

STAFF REPORT

DATE: September 14, 2023
TO: Bicycling, Transportation, and Street Safety Commission
FROM: Ryan D. Chapman, Assistant Director of PWET/Traffic Engineer
SUBJECT: Annual Evaluation of Speed Hump Requests- Cowell Boulevard

Recommendation

Receive and update on the traffic calming program and approve construction of speed humps on Cowell Boulevard between Roos Street and Dresbach Way.

Background and Analysis

The Traffic Calming Program was initially created in 2002, guidelines were adopted to implement the Program at locations throughout the City and the most recent policy was approved by the City Council on March 21, 2023. The intent of traffic calming program has been to reduce the speed of vehicles and to discourage cut-through traffic primarily on neighborhood residential streets by implementing low-cost, easy to implement measures. The Program is intended to be exclusive to streets with a 25-mph prima facie speed limit to improve safety conditions primarily for non-motorized users of the street corridor. The purpose of establishing a traffic calming program for the evaluation of these measures is to ensure that limited funding for improving isolated neighborhood traffic concerns is being addressed and prioritized with consistent criteria and is not a subjective decision-making process.

Below is a brief summary of the existing steps to get a speed hump approved:

- The City receives a petition for traffic calming from a neighborhood. The petition needs to show that 50% of the households immediately adjacent to the road would like humps to be considered.
- An initial assessment is conducted to see if the road is eligible for humps, and it is scored based on the ranking in the speed hump policy.
- Staff will prepare plans for the streets that were selected.
- A neighborhood survey is sent out via US Mail to the property owners and residents with the plan showing the final hump locations. This is for final concurrence with the proposed locations. At least 50% of the returned responses must be in support of the proposed project.
- Once a year, the traffic calming requests will be presented to the

Transportation Consideration for consideration.

- Humps are installed.

Since the last update we have received one request for speed humps on an eligible street in the City, Cowell Boulevard between Angelina Street and the east end.

In March staff mailed out a final survey to property owners and residents on Cowell and the residents and property owners approved the proposed speed hump plan with 93 percent of responses supporting it.

Each household has two votes in the speed hump survey. If the resident owns their home, then the owners have two votes. If the residents are renting, then the owner and renter each have one vote. The City mailed out 14 surveys, which totals 28 votes. Of the 28 votes allowed, the City received 15 votes for this project. Only one vote did not support the project.

Staff is recommending that these humps be installed this summer.

Links to Documents

1. Policy:

<https://www.cityofdavis.org/home/showpublisheddocument/18872/638344432088630000>

2. Draft Plans:

<https://www.cityofdavis.org/home/showpublisheddocument/20117/638756433367870000>