

# Reduce Speeding in Your Neighborhood

*A Citizen's Guide to Initiating Traffic Calming Measures in Residential Areas*



This guide provides an overview for how residents can help to assure the safety of their neighborhood roadways through the partnership between Prince William County Department of Transportation (PWCDOT), Prince William County Police, and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT).

<b>Traffic Calming Measures</b>	<b>Community Awareness &amp; Education</b> VDOT staff is available to speak to HOAs about traffic calming measures, and to help raise community awareness about advantages, disadvantages, costs and funding options.	<b>Enforcement</b> Prince William Police monitor and enforce posted speed limits. If you have specific concerns, please call the Traffic Safety Hotline at 703-792-5919.
	<b>Increased Fines</b> Signs indicating "Additional \$200 Fine" for speeding can be placed in communities where at least 51% of occupied households sign a petition requesting additional fines.	<b>Pole Mounted Speed Displays</b> Speed display that informs motorists of their current speed can be placed where speed limits are 25-35mph, traffic counts are at least 1,000 vehicles per day, and 51% of impacted community agree to implementation.

## Qualifying Conditions

With few exceptions, traffic-calming measures are limited to residential roadways that are publicly maintained by VDOT. In order to implement a traffic-calming plan, the following criteria must be met:

 25 mph posted speed limit	 Must have driveways along the road	 Two lane roadway (one lane each direction)	 Documented average speed of 30+ mph	 Average traffic volume of 600-4000 vehicles per day	 Community support for traffic calming plan
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Residents may inquire about traffic calming measures by email ([transportation@pwccgov.org](mailto:transportation@pwccgov.org)) or by phone (703-792-6825)

# How Prince William County Addresses Speeding in Residential Areas

## 1. Receive notice of speeding concerns



- Prince William County Police may increase enforcement.
- PWCDOT will verify whether roadway meets initial qualifying criteria.
- PWCDOT will submit qualifying roadways to appropriate District Supervisor's office for consideration of further study.
- Based on District Supervisor support for the project, PWCDOT will finalize eligibility assessment.

## 2. Eligibility Assessment



PWCDOT conducts a speed study to verify traffic counts and average speed along reported roadway (limited to two studies every five years per roadway with one year between studies). County will notify residents of findings once completed.

- If traffic count is between 600 and 4,000 vehicles per day, and average speeds are 5 mph above posted speed limits or greater, PWCDOT will submit data to VDOT for consideration and begin working with the community to create a traffic calming plan.

## 3. Develop Traffic-Calming Plan



PWCDOT will help the BOCS establish a local traffic calming committee consisting of residents from the petition area, impacted area, homeowners association, Board of County Supervisors, PWCDOT staff, PWP, Fire/Rescue, VDOT and other interested parties.

- Traffic-Calming Committee is responsible for scheduling and facilitating community meetings to inform the community of the plan, and to solicit their feedback.

## 4. Obtain Community Support



Because residents are the ones most affected by calming measures, VDOT requires at least 75% of residents to agree to the plan.

- In coordination with the District Supervisor's Office, PWCDOT will define the "petition area," which designates the occupied households immediately affected by the potential traffic-calming plan, and develop a formal petition.
- PWCDOT will submit the eligibility assessment data to the VDOT District Traffic Engineer for approval.
- Staff assist with residents in their efforts to obtain the regional community support for calming measures. Failure to obtain necessary community support prohibits further action.

## 5. Approve & Implement Traffic Calming Plan



The District Supervisor and VDOT must jointly approve the final traffic calming plan. That plan is then brought to the Board of County Supervisors for final approval and funding.

- Board of County Supervisors must budget and appropriate funds for the project.
- PWCDOT will work with VDOT to manage the implementation of the traffic calming plan.

