



Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program





WHAT IS TRAFFIC CALMING?

Traffic calming is about safety and quality of life. In 2006, The Town created the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program in response to resident concerns about vehicle speeds and cut-through traffic on some neighborhood streets. Through the program, the Town and residents work together to reduce speeds and volumes to improve your neighborhood.

Streets that are eligible for the program are local, residential streets that meet volume and speed thresholds defined by national standards and best practices.

Education, enforcement and engineering are the tools the Town uses to solve traffic problems. Read on to find out how those tools could be used in your neighborhood.

If you reduce the speed limit, won't that slow down drivers?

Setting a lower speed limit will not slow down drivers. Speed limits on Town roadways are based upon several factors, such as design speed, roadway conditions, accident records and observed speeds. Most drivers travel at their perceived level of comfort, given the conditions. National studies have shown that changing the speed limit does little to change driver behavior. (If drivers are not observing a posted speed limit now, it is unlikely they will obey an even lower limit.)

Can we put up more stop signs?

Stop signs are designed to control traffic flow at intersections, not speed. Stop signs may slow traffic near the stop sign. However, speeds between stop signs tend to be elevated as drivers try to "make up time." And, worse yet, some drivers tend to ignore unnecessary stop signs, creating an increased safety risk.

Can we put in speed bumps?

In many cases, speed bumps can cause unacceptable delay to fire response equipment. Fire trucks are much heavier than passenger cars and must slow way down for speed bumps. Seconds can be lost each time a fire truck has to slow down for a speed bump. The proximity of the nearest responding fire station drives this consideration.

EDUCATION

Creating public awareness is the first step toward addressing a concern with speeds or cut-through traffic. Often, residents are unaware that the 5 to 10 mph over the speed limit they are driving can reduce the feeling of safety and livability in their neighborhoods. Educational tools include:

Yard signs

The Town can provide yard signs with messages that remind drivers to slow down and drive 25. If approved by the local homeowners association, residents can place the signs in their yards.

Traffic treaties

A traffic treaty is a pledge by neighbors to drive the speed limit. The treaty brings awareness of the problem and promotes problem-solving while neighbors go door-to-door, seeking signatures on the treaty.

Neighborhood meetings

Town staff can attend neighborhood meetings and work with residents to find solutions to traffic problems.

Speed-monitoring displays

These temporary signs use radar to display the speed at which passing cars are traveling. This helps drivers gain awareness of the speed they are driving.

**SEE YOUR
NEIGHBOR
WAVE**



drive25

ENFORCEMENT

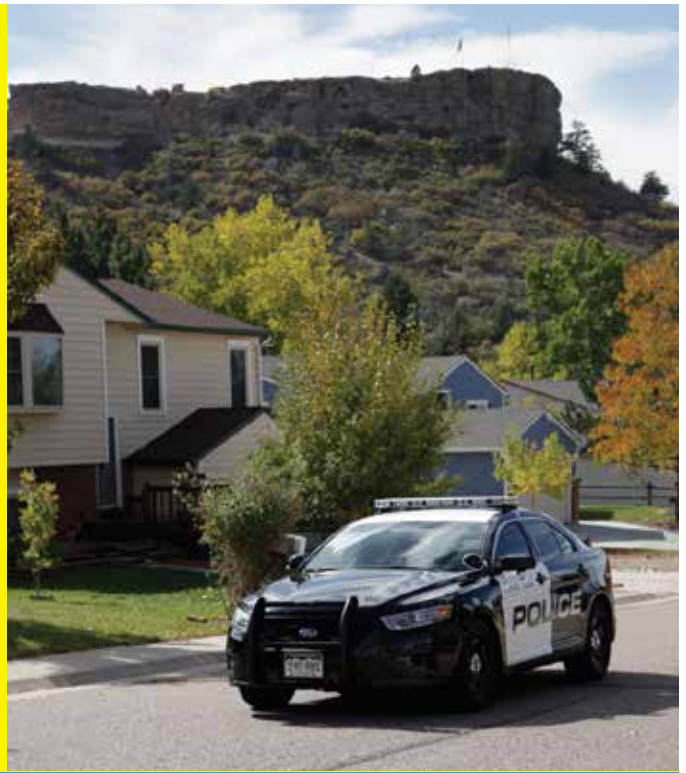
Your street can receive enhanced attention from the police traffic enforcement patrol, which enforces speed limits, though this is often determined by police department staffing availability.

ENGINEERING

Physical treatments can be installed on a street to enhance efforts in speed and volume reduction. Examples of physical treatments are traffic circles, curb bump-outs, speed cushions and entry islands.

**DON'T HURRY,
BE HAPPY**

drive25



**HELP THEM
GET HOME
SAFELY**



drive25

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Obey the speed limits

The speed limit on most residential streets in Castle Rock is 25 mph. A 5 mph increase in speed, from 25 mph to 30 mph, increases your stopping distance by 24 feet, or XX seconds.

Don't drive while distracted

Talking on the phone, or performing other tasks that take your attention, impairs your driving and significantly increases your risk of an accident.

Keep an eye out for neighbors

Pedestrians always have the right of way inside crosswalks (both marked and unmarked). Expect to see pedestrians in neighborhoods. Additionally, residential areas have an increased number of children, who may not always understand or obey pedestrian laws. Be alert to the potential of children darting out into streets.

Engage your neighbors

Talk to your neighbors about speeding concerns. Most speeders live in the neighborhood in which they are speeding.

HOW DO I START THE PROCESS?

- Meet with the Town's traffic calming program manager. Call 720-733-2483.
- Submit a petition with the signatures of five people who live within the defined boundary area provided by the Town's program manager.
- The Town will conduct a traffic study to determine if speeding or other traffic concerns meet current eligibility criteria. Eligible streets will proceed with the education and enforcement phases.
- If the problem persists, engineered treatments will be considered through a series of neighborhood meetings. The treatments will be constructed if the neighborhood reaches consensus and if there is funding available.



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