



City of
SANTA CLARITA

**Department of Public Works
Traffic and Transportation Planning Division**

**SPEED HUMP/CUSHION PROGRAM
PACKAGE**

Adopted by City Council 7/13/2010



Introduction to Speed Hump/ Cushion Program

On July 13, 2010, the City of Santa Clarita City Council adopted procedures and policies to allow the placement of speed humps/cushions on City maintained roads. This speed hump/cushion program package includes background information as well as documents required throughout the speed hump/cushion placement process.

The responsible agency in administering the Speed Hump/Cushion program is the Department of Public Works- Traffic and Transportation Planning Division. Please contact the Traffic and Transportation Planning Division for any questions regarding this program:

Mail: Traffic and Transportation Planning Division
23920 Valencia Blvd., Suite 300
Santa Clarita, CA 91355

Phone: (661) 255-4942

The Speed Hump/Cushion Program Package includes the following:

- Background Information
- Speed Hump/Cushion Flow Chart
- Procedures for Installation of Speed Humps/Cushions
- Criteria for Installation of Speed Humps/Cushions
- Design Guidelines for Speed Hump/Cushion
- Speed Hump/Cushion Study Request
- Speed Hump/Cushion Petition



Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A SPEED HUMP/CUSHION?

The purpose of a speed hump/cushion is to reduce the speed of vehicles on 25 MPH residential streets where excessive speeding occurs. Excessive speed is defined as:

- The 85th percentile speed (the speed at which 85% of the drivers travel at or under) is greater than 30 MPH.

A speed hump/cushion is not designed to reduce the volume of traffic on residential streets. However, some drivers may avoid streets with speed humps/cushions.

WHERE ARE SPEED HUMPS/CUSHIONS USED?

Speed humps/cushions are not intended for use on all streets. They are permitted on residential streets that have a minimum length of 500 feet, posted or prima facie speed limit is 25 MPH, daily traffic volume of at least 2,000 vehicles, and do not exceed a sustained grade of six percent.

ARE SPEED HUMPS/CUSHIONS EFFECTIVE?

Speed humps/cushions have been shown to reduce the speed of vehicles on residential streets. Studies indicate the 85th percentile speed (the speed below at which 85% of all vehicles travel) decrease 4 to 6 miles per hour after speed hump humps/cushions were installed.

ARE THERE DISADVANTAGES TO HAVING SPEED HUMPS/CUSHIONS ON MY STREET OR MY NEIGHBOR'S STREET?

- Some residents feel the additional traffic signs, street painting, and speed humps/cushions detract from appearance of neighborhood.
- Placement of speed hump/cushion may eliminate the ability to park on certain portions of the street.
- Speed humps/cushions may impact the effectiveness of street sweeping operations.
- Emergency response times are delayed but with the use of speed cushions are minimized.
- Some drivers may speed up between speed humps/cushions to make up for time lost while slowing down to go over speed hump/cushions.
- Some residents complain of increased noise levels.



Frequently Asked Questions

WILL THE PROGRAM PROVIDE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SPEED CUSHIONS ON PRIVATE RIGHT OF WAYS?

The City does not have jurisdiction over the placement of speed humps/cushions on non-city maintained right of ways. The program only allows the placement of speed humps/cushions on city maintained right of ways.

WHO CAN REQUEST SPEED HUMPS/CUSHIONS?

The adopted Speed Hump/Cushion Program only allows the governing Homeowners Association (HOA) or Neighborhood Watch Group (only if no HOA exists) to make a formal request.

If no HOA or Neighborhood Watch Group (NWG) exists on your street, a Neighborhood Watch Group must be formed for the purposes of making this request. Information on starting a NWG can be found at:

www.sevsheriff.com/prog_neighborhood/watch.asp

WHO PAYS FOR THE COST TO INSTALL SPEED HUMPS/CUSHIONS?

Property owners on the affected streets are responsible for 100% of the installation cost of speed humps/cushions.

Once a majority of the affected property owners vote to create a benefit assessment district (boundaries to be determined by City) to finance the installation costs (per requirements of California Proposition 218), the City will advance the money to install speed humps/cushions. The City will then be reimbursed the cost of installation from the established benefit assessment district. The benefit assessment district will show as a line item on a property owner's tax bill. Under this plan, staff estimates the annual cost to each household will not exceed \$100 per year for a duration of 10 years.

