

Hays County Traffic Calming Policy

Transportation Department – As of October 1, 2017

1. Purpose:

Hays County, in the interest of safety and equality, has adopted the following policy to provide citizens, owner associations, and subdivisions a procedure to request traffic calming measures from the Hays County Transportation Department to ensure the interests of community are best represented and good engineering practices are followed in the application of traffic calming measures.

2. Determination of need for study:

- a. A traffic calming study must be requested by a resident along the affected street, accompanied by signatures and addresses of at least 10% of the residences along that street. The form for this request is attached to this document (exhibit A)
- b. Those Citizens that reside in areas governed by a Homeowners Associations or Property Owners Association, or that live on roads maintained by the County inside the incorporated limits of cities must send their request through the local governing body or owner's association.
- c. Traffic calming studies will not be considered for County collector roads (roads with greater than 1,000 Average Daily Traffic), arterial roads (roads with greater than 10,000 Average Daily Traffic) or roads identified as country lanes (roads serving less than 20 homes).
- d. Traffic calming requests on state roads should be communicated to the local TxDOT area office

3. Traffic calming study:

- a. Upon receipt of the request form (Attachment A), the Transportation Department will place traffic data collectors on the street in question within thirty (30) days.
- b. Traffic data collectors will be left out for a period of not less than seven (7) days.
- c. Traffic data will then be collected and reviewed by Transportation Department staff.
- d. Transportation Department staff will then prepare a report, an example of which is attached as Exhibit B detailing the following information
 - i. Average Daily Traffic
 - ii. Average Speed
 - iii. 85th Percentile Speed
 - iv. Accidents (Number and Cause)
 - v. Peak Traffic Hours
 - vi. Calming Warrants Met
 - vii. Department Recommendations for Traffic Calming

4. Traffic Calming Warrants:

The following warrants will be used to determine what method, if any, the Transportation Department will use to calm traffic on the subject street.

- a. 85th percentile speed does not exceed local speed limit
 - i. No traffic calming measures will be undertaken.
- b. 85th percentile speed exceeded by less than 5 mph
 - i. If dead end road less than 1320' in length no action taken.
 - ii. If ADT less than 200, no action taken.
 - iii. If ADT greater than 200, raised buttons (4" dia. x 1" ht.) will be considered.
- c. 85th percentile speed exceeded by greater than 5 mph but less than 10 mph
 - i. If dead end road, raised buttons will be considered.
 - ii. If ADT less than 200, raised buttons will be considered.
 - iii. If ADT greater than 200, speed bump (asphalt) will be considered.
- d. 85th percentile speed exceeded by greater than 10 mph
 - i. Speed bump (asphalt) will be considered.
- e. Accidents - if more than 2 accidents that are speed related
 - i. Speed bump (asphalt) will be considered.

5. Department Recommendation:

- a. The Department shall look at the overall road scheme and develop a recommendation taking into account the traffic calming warrants listed above and prepare for the precinct commissioner's approval a report stating what method, if any the department would recommend for traffic calming on the street in question.
- b. A digital copy (.pdf) will be provided to the owners association, local governing body (if not Hays County), or the resident whom initially requested the study.
- c. A physical copy may be requested from the Commissioner's office for the precinct in which the road resides.

6. Action Request:

- a. Once the Transportation Department recommendations are received, the resident or owners associations has thirty (30) days to request action from the Transportation Department to install the recommended traffic calming measures using the attached form (Exhibit C) with the following requirements:
 - i. If road in question is located in a subdivision with an owners association or is a county maintained road within city limits, the request must originate from the city or owners association.
 - ii. If requesting recommended raised buttons, the request must have signatures from not less than twenty percent (20%) of residents on that road.
 - iii. If requesting recommended speed bumps (asphalt), the request must have signatures from a simple majority of residents on that road, fifty-one percent (51%).

(Exhibit B)

Hays County Traffic Calming Study Report

Road Name and Precinct: _____

Date: _____

Report Prepared By: _____

Report Reviewed By: _____

Traffic Counter Period: _____ to _____

Average Daily Traffic: _____

Average Speed: _____

85th Percentile Speed: _____

Peak Traffic Hours: _____

Reported Accidents:

Calming Warrants Met (circle all applicable)

A B C D E

Department Recommendation

Disclaimer: Cost of removal of traffic calming measures will be borne by the requesting HOA/POA/City.

