, required signing and labor, and will depend on the geometry of the street segment. Once installed, Bexar County will maintain the speed humps and associated signing. Speed humps can only be removed if 2/3 of the HOA or property owners along the street where speed humps are installed are in favor of removal and pay for the removal, or the County at its own discretion determines that a speed hump is a liability or safety problem.

B. SPEED HUMP CHARACTERISTICS

Listed below are some of the characteristics of speed hump installation.

Speed humps may:

1. Reduce traffic speeds in the immediate vicinity of the speed hump,
2. Decrease traffic volume, and
3. Reduce accidents in some areas.

Speed humps may also have detrimental effects by:

1. Increase speed between speed humps,
2. Divert traffic to other streets in the neighborhood,
3. Increase noise levels due to brakes, tires, engine, and when vehicles drive over speed humps,
4. Increase vehicle emissions due to deceleration and acceleration,
5. Increase response time of emergency vehicles,
6. Some motorist may drive closer to the curb, on the curb, or on the sidewalk to avoid the speed hump,
7. Present an obstruction to bicyclist, pedestrians, and children, and
8. Required signing may be placed in front of homes.

C. BEXAR COUNTY CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Bexar County Public Works Traffic Operations at 335-6700 if you have any questions or need more information on speed humps.