WHO WILL MAINTAIN THE SPEED HUMPS/CUSHIONS?

The City will be responsible for future maintenance of speed humps/cushions.

CAN SPEED HUMPS/CUSHIONS BE REMOVED?

The removal of any speed humps/cushions or series of speed humps/cushions shall be based on a two-thirds vote of the affected resident.



Typical Speed Cushion Photos



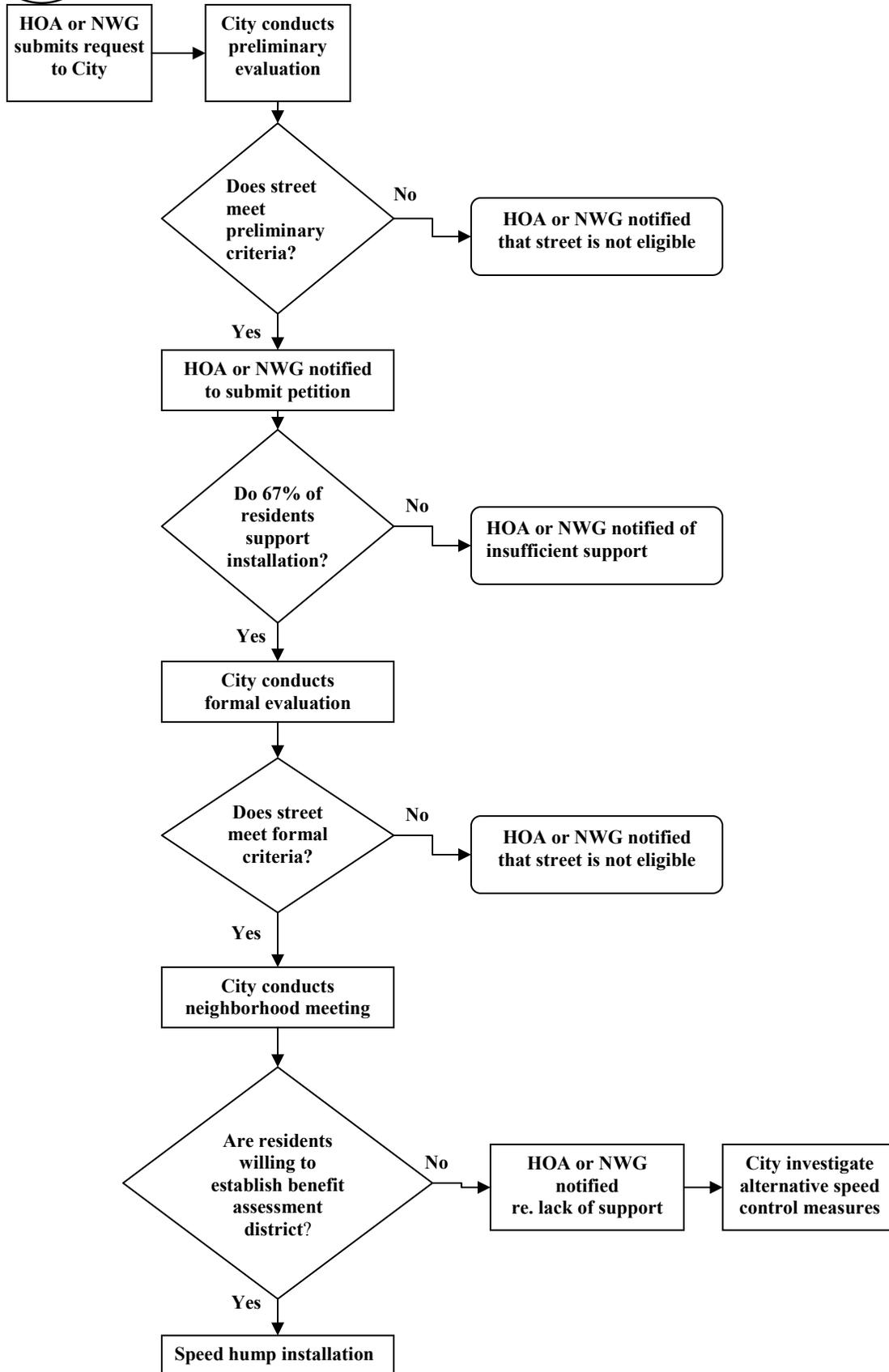
Typical Speed Cushion Layout on Residential Street



