

To improve safety along City maintained streets, City Council has adopted a policy to install traffic calming devices on qualifying residential streets. The City of Monroe policy for installing speed cushions states that before a street qualifies, it must meet certain criteria. **These criteria are as follows:**

1. The street must be a two-lane residential street.
2. The street must be maintained by the City of Monroe.
3. The street must be posted at 25 MPH for a minimum of 6 months before the requested street will be studied.
4. The street's grade must be less than 8%.
5. The horizontal radius of the roadway must be greater than 300 feet.
6. Police, Fire, and Union EMS must give a positive recommendation.
7. Streets in subdivisions must be at least 90% lot build-out.
8. Cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets are not eligible for the program.
9. The Engineering Department must conduct a traffic study. The results must indicate that the 85th percentile speed is greater than or equal to 8-mph over the 25-mph speed limit.

**Q:** "How do I know if my street qualifies?"

**A:** The first step is to contact the Engineering Department who will determine if the first eight criteria are met. If the criteria are not met, the Engineering Department will inform the requesting party that the street does not qualify. If the criteria are met, the Engineering Department will conduct a traffic study to determine if the 85th percentile speed criterion is satisfied.

If this criterion is not met, the Engineering Department will inform the requesting party that the street does not qualify. If this criterion is met, the Engineering Department will issue a petition package containing the **STANDARD** petition form, maps, and brochures on speed cushions to the requesting party. The requesting party must complete the petition and return it to the Engineering Department within 90 days. When a **STANDARD** petition is received by Engineering, it will be verified and determined valid or invalid. Invalid petitions will be returned to the requesting party with deficiencies noted. Streets for which valid petitions are received will be scheduled for speed cushion installation.

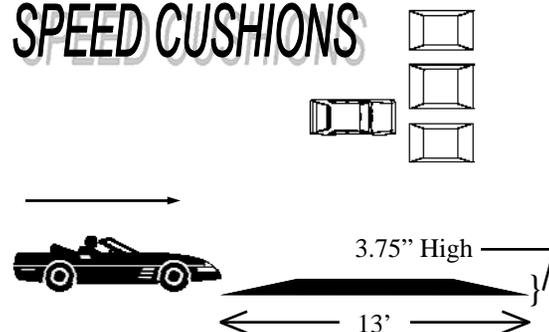
**Q:** "Who is responsible for completing a qualifying petition?"

**A:** The requesting party is responsible for serving as the lead petitioner or coordinating someone to serve as the lead petitioner.

**Q:** "What is the difference between speed cushions, speed humps, and speed bumps?"

**A:** Please refer to the following diagrams. Speed humps were originally installed by the city. New installations are speed cushions which do not affect emergency vehicle response time.

## SPEED CUSHIONS



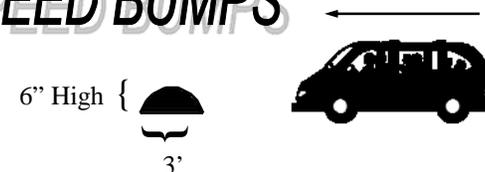
- ◆ Speed cushions are typically 13 feet long and 3.75 inches high, placed in sets of 3
- ◆ Speed cushions are placed so that the large wheel spacing of emergency vehicles can pass over them with out slowing

## SPEED HUMPS



- ◆ Speed humps are typically 22 feet long and 5 inches high

## SPEED BUMPS



- ◆ Cars must slow to speeds of 5 to 10 MPH
- ◆ Speed bumps are typically 3 feet long and 6 to 8 inches high
- ◆ Speed bumps are placed in parking lots to slow traffic and cause significant driver discomfort

**Q:** "Why can't speed bumps be installed?"

**A:** Due to liability concerns, the City cannot place an obstruction in the roadway that would damage a vehicle traveling the posted speed limit.

**Q:** “Who will pay for speed cushions?”

**A:** If a street qualifies, all costs will be paid for by the City of Monroe utilizing Powell Bill funds.

**Q:** “How can I voice my concerns about the speed cushion installations?”

**A:** The residents will be given the opportunity to voice their concerns in the comments section of the petition form or by calling the Engineering Department.

**Q:** “Will speed cushions help with the problem of speeding traffic along my street?”

**A:** Speed cushions can be expected to calm most traffic to the posted speed limit of 25 MPH. There will, however, be some people who choose to speed no matter what deterrent is in place.

**Q:** “How will speed cushions affect emergency vehicle response time?”

**A:** The speed cushions are placed so that the larger wheel spacing of emergency vehicles can pass the speed cushions with out slowing. Thus, the response times for fire and EMS are not affected.

For more information,  
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**ENGINEERING  
DEPARTMENT**



**SPEED CUSHION  
REQUEST GUIDE  
AND INFORMATION  
PACKAGE**