



**CITY OF SHAVANO PARK**  
**900 Saddletree Court**  
**Shavano Park, TX 78231**

**CITY POLICY 16**

SUBJECT: Speed Hump Policy

25 November 2019

**1. Reference**

- a) Texas Transportation Code Sec. 311.002

**2. Purpose.** The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on submission and approval procedures for speed humps on residential public roads.

**3. Staff Point-of-Contact.** The staff point of contact for this policy is the Public Works Director at 210.492.2841 or at [pwdirector@shavanopark.org](mailto:pwdirector@shavanopark.org).

**4. General**

- a) Speed humps can be an effective and appropriate device for safely reducing speeds on certain types of street when installed in accordance with the provisions of this policy.
- b) In order for speed hump installation to be effective, they should be located selectively in accordance with defined transportation engineering criteria for the purpose of mitigating documented speeding problems. Proper installation will also minimize driver frustration and encourage safe driving practices.
- c) The City of Shavano Park will only install removable speed hump designs.
- d) This policy promotes reasonable opportunities for residents and property owners most affected by a proposed speed hump to participate together in the process that leads to its installation.

**5. Definitions**

- a) *City Staff.* City Staff includes the Public Works Director, Fire Chief, Police Chief, and City Manager.
- b) *Speed Hump.* A speed hump is a gentle rise and fall of pavement surface placed in the roadway whose primary purpose is to reduce the speed of vehicles.
- c) *Speed Bump.* A speed bump is a sharp rise and fall of pavement surface placed in the roadway whose primary purpose is to significantly reduce the speed of vehicles. Speed bumps are used in places where pedestrians and cars share space closely like parking lots and driveways, or where significant reduction in speed is required.
- d) *Street.* Street refers to the street length that must be petitioned. It is a 2,000-foot segment generally centered on the proposed location of the humps, or the length of the block, whichever is greater.

**6. Policy**

- a) The City of Shavano Park may authorize speed humps on public roads in certain locations if all criteria for eligibility have been met.

- b) Private property in the City Limits is not governed or controlled by this Speed Hump Policy
- c) Speed bumps are not authorized on Shavano Park public roads.
- d) Residents may request consideration for speed humps by filling out a *Request for a Speed Hump Investigation* application. Only official City of Shavano Park *Request for a Speed Hump Investigation* applications will be considered.
- e) Requests will be approved or denied by City Council, after a complete and thorough assessment is completed by City staff.
- f) If an application is approved by the City Council the applicant may choose to pay for 100% of the estimated cost of installation to help expedite the installation process.
- g) Applicants may request a *Slow Down Children at Play* sign in lieu of a speed hump. All sign request will be reviewed and accepted or denied by City staff.
- h) The process for requesting speed hump removal is the same as the process for installation, except there will be no City Engineer review.

## 7. Criteria for Eligibility

All of the following criteria must be satisfied for a street to be considered eligible for the installation of speed humps.

- a) Petition
  - i. A petition that documents a minimum of seventy-five percent (75%) of the residential dwellings on the street that support its installation. All Petitions must be signed on the official *Request for a Speed Hump Investigation* application. Petition signatures not on the official application will not be considered by City Council or City staff.
- b) Location of the street
  - i. The adjacent land use along the street where the speed hump is proposed must be composed primarily of low-density residential dwellings.
- c) Operational characteristics of the street
  - i. The street must be used to provide access to abutting low-density residential properties (local residential streets) and/or to collect traffic for such streets (residential collector).
  - ii. There must be no more than one lane of moving traffic in each direction.
  - iii. Vehicles speeds must frequently exceed the Speed Limit by 5 mph as posted.
  - iv. The street must not be an identified primary emergency services route used for swift access of emergency vehicles to other portions of town. Final determination of emergency service routes is determined by the Police and Fire Chiefs.
  - v. The street must have a speed limit of no more than 30 mph as determined in accordance with State Law.
- d) Geometric characteristics of the street
  - i. The street must have adequate sight distances to safely accommodate the speed hump as determined by the City Engineer.
  - ii. The street must not have curves or grades that prevent safe placement of speed humps. Speed humps may not be located on streets that have a vertical grade greater than 5% or on their immediate approaches.

- iii. The street must be paved and be at least 500 feet in length. If there are no curbs, a special design must be used to prevent vehicle runarounds.
- iv. The street not be scheduled for resurfacing within the next two years.
- e) Drainage Consideration
  - i. Streets are an integral part of the City's Storm Drainage System. Streets convey storm waters not contained in the underground pipes, channels. Swales, etc. Prior to installation of a speed hump, the City Engineer shall determine that the speed hump placement will not be detrimental to the conveyance of storm runoff or cause flooding of adjacent property.

## 8. Speed Hump Location

- a) A speed hump will not be located within 6 feet of a driveway or within an intersection.
- b) Speed humps will not be located within 250 feet of a traffic control device or within 50 feet of an intersection.
- c) A speed hump will not be located adjacent to a property if the occupant objects to its placement.
- d) *No Parking* signs may be placed within 50 feet of the approaching side of the Speed hump if deemed necessary for safety of the driver.

## 9. Procedures

- a) The request can be initiated by a resident or group of residents whose property is abutting the requested street segment.
- b) A request for speed humps begins by completing a *Request for a Speed Hump Investigation* application, which includes signatures from 3/4 of surrounding residents on the requested street.
- c) Once the *Request for a Speed Hump Investigation* application is turned into the City Secretary an administration and engineering fee will be charged to the requester in accordance with Appendix A – City of Shavano Park Fee Schedule found in the Code of Ordinances.
- d) The City Secretary will pass the application to the City Engineer and City staff for review and assessment of the eligibility requirements.
- e) After the application is reviewed by City staff the City Secretary will pass the results of the preliminary review to the applicant.
- f) If the application meets the eligibility criteria, the request will be placed on an agenda for City Council consideration.
- g) If the application fails to meet the eligibility criteria or is disapproved by the City Council in the final review, a written notice will be sent to the applicant.

Note: Requestors can determine which properties are needed for the petition by contacting the Public Works Director at the contact information above.