



TOWN OF BOONE SPEED HUMP POLICY

Speed humps may be approved for installation on Town maintained streets where conditions meet the following criteria:

1. A petition bearing the signatures of at least 75% of the property owners within the impacted block (i.e., property owners with lots abutting the petitioned street blocks) is required. The petition form supplied by the Town of Boone must be used in obtaining signatures.
2. The street must be functionally classified as a local street. Speed humps are not permitted on transit routes or thoroughfares as identified by the Watauga Comprehensive Transportation Plan. The street must be residential in nature with: a posted speed limit of 20 mph or less, a minimum average daily traffic (ADT) volume of 250 vehicles per day, and a maximum ADT of 2000 vehicles per day (unless a component of a comprehensive local traffic management plan). The street must be paved and provide adequate drainage. The street must not exceed 5% grade in the impacted area and must not be a dead-end.

Speed humps may be placed a minimum of 200 feet from intersections where approaches of the street in question are controlled by traffic signals or stop signs. On streets where the intersection approaches are uncontrolled, humps may be placed a minimum of 100 feet from the intersection. Speed humps should be installed to avoid several street features. These include drainage features, utilities, driveways, severe horizontal or vertical curves and traffic control devices. Humps shall not be placed on streets less than 750 feet in length.

3. The Public Works Department will review the traffic on the street when a request is made. Components of this review may include traffic counts, speed studies, and accident analyses. The 85th percentile speed on the street must exceed the posted speed limit by more than 7 miles per hour to warrant the installation of speed humps. Alternative traffic control options will be evaluated as part of the review.
4. The Public Works Department, in analyzing the request for speed humps, shall be responsible for soliciting input from emergency services, utilities (private and public) and other key agencies

(including school transportation and refuse removal services). If the necessary criteria under this Policy are met to justify the installation of speed humps, but one or more of these agencies objects, a final determination will be made by the Public Works Director.

5. Notwithstanding criteria number 1 (a petition bearing the signatures of 75% of the property owners within the impacted block for which speed humps are requested), the Town Council may approve the installation of speed humps on Town maintained public streets when so doing is determined to be in the interest of public safety. Such approval may occur after Town Council has ordered a study pursuant to a request for speed humps, held a public hearing at which the findings and recommendations of the study have been presented and determined that speed humps are the most effective remedy to the public safety concern. The study conducted pursuant to this section shall consider the impact of speed humps on the delivery of emergency services and shall also consider other alternatives to address the concerns of public safety. Property owners within the block(s) for which speed humps are considered for installation in accordance with this section of the Speed Hump Policy shall be contacted and afforded an opportunity to comment on the proposed installation of speed humps and the findings of the study. Council shall consider the findings and recommendations of the study and comments received at the public hearing in deciding on the installation of speed humps.
6. Notwithstanding the minimum volume criteria set forth in criteria 2 above, speed humps may be installed in the following unique circumstances:
 - a. On streets within 1000 feet of a school or park with the speed criteria in 3 above; pending receipt of a valid petition in accordance with criteria 1 above.
 - b. On streets where the Boone Police Department recommends speed hump installation as part of a comprehensive speed reduction program.
 - c. Upon traffic engineer recommendation.
7. The installation of speed humps is subject to the availability of funding. Those streets not meeting these criteria will be considered for alternative measures where appropriate.
8. Following an adequate review and analysis period, speed humps may be removed if a petition with signatures from a majority {more than 50%} of the impacted property owners is obtained, or where traffic circulation and safety concerns justify their removal as determined by the Public Works Director. Speed humps installed pursuant to Section 5 of this policy shall be removed only upon order of Town Council.