Fire Engine Straddling Speed Cushion
(Reduces impact on emergency response times)



Speed Hump/Cushion Flow Chart





Procedures for the Installation of Speed Humps/Cushions

1. A Homeowners Association (HOA) or Neighborhood Watch Group (NWG) that believes the residents on their street will support the installation of speed humps/speed cushions must submit a request in writing to the City. A NWG shall be formed in absence of an HOA for purposes of making the request.
2. City staff will make an initial determination of whether the street in question is eligible for further consideration for the installation of speed humps/speed cushions based on the City of Santa Clarita Speed Humps/Speed Cushions criteria. City staff will also consult with the Sheriff and Fire Departments as part of the determination.
3. If it is determined upon the initial study that the street in question is not eligible for speed humps/speed cushions, the HOA or NWG will be notified in writing as to the reason the street is not eligible.
4. If it is determined that the street is eligible for further consideration, the HOA or NWG for the neighborhood will be notified to submit a petition (forms provided by the City) from the abutting property owners or residents indicating that at least 67 percent support the installation of speed humps/speed cushions on their street. The sponsor of the petition is required to contact every property owner or resident of the abutting properties on the subject street. If the sponsor is unable to contact a property owner or resident, "NO CONTACT" will be noted on the petition signature space with the days and times the contact was attempted. It is required that the sponsor make at least two attempts on separate days to contact a property owner or resident.

Any petitions submitted prior to eligibility determination (Step 2) by City staff will not be processed until eligibility is determined. In addition, any petitions submitted with incomplete information are subject to rejection.

5. Upon verification of the petition, City staff will conduct a formal evaluation, including collecting traffic speed and volume measurements and reviewing the traffic accident history for the subject street. In addition, the Traffic and Transportation Planning Division will submit the petition to the Sheriff and Fire Departments and Transit Division for their comments.
6. Upon completion of the formal evaluation, the representative will be notified in writing as to whether or not the subject street meets the minimum criteria for installation of speed humps/speed cushions. It is the representative's responsibility to notify the other abutting property owners or residents of the results of the formal evaluation.
7. Upon completion of the formal evaluation and the required minimum criteria for speed humps/speed cushions are met, a neighborhood meeting will be held to inform the residents of the advantages and disadvantages of using speed



Procedures for the Installation of Speed Humps/Cushions

humps/speed cushions on their street. In addition, other non-physical remedies will be introduced.

8. If the group chooses to proceed with the installation of speed humps/speed cushions, the group shall establish a speed humps/speed cushions benefit assessment district to finance the installation per the requirements of Proposition 218. The City will advance the money to install the speed humps/speed cushions and be reimbursed from the established speed humps/speed cushions benefit assessment district.
9. Upon the establishment of a speed humps/speed cushions benefit assessment district, the City will proceed with installation of speed humps/speed cushions.
10. The physical installation of speed humps/speed cushions and the associated traffic control devices shall conform to the design standards established by the City and all City procedures for roadway work within the public right-of-way, including all appropriate permits and inspections.



Criteria for the Installation of Speed Humps/Cushions

1. **Street Type:** Street shall conform to the definition of “Residence District” in the California Vehicle Code Section 515 and qualify for a 25 mph speed limit. A street is defined as a “Residence District” in the California Vehicle Code if there are 13 or more homes within a quarter-mile along one side of the street or 16 or more homes within a quarter-mile along both sides of the street.
2. **Traffic Volume:** Street shall have a minimum daily volume of 2,000 vehicles.
3. **Traffic Speeds:** A speed survey shall demonstrate that the 85th percentile speed is greater than 30 mph.
4. **Street Length:** Street shall have a minimum length of 500 feet.
5. **Street Width:** Street shall have only one lane in each direction.
6. **Street Grade:** Street shall not exceed a sustained grade of six percent.
7. **Request:** Speed humps/speed cushions request must come from a Homeowners Association (HOA) or a Neighborhood Watch Group (NWG). An NWG must be formed in absence of an HOA.
8. **Petition:** At least two-thirds of the affected residents (i.e. properties abutting the subject street) shall vote in favor of the speed humps/speed cushions.
9. **Parallel Streets:** Speed humps/speed cushions installation should not cause diversion of traffic to other residential streets.
10. **Other Physical Considerations:** Other physical characteristics that may limit the feasibility of speed humps/speed cushions on a particular street include locations of driveways, locations of access covers to underground utilities, locations of catch basins and other drainage structures, and existing drainage issues or difficulties. No severe vertical or horizontal curves, and speed humps/speed cushions should be visible for safe stopping distance.
11. **Removal Policy:** The removal of any speed humps/speed cushions or series of speed humps/speed cushions shall be based on a two-thirds vote of the affected residents (i.e. properties abutting the subject street).

