

# An Introduction to Highway Traffic Calming for Small Communities

## Overview

In small communities, the safety of residents is paramount. One of the most significant concerns for many towns and villages is the speed of traffic on local roads. Excessive speed can lead to serious accidents, injuries, and even fatalities. Traffic calming measures are a proven way to reduce speeds and make streets safer for everyone.

This comprehensive guide will provide you with everything you need to know about highway traffic calming for small communities. We'll cover the basics of traffic calming, discuss the different types of measures available, and provide guidance on how to implement a traffic calming plan in your community.



## An Introduction to Highway Traffic Calming for Small Communities by J. Paul Guyer

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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## What is Traffic Calming?

Traffic calming is a range of measures designed to reduce the speed of traffic on local roads. These measures can be physical, such as speed bumps or roundabouts, or they can be non-physical, such as changes to speed limits or the installation of traffic calming signs.

The goals of traffic calming are to:

- Reduce the number of accidents
- Make streets safer for pedestrians and cyclists
- Improve the quality of life for residents

## **Types of Traffic Calming Measures**

There are a variety of traffic calming measures available, each with its own advantages and disadvantages. Some of the most common types of measures include:

- **Speed bumps:** Speed bumps are raised sections of pavement that force vehicles to slow down. They are a very effective way to reduce speeds, but they can also be uncomfortable for drivers and passengers.
- **Speed humps:** Speed humps are similar to speed bumps, but they are longer and have a more gradual slope. They are less uncomfortable for drivers than speed bumps, but they are not as effective at reducing speeds.
- **Roundabouts:** Roundabouts are circular intersections that force vehicles to slow down and yield to traffic entering from the right. They

are a very effective way to reduce speeds and improve safety, but they can also be expensive to install and maintain.

- **Traffic calming signs:** Traffic calming signs are signs that remind drivers to slow down. They are not as effective as physical measures, but they can be a cost-effective way to improve safety.

## How to Implement a Traffic Calming Plan

Implementing a traffic calming plan in your community involves several steps:

1. **Identify the problem areas:** The first step is to identify the areas in your community where traffic calming is needed. This can be done by studying accident data, traffic flow patterns, and resident complaints.
2. **Develop a plan:** Once you have identified the problem areas, you need to develop a plan for addressing them. This plan should include the specific traffic calming measures that you will use, as well as a timeline for implementation.
3. **Get community support:** It is important to get the support of the community before implementing a traffic calming plan. This can be done by holding public meetings, distributing information, and working with local organizations.
4. **Implement the plan:** Once you have the support of the community, you can begin implementing the traffic calming plan. This may involve hiring a contractor, installing signs, or making changes to the road layout.
5. **Monitor and evaluate the plan:** Once the traffic calming plan is implemented, it is important to monitor its effectiveness and make

adjustments as needed. This can be done by studying accident data, traffic flow patterns, and resident feedback.

Traffic calming is a proven way to reduce speeds and make streets safer for everyone. By following the steps outlined in this guide, you can develop and implement a traffic calming plan that will meet the needs of your community.



If you are interested in learning more about traffic calming, I encourage you to Free Download a copy of my book, \*An to Highway Traffic Calming for Small Communities\*. This book provides a comprehensive overview of traffic calming, including the different types of measures available, the benefits of traffic calming, and how to implement a traffic calming plan in your community.

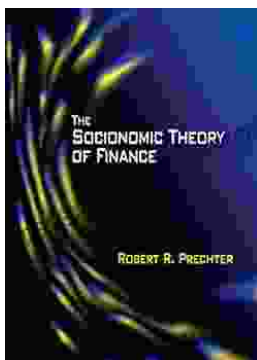
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