

Speed Bumps, Humps & Lumps



Traffic Engineering
Department

200 Old Bernal Avenue
Pleasanton, CA 94566

925-931-5650

Definition:

Speed bumps/humps/lumps are a raised section of roadway, perpendicular to the curb line and meant to slow traffic.

Advantages:

Effective in reducing speeds. Relatively low cost and can be installed on most residential streets without the loss of parking. Relatively easy for bicyclists to cross if designed correctly.

Disadvantages:

May increase noise in the immediate area where the speed lumps are installed because of braking and accelerating vehicles. May increase emergency response and ambulance transport time. May cause discomfort to those sensitive to vertical changes in the roadway.

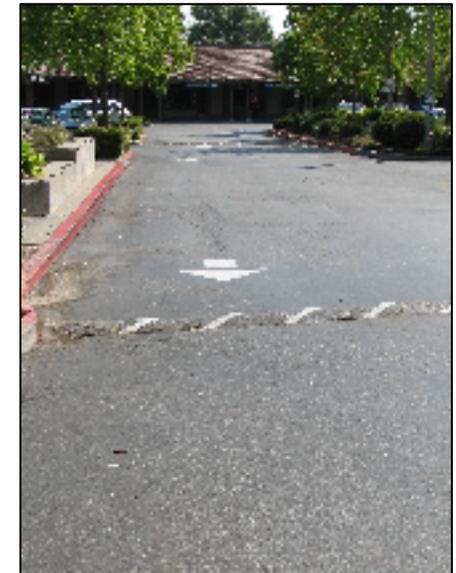


Speed Lump

Speed Bumps:

Speed bumps are roughly 1 to 2 feet long and up to 5 inches tall. They are commonly found in private parking lots such as major shopping centers. Due to the extreme height relative to the short length, speed bumps are meant for slow approaches of 5-10 MPH, typical of many parking lots.

Speed bumps are not approved traffic control devices and are not used on Pleasanton roadways.



Speed Bump

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Speed Humps & Lumps:

Speed humps are most commonly used for traffic calming on residential streets. They are normally 12 feet long and 3 inches high. The long length and lower height allows this calming device to be traversed at 25-30 MPH.

Speed lumps are similar to humps but divided into three lumps with one foot of space between each lump. The space between the lumps is specifically designed to accommodate the axle width of fire trucks. This allows fire trucks to pass through without having to go over the speed lumps. All other vehicles with smaller axle widths have to go over the lumps with at least one side of the vehicle.



Speed Lump

Application:

Local streets where speed reduction is desired. Speed lumps are installed on streets through the City of Pleasanton Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program (NTCP) after looking at all traffic control measures available. To request your street be considered for the NTCP please contact us at 925-931-5650.

Special Considerations:

Speed humps and speed lumps require special signs to notify drivers of the upcoming tool. The visual appearance of the humps/lumps with the extra signage needs to be considered. Special approval by the Fire Department is needed for use on critical emergency response routes.

Speed lumps should be placed as close as possible to existing street lights to improve nighttime visibility of the devices. Additional street lights may be necessary when speed lumps cannot be placed in front of existing street lights.

If you need further information please call the Traffic Engineering Department at:

925-931-5650