

# CRR POLICY 1336: TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES

Created: April 28, 2021 Revised: n/a Effective Date: Immediate  
Community Risk Management Division – 928-204-8926

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This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2012 International Fire Code (IFC) and is an official interpretation of Section 503.4.1 of the 2012 IFC.

## Definitions

**Approved** - Acceptable to the *fire code official*.

**Fire Apparatus Access Road** - A road that provides fire apparatus access from a fire station to a facility, building or portion thereof. This is a general term inclusive of all other terms such as fire lane, public street, private street, parking lot, lane and access roadway.

**Traffic Calming Device** – Design elements of fire apparatus access roads such as street alignment, installation of barriers, and other physical measures intended to reduce traffic and cut-through volumes, and reduce vehicle speeds.

## Fire Code Citation

**503.4.1 Traffic calming devices.** Traffic calming devices shall be prohibited unless approved by the fire code official.

## Interpretation

The fire code makes it very clear that all *traffic calming devices* must be approved by the *fire code official* prior to their installation. As a general rule, the fire service is opposed to any measures that slow emergency response. However, traffic-calming devices *do* serve a valid purpose and can enhance public safety while meeting the needs of citizens without unduly impacting emergency response times when used in a judicious and thoughtful manner.

Traffic calming devices may be perceived as having either a positive or a negative effect, which is largely dependent on an individual's point of view, and their perception of the problem being solved. For this reason, it is imperative that there is some level of neighborhood or association support for their installation.

## Policy

In accordance with the code, all *traffic calming devices* shall be submitted to this office for review and approval prior to installation and shall not be installed without such approval. Approval considerations shall include size, shape, design and spacing. Applications for the installation of traffic calming devices on city or county maintained roads shall be directed through the appropriate city or county department.

Requests for the installation of traffic calming devices on roads not maintained by city or county authorities shall be requested by a Neighborhood Association, Homeowners Association, or Property Owners Association. Requests initiated by private citizens without Association support will be denied. Applications shall include:

- A highlighted neighborhood map showing all properties affected by the placement of traffic calming devices and the proposed location of such devices with distances between each device.
- The proposed design of the traffic calming device(s) including height, width, length, and construction type and the manner in which they will be affixed to the roadway.

It is the applicant's responsibility to:

- Ensure that the neighborhood supports the installation of such devices.
- Purchase and install the approved devices.
- Ensure that devices are installed as approved.

Speed bumps (humps, tables, etc.) shall:

- not be installed in tandem (two or more in close proximity)
- extend in a single straight-line perpendicular to the route of travel without offset
- be spaced not less than 250-feet between each bump; and average spacing of speed bumps shall be not less than 350-feet measured from the first device to the last device
- not be installed on streets less than 600-feet in length

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- not obstruct driveways, hydrants, drain inlets or other infrastructure
- not be installed on streets with a speed limit in excess of 25 mph
- not be installed within 150-feet of an intersection or near a curve, hill, or other feature that obstructs a drivers or pedestrians view from less than 200-feet

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

Community Risk Reduction Division

Sedona Fire District

2860 Southwest Drive

Sedona, AZ 86336

928-204-8926

[crm@sedonafire.org](mailto:crm@sedonafire.org)