



City of Goose Creek Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program

Mission Statement

It shall be the mission of the Public Works Department to provide traffic calming solutions where appropriate in order to influence driver behavior, improve the neighborhood quality of life, and create more livable local streets.

Goal

To work closely with residents of the neighborhood to properly identify the concerns, conduct appropriate studies to quantify any problems and develop solutions that will reduce traffic speeds and collisions, or the severity of collisions should they occur. This will in turn improve pedestrian safety and create more pleasant neighborhoods for the citizens of Goose Creek.

Eligibility

All eligibility requirements below must be met:

State Maintained Road (SCDOT)

- Functional Classification = local residential or minor collector.
- 25 mph (or less) speed limit per Section 57-7-230 of the *South Carolina Code of Laws*.
- Two-lane roadway (may have turn lanes and may have parking).
- The primary access to commercial or industrial sites is not eligible.
- Traffic volume less than 4000 AADT.
- Within Urban District as defined in Section 56-5-1520 of the *South Carolina Code of Laws*: "Urban district means the territory contiguous to and including any street which is built up with structures devoted to business, industry, or dwelling houses situated at intervals of less than one hundred feet for a distance of a quarter of a mile or more."

Berkeley County Maintained Road

- Be a County maintained, local, residential, paved, public street with minimum 50 feet of right-of-way and minimum 20 feet of travelway
- Have a speed limit of 25 miles per hour, or less
- Be entirely within the County boundary line
- Have average speeds that exceed the posted speed limit
- Have a minimum average daily traffic count of 350 vehicles and a maximum average daily traffic county of 4,000 vehicles
- Have 85 percent of the residents living within the impacted area, as determined by the County Engineer or designee, sign a petition requesting the traffic calming device and appointing a contact person for the request. The petition must identify the specific proposed location(s) of the traffic calming device(s). All residents within 200 feet of the proposed location(s) must sign in support of the request.

Article V. Sec. 56-141

Additional Eligibility Requirements

- If the Homeowners Association (HOA) is active, a letter of support will be required with submission of petition.
- Privately owned and maintained streets are not eligible for the traffic management program.
- If an application is denied, another application cannot be submitted for the same street within one year.

Funding

Funding for speed bumps will be provided annually at the discretion of City Council. Approved locations will be installed as funds are available on a first come, first served basis.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming Projects Policy

Initial Request

Requests made from a neighborhood association or groups of concerned citizens may be directed to the City's Department of Public Works by completing an application request. The problem areas should be identified as specifically as possible in order to ensure the appropriate data is collected. Upon verifying the street is eligible for the program and study area defined, City Staff will provide the primary contact with the petition sheet to collect signatures. If the roadway is maintained by SCDOT, the primary contact will need to collect the signatures of 75% of the residents in the project area. If the roadway is maintained by Berkeley County, 85% of the residents will need to sign the petition. Privately maintained roads are not eligible for this program. Petitions with the required number of signatures shall be returned to the Department of Public Works within thirty (30) days. Additionally, if there is an active HOA in the defined area, a letter of support will be required with submission of completed petitions.

Traffic Investigations

The Department of Public Works along with the Goose Creek Police Department will conduct traffic volume/speed surveys at strategic locations in the neighborhood. The results are compiled on a map of the neighborhood detailing County and State-owned roadways.

Neighborhood Consultations

Results of the traffic data collection are provided to the neighborhood association, City Council, and SCDOT or Berkeley County. Based on the data, specific locations for traffic control changes are identified by the neighborhood. Once the neighborhood association reaches a consensus regarding the changes, another meeting is held between the neighborhood association, the City, and SCDOT/Berkeley County to work out the details of the proposed changes.

Submission to SCDOT or Berkeley County

Upon City Council approval, the proposal is prepared in map form and submitted to the SCDOT District Engineering Administrator or Berkeley County Engineering. The information is reviewed and either approved or revised and returned to the City.

Implementation

The items outlined in the final plan are implemented by City staff. The Police Department is notified of the changes so that a coordinated enforcement effort can accompany the new traffic control.

Follow-Up Studies

After a reasonable period of time (a minimum of three weeks) for motorists to become accustomed to the changes, traffic volume/speed surveys are again conducted to determine the effect of the traffic control project. This information is evaluated by City and SCDOT/Berkeley County staff, and if necessary, additional action may be taken.