

City of Cambridge Traffic Calming Warrant

The City of Cambridge endorses traffic calming as a means of reducing speeding, through traffic and collisions in residential neighbourhoods. The purpose of the policy is to provide procedures and criteria for initiation, investigation and implementation of traffic calming measures, thereby improving safety and quality of life for local residents.

The City has two levels of traffic calming to efficiently and economically address speed and volume issues on residential streets.

Level 1 – Soft Calming

Typical Level 1 treatments include signs, pavement markings and seasonal on-road signs to improve driver awareness and reduce speed.

Warrant Criteria

Traffic Volume	800+ vehicles per day*	
AND		
Traffic Speed (85 th percentile)	>10 km/h over the posted speed limit	AND A minimum of 55 km/h*

*except within designated school and park zones

Level 1 treatments are applied where warranted as part of the Traffic Investigation process.

Level 2 – Physical Intervention

Level 2 treatments physically alter the roadway creating vertical and horizontal obstacles which can include speed humps/cushions, raised intersections, median islands, bump outs and roundabouts.

Warrant Criteria

Traffic Volume	1000+ vehicles per day on a local road* OR 2500+ vehicles per day on a collector road		
AND			
Traffic Speed (85 th percentile)	>10 km/h over the posted speed limit	AND	A minimum of 55 km/h*
AND			
Neighbourhood Commitment ^{†**}	Level 1 treatments have been in place for over 1 year	AND	The Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Petition has been completed

*except within designated school and park zones

**The Neighbourhood Commitment requirement is waived for streets scheduled for reconstruction.

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The Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Petition (Appendix A) identifying support from 51% of properties within the application zone is required to pursue Level 2 Traffic Calming due to the invasive impact including noise and driver discomfort. If the Level 2 requirements are met public consultation will be conducted to identify the best design. All Level 2 installations are subject to review and support by Emergency Services and Public Works.

Implementation Scheduling

Implementation of traffic calming devices will occur in the order of request however in the event that insufficient budget is available for all projects the scheduling of larger projects will be based on the capital budget process.

Streets That Do Not Meet Traffic Calming Warrant Criteria

To ensure fair and financially responsible use of City resources City led traffic calming is only applied to streets meeting the requirements outlined above however residents of streets not eligible can participate in the Keep Calm program. Keep Calm is a resident-led neighbourhood improvements program that encourages neighbours to get together and implement creative projects to slow down or beautify their neighbourhood streets.

Streets that do not qualify for traffic calming are not eligible for reassessment for a three year period.

Removal of Traffic Calming Devices

The City reserves the right to remove traffic calming measures if it determines that they are ineffective or unsafe, or if they have created a negative impact that cannot be corrected.

Traffic calming devices may be removed, at the request of residents after two years by completing the Neighbourhood Traffic Calming Petition. The petition requires a minimum of 51% of properties within the original application's zone to support removal. If traffic calming devices are removed, the subject street must wait at least five years before requesting a new traffic calming assessment; at this point the approval process will start over.

Traffic Calming & Emergency Services

Consultation with emergency services will occur early in the process when considering Level 2 treatments. If a street that is requested for Level-2 is on an emergency priority route, emergency services will have approval authority. If not, City staff will notify emergency services of planned treatments and if concerns are raised, further discussion of design treatment will be undertaken.

Preventative Traffic Calming In New Development

Developers will be required to design streets that limit the potential for excessive speeding and volume. If unable to do so to the satisfaction of the City Transportation Section, then traffic calming measures will be incorporated in new plans of subdivision to limit speed and volume of traffic.