SPEED HUMP POLICY

(Revised May 17, 2022)

DESCRIPTION

Speed Humps are an effective traffic calming device designed to help reduce vehicular speeding on low volume, low speed roads when implemented under the right conditions. The City of Burbank utilizes three different types: speed humps, speed cushions, and speed tables.

- ✓ Speed humps are parabolic in shape and are 12-foot-long by 3-inch (±1/8”) high and are the most common.
- ✓ Speed cushions are modified speed humps; designed to avoid excessive discomfort or damage to emergency vehicles by making separations in the hump.
- ✓ Speed tables are longer speed humps that may be used on streets with steeper grades.

There is no cost to the residents to install speed humps as long as all requirements have been met. The City may remove any or all of the humps at any time for safety reasons.

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF SPEED HUMPS

Although the main advantage of speed humps is speed reduction, there are several advantages and disadvantages observed after the installation of speed humps.

ADVANTAGES

Speed Reduction – Speed humps are effective in reducing the speed of vehicles traveling over the speed limit on residential streets.

Cut-Through Traffic Reduction – Speed humps may discourage drivers from using the traffic calmed street to bypass a major street, therefore reducing the volume of vehicles.

Accident Frequency Reduction – The installation of speed humps may reduce the frequency of accidents caused by speeding.

DISADVANTAGES

Noise – Vehicles travelling over speed humps may increase noise levels in a neighborhood.

Delayed Emergency Response – Emergency vehicles, such as ambulances and fire trucks, may need to reduce speed when travelling over speed humps. This may increase emergency response time.

Aesthetics – Speed hump and warning signs placed in front of a residential property may impact curb appeal or neighborhood aesthetics. Street sweepers may also have difficulty vacuuming debris near speed humps.

Traffic diversion – Speed humps may cause drivers to divert to parallel residential streets.

Accidents Caused by Reckless Drivers – Driving over a speed hump at very high speeds may cause a vehicle to accelerate vertically and drivers may respond irregularly. This could impact the severity of potential accidents caused by reckless driving.

PUBLIC WORKS

SPEED HUMP POLICY

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SPEED HUMP INSTALLATION CRITERIA & ELIGIBILITY

All of the following criteria must be met for a street to be eligible for the installation of speed humps:

1. Street Classification – Streets must be classified as local or collector street per the Burbank General Plan. Streets must also be residential in nature. Commercial areas do not qualify for speed humps. Alleys do not qualify for speed humps.

2. Street Width and Number of Lanes – The maximum street width is 44-feet with one travel lane in each direction.

3. Minimum Speed – Streets must have a posted or prima facie speed limit of 25 mph or lower. The measured 85th percentile speed (i.e., "critical speed") shall be 30 mph or more.

4. Traffic Volume – Streets must have a minimum of 500 vehicles per day and no more than a maximum of 5,000 vehicles per day.

5. Street Grades – Streets with grades of 5% or less may qualify for speed humps. Streets with grades between 5% and less than 8% may qualify for speed tables. Streets with grades of 8% or greater do not qualify for installation of speed humps or speed tables.

6. Street Length – Speed humps or speed tables shall only be installed on blocks longer than 250 feet. A minimum of two speed humps must be installed per project.

7. Horizontal Alignment & Visibility – Speed humps cannot be installed on horizontal curves where visibility is less than 150 feet.

8. Truck or Transit Routes – Speed humps cannot be installed on streets that have been designated as a truck route or transit route.

9. Emergency Routes – Speed humps cannot be installed on streets designated as emergency routes. Speed cushions can be considered with approval from emergency services.

10. Street Condition – Speed humps cannot be installed on streets with known drainage or flooding issues or poor pavement conditions. If the pavement condition is poor, speed humps will be installed once the pavement condition has been resolved.

11. Petition – A speed hump petition form that is signed by one person from each property or dwelling unit, either owner or resident. The petition contact person has contacted and noted on the petition at least 80% of the total owner/residents impacted. The number of "in favor" signatures comprise at least two-thirds (67%) of the total owners/residents on the streets impacted.

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REQUEST AND APPROVAL PROCESS

Step 1: Make A Request

Residents can request speed humps by contacting Public Works by phone, email or the City of Burbank website at:
Phone: (818) 238-3915 (7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., M-Th)
Email: traffic@burbankca.gov
Web: https://www.burbankca.gov/web/public-works/traffic

Step 2: Preliminary Engineering Field Survey

Public Works staff will conduct an engineering field survey to determine if the location meets the speed hump installation criteria and eligibility.

