

Speed Humps

Purpose:

Reduce Vehicle Speeds
Below 30 MPH

Decrease Vehicular
Traffic Volume



Application:

Residential Areas -
Usually installed on
residential streets

Not Major Routes -
Not typically used on major
roads, bus routes, or primary
emergency response routes

Details:

Rounded Raised Areas of Pavement

Typical Speed Humps:

Height: 3" – 3 ½"

Length: 12' – 14'

Width: Roadway

Speed: 15 – 30 mph

Pavement Markings - posted before or at hump

Advanced Warning Signs - before 1st hump in series

Tapered Edges - near curb for drainage



Cost:

Cost/Hump: \$2000 - \$3000 est.

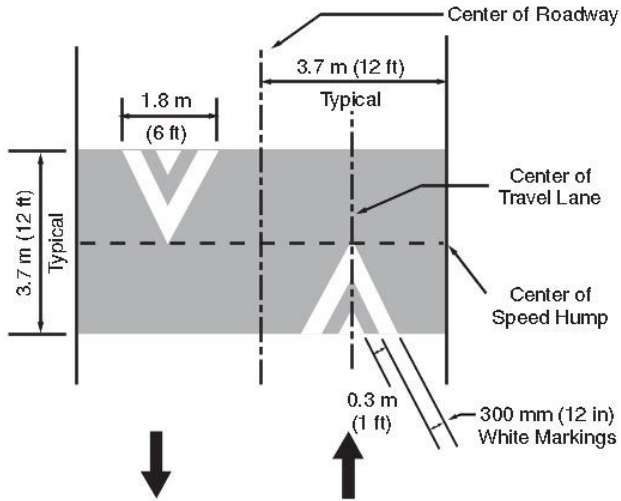
Speed Humps

Benefits:

- Slows Traffic** - before and after the hump
- Placed In Series** - speed reduction by 8-10 mph
- Traffic Volume** - 18% reduction
- Collisions** - 13% reduction
- Speeds** - 20-25% speed reduction between humps

Criticisms:

- Slows Emergency Response Times**
 - Fire Trucks – 3 - 5 seconds/hump
 - Ambulances w/patient – up to 10 seconds/hump
- Increases Traffic Noise** – braking/acceleration, particularly buses/trucks



Comparison:

Speed Bump

- Primarily placed in parking lots
- Height: 4" – 6"
- Length: 1' – 3'
- Speed: 5 MPH

Speed Cushion

- Narrow speed hump sections with longitudinal gaps, which allow wider-wheelbase emergency vehicles to pass over at higher speeds but forces cars to slow down.

Speed Table

- Height: 3" - 3½"
- Length: 22' (10' plateau & 6' approaches)
- Speed: 25 - 30 MPH

Location:

Speed Hump Spacing:

- Less than 600' block: 1 hump
- 601' – 1200' block: 2 humps
- Exceeding 1200' block: 3 humps
- Series of blocks: 400' – 600' apart

Speed Hump Placement:

- Mid-block placement
- 50' from intersections
- 250' from traffic control devices
- 6' from driveways
- 50' from "No Parking" signs
- Not on grade greater than 8%
- Not in curved section of roadways



References:

- U.S. Department of Transportation – Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation – Federal Highway Administration (www.fhwa.dot.gov)
- U.S. Department of Transportation – Institute of Transportation Engineers (www.ite.org/traffic/hump.htm)

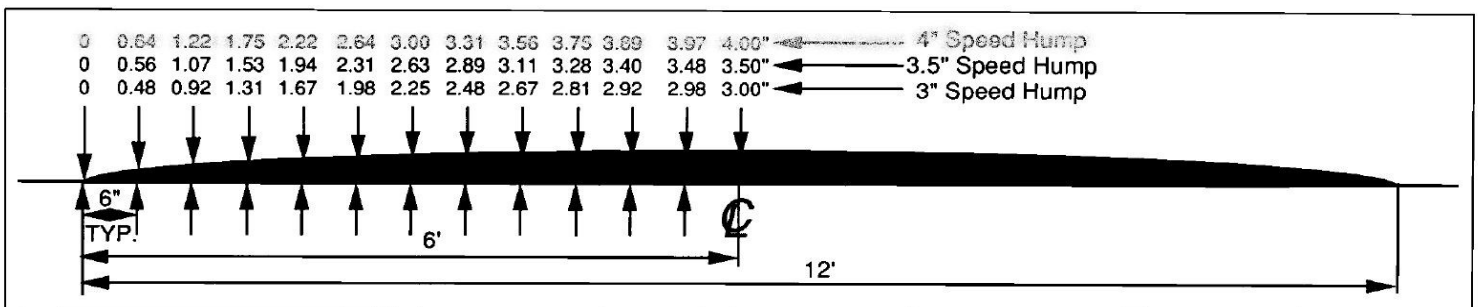


Figure: Typical speed hump dimensions (parabolic 4-in., 3.5-in. and 3-in.).