

About the Neighborhood Streets Program

When our streets are safe and pleasant, the quality of life is enhanced. When traffic problems become a daily occurrence, they threaten our sense of community and personal well being. Washington County's Neighborhood Streets Program is about livability in your neighborhood. It's a way for you and your neighbors to address quality of life issues such as speeding, cut-through traffic, and parking infiltration.

Successful traffic-calming involves extensive citizen participation. The people who live and work in the project area have the opportunity to become actively involved in the process. It takes a commitment of your time and energy, and the ability to consider diverse points of view. But, hopefully, the results are worth the effort.

Our Goals

- Discouraging undesirable driver behavior.
- Encouraging safe pedestrian and bicycle use.
- Improving the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.
- Involving area residents in solving traffic problems.
- Making efficient use of your tax dollars by prioritizing requests for improvements.

2nd Year Process (Phase 2)

Should the traffic concerns still exist after the 1st year and there is sufficient data to support this, the location will be reviewed for additional traffic calming design treatments.

Streets entering to the 2nd year must meet the following eligibility requirements before proceeding:

- Street must be a local, minor collector or neighborhood type collector street.
- Posted speed less than 36mph.
- Street cannot be more than 2 lanes.
- Participation in Phase I to include participation in Neighborhood Speed Watch.

With the minimum qualifications met above, a street must also meet the following criteria before final ranking and scoring is conducted:

- Speed** – 85% of traffic must be exceeding the posted speed by 20%.
- Volume** – Must be greater than 74% of maximum volume projected for roadway classification.

Need More Information?

Visit our web page at:
www.co.washington.or.us/nsp
or contact us at:
Phone: 503-846-7950
Fax: 503-846-7910
E-Mail to:
luttraffic@co.washington.or.us

Working together to improve traffic conditions in your neighborhood



Neighborhood Streets Program



BRO 20 • 08/02

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Traffic Engineering
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Washington County Department of
Land Use & Transportation

How Does the Program Work?

The program is a two-phase, two year process. The first year focuses on passive less restrictive measures like educational programs, enforcement, pavement legends, and signing. Should these Phase 1 actions prove ineffective at reducing excessive speeds or traffic volumes, more restrictive Phase 2 methods including physical devices may be considered.

How Does the Neighborhood Get Started?

-Residents identify the traffic concerns in their neighborhood.

-Neighbors' get together to discuss possible solutions from the measures listed in this brochure.

-A "Neighborhood Safety Campaign Request" form (also available online - see contact information on back of this brochure) is then completed and mailed back to us.

When Will You Hear From Us?

Once we receive the Neighborhood Safety Campaign Request form, your concerns will be reviewed and data collection will begin.

From this information, we compile a Phase I Proposed Improvement Plan for the location. This will inform you of our findings and recommendations of Phase 1 solutions. This review will take approximately 8 weeks from the date that we receive your request form.

1st Year Process (Phase 1)

Step 1

Neighborhood residents submit a Neighborhood Safety Campaign Request form describing the traffic concerns.

Step 2

Traffic Engineering collects data and conducts a field review (approximately 8 week review).

Step 3

Traffic Engineering conducts a neighborhood meeting and prepares a letter with findings and recommendations.

All requests to mitigate speed require participation in the Speed Watch Program before consideration for further mitigation.

Step 4

Traffic Engineering follows through with the recommended Phase 1 mitigation measures.

Step 5

Evaluation period is open up to one year, during which a safety campaign is conducted.

Step 6

Additional improvements are evaluated and added if needed.

Step 7

If improvements have not addressed the initial concern, the request moves to the second phase of the program. The use of specific design treatments is considered, if minimum qualifications are met.

Possible 1st Year Solutions

- Neighborhood Signing**
You will be loaned lawn signs as well as receive bumper stickers and door hangers with a "Slow Down" message to distribute throughout the neighborhood.
- Neighborhood Newsletter**
A newsletter is mailed to your community explaining volumes, speeds, recommended traffic calming measures, traffic laws, etc.
- Speed Radar Trailer Board**
A portable trailer that detects the speed of passing vehicles and displays it on a digital reader board.
- Pavement Markings**
Painting legends, symbols and lines on the pavement, including lane lines, edge lines, and school crossings.
- Target Enforcement**
Increased enforcement by the Washington County Sheriff's Office.
- Brush Trims**
The trimming and removal of brush by homeowners or County crews to allow better sight distance and pedestrian mobility.
- Signs**
Posting of appropriate traffic control signs, including: speed, no-parking, dead-end, school signs, etc.
- Rumble Strips**
The installation of raised buttons placed in a design sequence across the roadway, serving as a "wake up" call, alerting the motorist to an upcoming situation.
- Neighborhood Speed Watch Program**
Citizens can check out a radar unit and record the speeds of vehicles in their neighborhood.

