

To Whom It May Concern:

In response to your recent request for information concerning the Board of County Commissioners' policy on installation of traffic calming devices, enclosed is a copy of the current policy and an official petition form.

As the neighborhood contact person, you are advised to carefully read the policy, requirements, and instructions before moving forward with this petition. Please keep this information packet intact while offering the petition to residents, as each signature indicates that the property owner or lessee has read all instructions and information relating to this petition.

The completed petition should be sent to Escambia County Department of Engineering, 1190 West Leonard Street, Suite 1, Pensacola, Florida 32501-1116.

If you have any questions concerning the procedures for installation of traffic calming devices, please contact Fern Hopkins 595-3434.

Sincerely,

Larry M. Newsom, Chief
Traffic and Development Division

LMN/jm

Enclosures

PETITION FOR INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES

Purpose: To petition the Board of County Commissioners with regard to the installation of traffic calming devices for the purpose of alleviating speeding on a County road.

ALL PERSONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CAREFULLY READ THE POLICY AND INFORMATION/INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO SIGNING THE PETITION.

It is a policy of the Board of County Commissioners that requests for installation of traffic calming devices will be processed by the Department of Engineering subject to the following conditions:

1. Receipt of a petition signed by 75% or more of the owners of property, which abut the roadway on which traffic calming devices are requested. Lessees of property, which abut the affected roadway, may sign the petition in lieu of the property owner, if the property owner resides outside of Escambia County. A contact person shall be noted on the petition to act as neighborhood coordinator. For intersections where traffic circles are desired, the petition must include signatures from at least 75% of affected property owners along the intersecting side streets. Staff will determine the geographic limits of where property owners may be reasonably impacted.
2. The roadway on which traffic calming devices are requested is a paved roadway. Traffic calming devices may be constructed concurrently with a programmed paving project.
3. The roadway on which traffic calming devices are requested is not functionally classified as a minor arterial or principal arterial within the Escambia County Comprehensive Plan.
4. The 85th percentile speed on the roadway which traffic calming devices are requested must be 5 MPH or greater than the speed limit set in accordance with §316.189, Florida Statutes.

The Department of Engineering shall respond to all petitions for installation of traffic calming devices within 30 days of their receipt. If a petition does not meet the conditions listed above, the County Engineer, or designee, shall so notify the contact person in writing.

If a petition meets the conditions listed above, the County Engineer, or designee, shall notify the contact person that the petition is valid and advise that speed humps (3") will be installed within 60 days and that an investigation will be conducted to determine appropriate traffic calming devices for the roadway on which these devices have been requested. This investigation may include field checks, neighborhood input and/or traffic engineering studies. Upon completion of the investigation, the County Engineer, or designee, shall set a meeting with affected property owners to discuss traffic calming and to seek consensus on maintenance of the speed humps or construction of alternative devices (e.g., median islands, traffic circles, lane narrowing, road blocks, directional diverters, multi-way stop signs).

Design Criteria: Traffic calming devices to be constructed on roadways, which are functionally classified as a "local" road and in a residence district, as defined in §316.003, Florida Statutes, shall be designed for speeds of 15, 20, or 25 miles per hour. Engineering Department staff will determine the appropriate design speed based on the conditions for each roadway. Traffic calming devices constructed on roadways, which are functionally classified as a "collector", and local roadways not located in a residence district, shall be designed consistent with the posted speed limit and §316.189, Florida Statutes.

Right of Way Acquisition: Staff is authorized to acquire right of way, which is required to construct traffic calming devices. The amount of right of way required will be based on the minimum needed to accommodate the specific design for each location as prepared by staff. Traffic calming design and associated right of way needs will be discussed during a meeting with affected property owners. Staff will ask property owners to donate real property for right of way in order to expedite the project. If property owner(s) refuse to donate property, staff will offer the Board approved purchase price for right of way and advise residents that construction will be delayed at least six months. If affected property owner(s) refuse the purchase offer, staff is authorized to proceed with condemnation by eminent domain to obtain right of way if approved by the BCC.

Instructions for Completing the Petition:

1. Only one signature per property is counted.
2. Each signatory must be a **registered property owner (County tax roll information must match the signatory's name)** or a lessee of the address for which he/she is signing.
3. Signatures must be legible and supplemented by the printed name of the signatory and date.
4. If a signatory is not the person currently listed as owner on the County tax roll (with the exception of a lessee), an explanation as to the signatory's relationship to the property owner is needed. For example, if said property was inherited, but the tax roll does not reflect this change, an explanation of this would be necessary.
5. A contact person to act as a neighborhood coordinator should be noted on the petition. Please include an address and daytime phone number for this individual.

The official petition form enclosed is the only acceptable form for use as a petition.

If something other than speed humps is desired, use the space below your signature to express in writing what device you prefer (Examples: traffic circle, median island, road block).

Petitions are to be submitted to:

Escambia County Department of Engineering
1190 West Leonard Street, Suite 1
Pensacola, Florida 32501-1116

Further inquiries should be made to the Department of Engineering, (850) 595-3434.