



# Neighborhood Traffic Calming Policy

Engineering Services & Newberg-Dundee Police Department

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The purpose of this Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan (NTCP) is to establish a set of consistent standards offering the City of Newberg's approach to potential traffic calming requests by the public, City staff, Newberg Traffic Safety Commission, and others.

Local residential streets in the City are designed and constructed to serve neighborhood traffic. As collector or arterial streets experience congestion, local residential streets report an increase in cut through traffic. This increase can be attributed to population growth in the City which averages around three percent each year over the last decade. Other growth related traffic issues are higher traffic volumes that reduce roadway capacity and excessive speed beyond the posted limits. These traffic problems have been brought to the attention of Newberg Traffic Safety Commission for consideration in accordance with the Municipal Code §2.15.070 through §2.15.220.

The City of Newberg recognizes the benefits of reasonable traffic calming measures (TCM) that may restore livability and enhance traffic and pedestrian safety. TCM, on the other hand, may adversely affect emergency response time for fire and rescue if they are not properly applied. This NTCP is created to provide a unified response in addressing speed, volume, and cut through traffic problems that are often expressed by local residents. Upon adoption by Newberg Traffic Safety Commission and the Newberg City Council, NTCP will provide guidance to the public and staff on traffic calming implementation.

## 2. EVALUATION PROCESS

Although requests for TCM are often initiated by local residents, the City can also request it proactively. Careful consideration must be given to the applicability, location and design of TCM based upon a set of established traffic engineering principles.

The *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD), 2009 Edition or the latest as revised, offers authoritative principles on certain TCM. *U.S. Traffic Calming Manual*, published by APA Planners Press and American Society of Civil Engineers, 2009, provides practical guidance only on when and how to implement TCM and not all listed TCM are acceptable to the City of Newberg.

### 2.1 Involving the Community & Understanding the Problems

Listening to citizens' complaints is essential for each traffic issue. By listening, root problems or causes may be isolated from perceptions. This will include visits to problematic areas which may identify certain site issues such as lack of visibility due to vegetative growth that may be easily corrected.

Getting community support is crucial for the success of TCM. Input from all stakeholders including decision makers is essential in building support for a sustainable TCM. Newberg-Dundee Police Department, Newberg Engineering Services Department and Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue offer staff support in the TCM approval process.

## **2.2 Collecting Data**

Often, traffic data such as speed and volume has to be collected and crash information from Newberg-Dundee Police Department records evaluated for a traffic study.

## **2.3 Criteria Used to Determine Options**

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue has identified the following routes as primary to their fire and paramedic responses:

Main Street, College Street, Meridian Street, Villa Road, Springbrook Road, Blaine Street, River Street, Wynooski Road, Haworth Avenue, Mountainview Drive, Vittoria Way, Brutscher Street, Hayes Street/Providence Drive, and Fernwood Road.

Consequently, traffic calming on these routes requires special review and must demonstrate no loss in emergency response time. Horizontal deflection devices such as roundabouts may be the only calming measure approvable in these circumstances. Joint approvals from Police, Fire and Engineering Services Departments will be required prior to implementation of any TCM projects.

City streets of *local* or *minor collector* classifications per current edition of *Newberg Transportation System Plan* (other than the above emergency routes) may receive full consideration for TCM.

The Average Daily Traffic (ADT) is defined as the total traffic volume on a street during a given time period (in whole days), greater than 1 day and less than 1 year, divided by the number of days in that time period. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is the speed under which 85 percent of traffic is traveling in a free flowing condition. This should be a good indicator for the posted speed. TCM solutions are best used when the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is more than 5 mph higher than the posted speed limit and the ADT exceeds 1,000 vehicles. Speeds are best controlled by law enforcement actions when these criteria are not met.

A post-implementation evaluation will be performed by City staff following each TCM project. This should identify all impacts to the citywide transportation system. Although TCM may address a speeding or volume issue on a single street or at a single intersection, only an analysis will determine if the real issue has been fully mitigated and not simply shifted to the neighboring streets. TCM must not be installed if they generate other traffic hazards.

## 2.4 Developing and Analyzing Options

Data that is collected for a TCM consideration would typically be reviewed by City staff within 30 days of its collection. Recommendations that meet Federal Highway Administration Rules as set forth in the current MUTCD edition and the Oregon Supplement to MUTCD may follow.

City staff will provide a recommended solution and depending on the solution additional public outreach and consensus may be required. A staff report will be written and the proposed mitigation request will go to the Traffic Safety Commission for consideration. Assuming the Commission grants the mitigation measure, implementation will then occur.

## 3. FUNDING

Normally community neighborhoods will fund 100% of TCM projects. The City may participate in funding when TCM for certain streets is deemed critical from the City's perspective. Funding options must be reviewed and determined before planning for design and construction occurs. Cost of the design, construction permits, etc. of any TCM projects must be developed and sources of funding determined prior to implementation.

### 3.1 Determining Eligibility for Funding

Each street or intersection will be given a score to determine eligibility for City funding according to the point system in the following table. Proposed TCM project would be eligible for partial City funding when street scoring reaches at least 50 points, with full City funding at 100 points.

**Table A: Street Scoring for Subsidy**

Category	Points	Basis for Point Assignment
85 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Speed	Max 40	10 points for every mph greater than 5 mph over the posted speed limit.
Average Daily Traffic Volume	Max 20	2 points for every 100 vehicles.
Sidewalks	Max 20	10 points for missing sidewalk on one side; 20 points for no sidewalks at all.
Pedestrian Generators	Max 20	10 points for each school, church, library, community center, park or playground.
Total Scoring	Max 100	

### 3.2 Exploring Funding Options

The City may explore grant opportunities or in-kind donations for implementing TCM on city streets. When neighborhood funding is able to support 100% of the construction cost, the City will offer a TCM construction plan at no cost to the neighbors, provided at least 60% of households in the calming area support the cause.

The neighbors can also petition for the formation of a local improvement district per Newberg Municipal Code Chapter 3.15.

#### **4. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**

Construction plans require review by all affected City Departments prior to construction and must comply with Federal and State regulations and requirements. The City will install TCM per the approved plan.