



City of San Bruno Traffic Calming Program

How to Reduce Speed and Volume in Your Local Residential Street



What is the Traffic Calming Program?

The primary goal of the Traffic Calming Program (TCP) is to provide relief from traffic related concerns, such as excessive speed and volume on local residential streets.

How Does the Program Begin?

The process contains several steps and begins with an inquiry to the City Traffic Engineer from a resident about a traffic related concern. A determination will be made whether the concern is a candidate for the TCP.

What's Next?

If a traffic concern cannot be resolved simply, a petition signed by the majority (50%+1) number of residents in the neighborhood will be requested to verify a widespread concern for the traffic issue.

Upon receiving the signed petition, staff will schedule a speed and volume survey by a vendor for a full week including weekend (7 days) to see if the street(s) qualifies for traffic calming. There is limited funding for traffic calming so the analyses will be conducted on a first-come, first-serve basis as petitions are received.

After the survey is conducted, if the street(s) qualifies and meets the threshold of speeding based on the data obtained, City staff will analyze possible solutions to the traffic concerns cited in the petition. These solutions will be presented to the Traffic Safety and Parking Committee (TSPC). Residents will be invited to attend the meeting.

Based on the resident comments and consensus at this meeting, a postcard survey will be developed, which will include the solutions favored by the residents.

If the survey shows a particular solution (or solutions) is favored by the residents (50% must respond to the postcard survey and a simple majority (50%+1) of respondents must approve the solution), staff will prepare the conceptual traffic calming plan to be presented to the public at a subsequently scheduled TSPC meeting.

The TSPC will review the plan and may make a recommendation to staff to implement the plan.

The TSPC and Staff are anticipated to follow the neighborhood vote, but this outcome is not guaranteed.

If the devices are approved, they will be installed when funding is available. Staff may monitor the results as deemed appropriate to learn the effectiveness of the specific traffic calming tools used.

What are the Principles and Guidelines of the Traffic Calming Program?

The TCP process only applies to local residential and collector streets; not larger streets such as arterials.

Some diversion of traffic is expected and a low ambient level of non-neighborhood traffic always exists.

Emergency vehicle access as well as pedestrian and bicycle access should be maintained on traffic-managed streets.

Removal of some street parking may be necessary to implement traffic calming tools.

Requests for traffic calming tools shall be evaluated on a first-come first- served basis as signed petitions are received.

Traffic calming tools need simple-majority (50%+1) approval of the responding neighborhood residents and property owners.

Stop signs and traffic signals are not traffic calming measures.

What Types of Devices Can be Used to Control Traffic Speed and Volume?

There are many traffic control devices that can be used on local residential streets. They range from simple warning signs to electronic speed radar warning signs, speed humps, bulb outs and traffic circles. A list of devices available for implementation includes:

- Speed & Warning Signs
- Electronic Speed Radar Signs
- Turn Restriction Signs
- Speed Humps
- Narrow Median Islands
- Chokers & Bulb-outs
- Landscape Trees
- Traffic Circles
- Forced Channelization
- One-Way Entrances/Exits
- Cul-de-Sacs
- One-Way Chicanes

What Amount of Funds are Available?

The Traffic Calming fund begins each fiscal year with \$100,000 and is used until it has been depleted. Special projects or projects over the budget amount require City Council funding approval.

How Long Will it Take to Implement a Traffic Calming Program on My Street?

Staff strives to implement an approved plan within 9 to 12 months of the initial contact. Special projects or projects requiring City Council funding approval may take over a year, depending on the type of device(s) to be installed and the associated needed design and cost.

Who should I contact?

You may contact either the City Traffic Engineer or Public Works staff at (650) 650-616-7065. You may also send an email to PWengineering@sanbruno.ca.gov.