Speed Hump/Cushion Study Request



City of Santa Clarita
Traffic and Transportation Planning Division
23920 Valencia Blvd., Suite 300
Santa Clarita, CA 91355

Request for Speed Hump/Cushion Study

The following is an application form to request speed humps/cushions. Each request must be made by the governing Homeowners Association (HOA). If no HOA exists, a Neighborhood Watch Group (NWG) shall be formed for the purposes of making this request. The request will be processed in accordance to the City of Santa Clarita's adopted Speed Hump/Cushion procedure.

Street Study Information

Each request must provide the name of the street or streets on which a study is requested and the boundaries of the street segment.

Requested Street: _____

Boundary Area: From: _____ To: _____

Requested Street: _____

Boundary Area: From: _____ To: _____

If more streets are requested, please attach a separate sheet.

City staff will make an initial determination of whether the street(s) requested is eligible for further consideration based on the City of Santa Clarita's adopted Speed Hump/Cushion criteria. City staff retains the right to modify this request by either expanding or shortening the boundary area as well as including neighboring streets not initially requested if it is found that traffic will be diverted as a result of placing speed hump/cushions on requested street(s).

Please note the City of Santa Clarita will advance the funds required to install speed hump/cushions only after a benefit assessment district is created by the homeowners. Please refer to the City's Procedures for the Installation of Speed Hump/Cushions document for more information.

Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Santa Clarita, CA Zip: _____ Phone: _____

I am authorized to sign this request for a speed hump/cushion study on behalf of the HOA or NWG.

Signature: _____

CITY USE ONLY		
<input type="checkbox"/> Eligible	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Eligible	Initials: _____