Step 3: Petition

If all of the preliminary criteria have been met, Public Works staff will provide the applicant with a petition form and a vicinity map with proposed speed hump locations. The resident must circulate the petition to the impacted properties. A valid & complete petition must meet the following requirements:

- ✓ At least 80% of the total impacted properties on the street must be contacted and noted on the petition.
- ✓ There must be support from a minimum of two-thirds (67%) of the total impacted properties on the street.
- ✓ Only authorized owners or representatives of the property may sign the petition. For multi-unit complexes, the owner or authorized manager/representative may sign the petition on behalf of the entire complex.
- ✓ Streets that are abutted by a school, fire station, or park must also obtain the required support from each entity.
- ✓ Before signing the petition, property owners must be provided the Speed Hump Policy and be notified that a sign and/or bump may be installed in front of their property.
- ✓ The petition must be completed and submitted to the Public Works Department within 12 months of receiving the petition.

Step 4: Approval & Installation

Upon receipt of a valid petition, Public Works staff will conduct an engineering and installation study to determine the location and appropriate placement of signage, pavement markings, and speed humps. If all criteria are satisfied, speed humps will be installed when resources become available.

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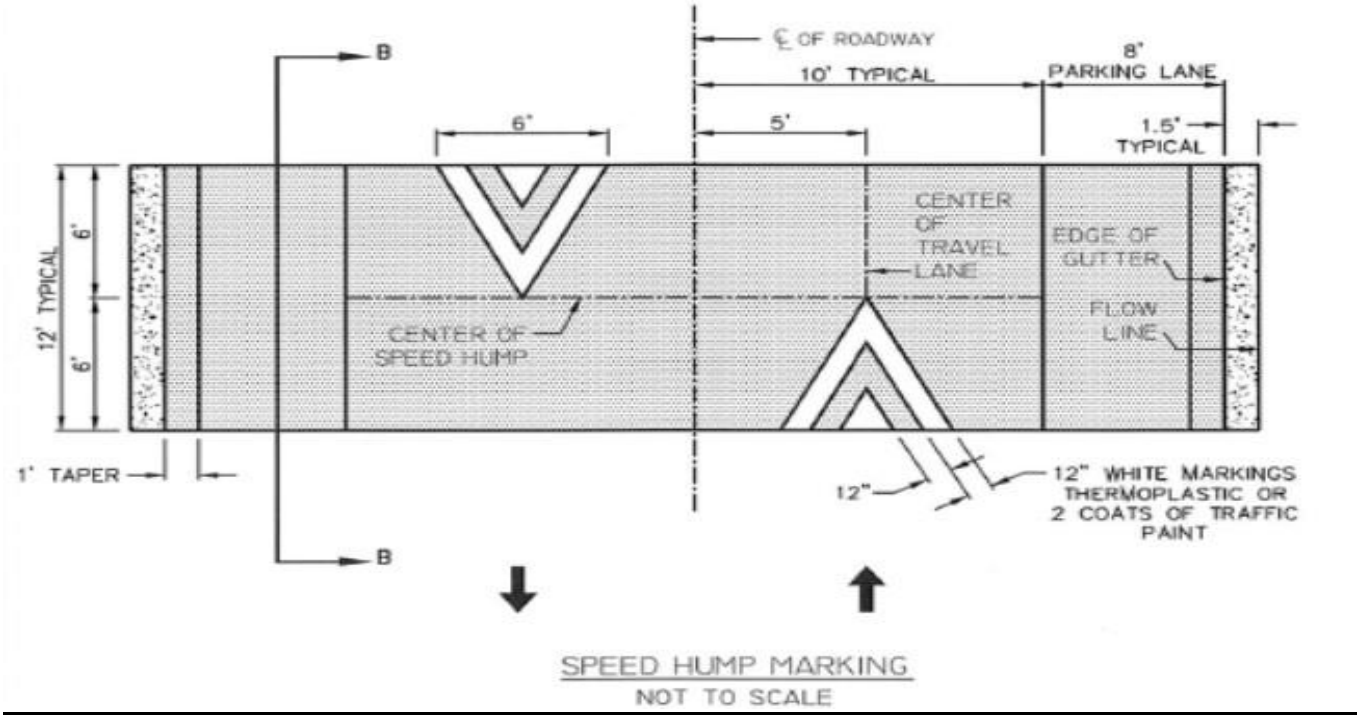

SPEED HUMP MARKING

NOT TO SCALE

Ontario St.

TYPICAL SPEED HUMP

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Bel Aire Dr.

TYPICAL SPEED CUSHION

Scandia Wy (Los Angeles)

TYPICAL SPEED TABLE