Speed Hump/Cushion Petition

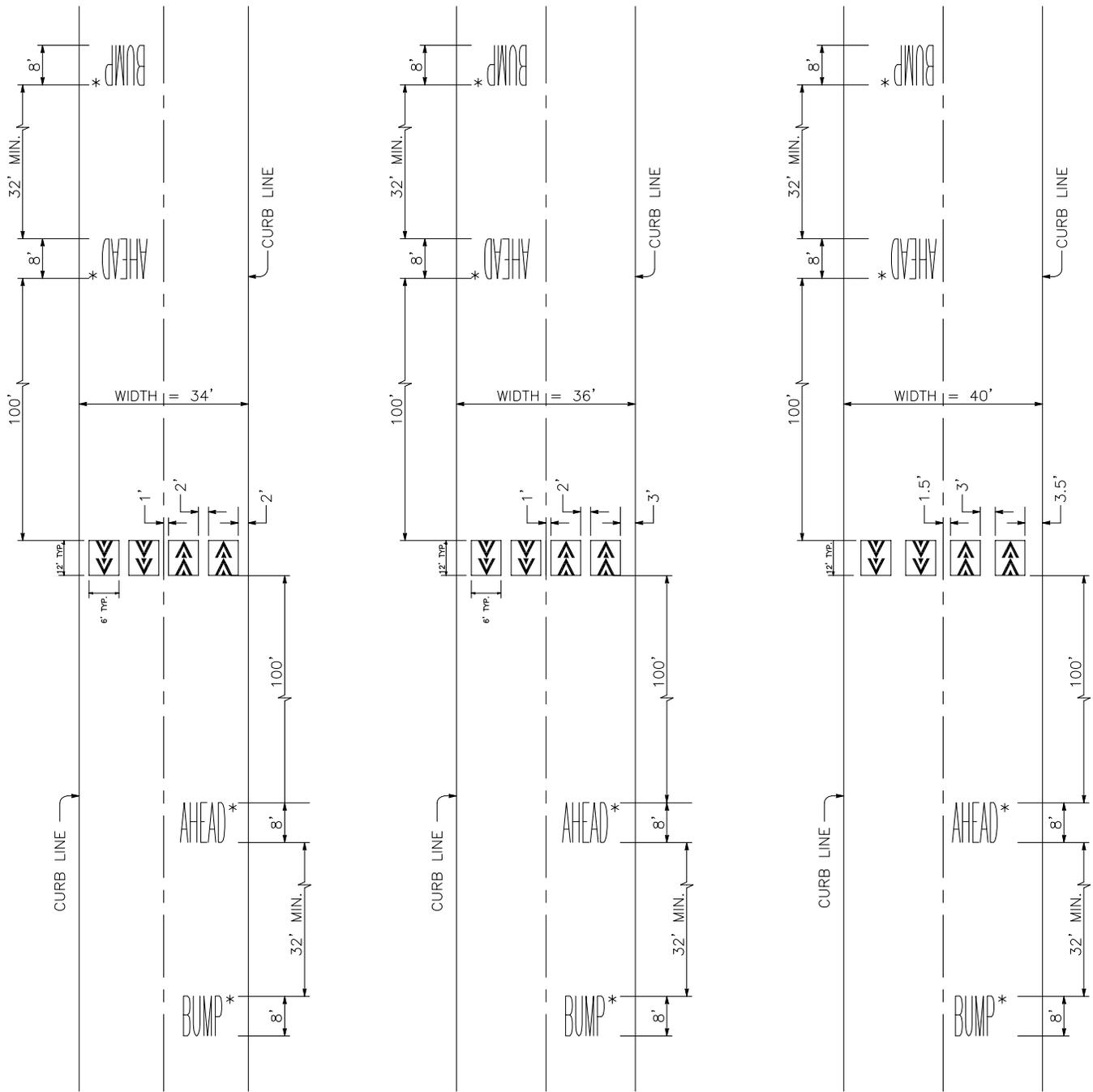


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<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES, I favor speed humps/cushions on my street. <input type="checkbox"/> NO, I do not favor speed humps on my street.</p> <p>Address: _____ APN _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Name: _____ (Please Print)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO RESPONSE 1st Contact _____ (date) : _____ (time) 2nd Contact: _____ (date) : _____ (time)</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES, I favor speed humps/cushions on my street. <input type="checkbox"/> NO, I do not favor speed humps on my street.</p> <p>Address: _____ APN _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Name: _____ (Please Print)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO RESPONSE 1st Contact _____ (date) : _____ (time) 2nd Contact: _____ (date) : _____ (time)</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES, I favor speed humps/cushions on my street. <input type="checkbox"/> NO, I do not favor speed humps on my street.</p> <p>Address: _____ APN _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Name: _____ (Please Print)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO RESPONSE 1st Contact _____ (date) : _____ (time) 2nd Contact: _____ (date) : _____ (time)</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES, I favor speed humps/cushions on my street. <input type="checkbox"/> NO, I do not favor speed humps on my street.</p> <p>Address: _____ APN _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Name: _____ (Please Print)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO RESPONSE 1st Contact _____ (date) : _____ (time) 2nd Contact: _____ (date) : _____ (time)</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES, I favor speed humps/cushions on my street. <input type="checkbox"/> NO, I do not favor speed humps on my street.</p> <p>Address: _____ APN _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Name: _____ (Please Print)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO RESPONSE 1st Contact _____ (date) : _____ (time) 2nd Contact: _____ (date) : _____ (time)</p>

CITY USE ONLY
Date Received: _____

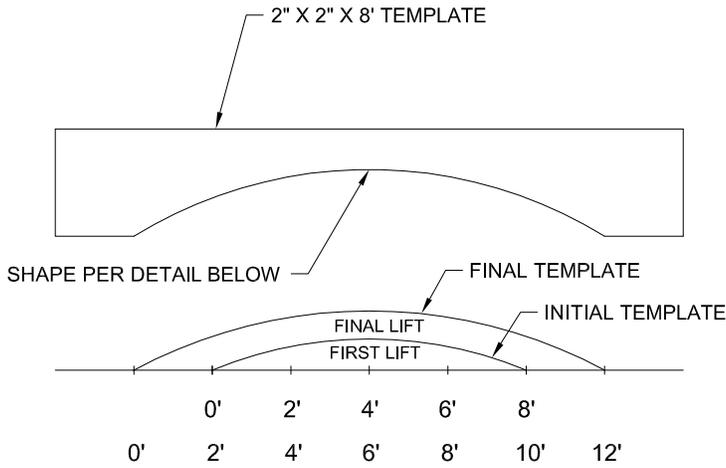
ROADWAY WIDTH = 34' ROADWAY WIDTH = 36' ROADWAY WIDTH = 40'



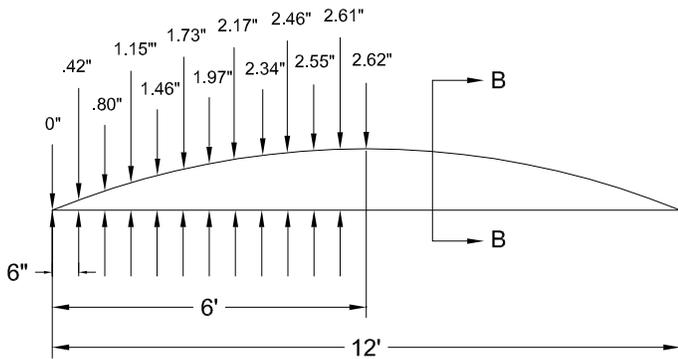
* CENTER OF PAVEMENT MARKING SHALL BE 6' FROM CENTERLINE OF ROADWAY

STANDARD PLANS FOR THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA

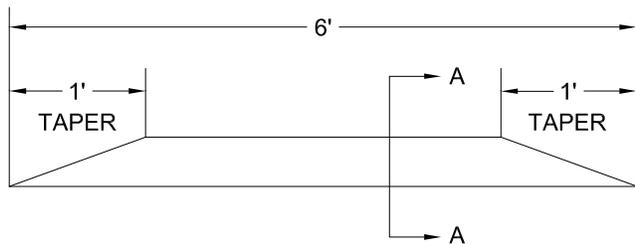
<p>TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 2010</p>	<p>SPEED CUSHION LAYOUT</p> <p>ROADWAY WIDTH W=34'</p> <p>ROADWAY WIDTH W=36'</p> <p>ROADWAY WIDTH W=40'</p> <p>NOT TO SCALE</p>	<p>STANDARD PLAN ENGLISH</p> <p>002-1</p> <p>SHEET 1 OF 2</p>
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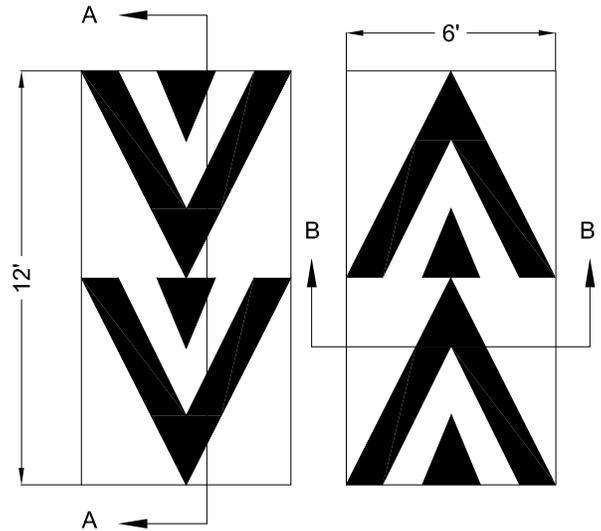
TEMPLATE DETAIL
NOT TO SCALE



SECTION A-A
NOT TO SCALE



SECTION B-B
NOT TO SCALE



SPEED CUSHION MARKING DETAIL
NOT TO SCALE

CONSTRUCTION NOTES:

1. ASPHALT SPEED CUSHIONS SHALL BE 12' X 2 5/8" ± 1/8".
2. USING TWO TEMPLATES, ASPHALT SPEED CUSHIONS SHALL BE HAND LAID IN TWO LIFTS AND HOT ROLLED OVER A TACK COAT.
3. ASPHALT SPEED CUSHIONS SHALL BE INSTALLED ACROSS THE ROADWAY AS INDICATED ON STANDARD PLAN 002-1 (SHEET 1 OF 2).
4. ASPHALT MIX SHALL BE APPROVED BY CITY ENGINEER PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION.

STANDARD PLANS FOR THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION

SPEED CUSHION CONSTRUCTION DETAIL

STANDARD PLAN ENGLISH

002-2