

TRUSTEES' POLICY REGARDING TRAFFIC CALMING

Preamble: The intent of traffic calming is to raise awareness and slow down traffic. However, any traffic calming measures must allow motorists to drive the posted speed limit in a safe manner. Traffic calming measures must also take into consideration road maintenance (i.e., snow removal, etc.), emergency management services and the potential impact on other residential streets (i.e., significant traffic diversion onto other Class 3 roads, etc.). Traffic cones and speed tables have been found to satisfy these criteria.

Purpose: To establish guidelines for the prioritization and installation of traffic cones and speed tables to help protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

Section 1. "Keep Kids Alive Drive 25" Cones

By calling the Village Manager's office at 878-6944, any citizen on a Class 3 road may request a set of "Keep Kids Alive Drive 25" cones with the following conditions:

1. Cones must be placed adjacent to the edge of pavement.
2. Cones shall not be placed within 250 feet of a signalized intersection.
3. Cones shall not be placed within designated municipal parking spaces.
4. Cones must not be placed in front of a driveway or otherwise interfere with entering or exiting.
5. Cones shall not be allowed within the public right-of-way from December 1st through April 1st.

The Village of Essex Junction and Essex Police Department reserves the right to remove any traffic cones that are not in compliance with this policy, interferes with the maintenance of public infrastructure, or creates a safety hazard.

Section 2. Speed Table Approval Process

Any resident can request speed enforcement by contacting the Essex Police Department at 878-8331.

Any resident can request a speed study by calling the Village Manager's office at 878-6944. If the speed study indicates the 85th percentile speed is 5 mph or above the speed limit in either direction, residents of a street can request a speed table(s) if 70% of the households sign a petition and submit it to the Village Manager.

Speed studies will be conducted from May 1st through September 30th. All petitions must be received by October 15, in order to be considered in the prioritization process for the upcoming budget year.

The Trustees reserve the right to order the installation of a speed table(s) without resident approval.

Section 3. Priority Ranking

It is anticipated that there will be more requests for funding of speed tables than the annual budget could support. Therefore, the following criteria will be used to establish a base formula from which to rank projects for funding during budget development. Sites shall be ranked based on the cumulative total points. A site with the greatest number of total points shall be considered to have the highest priority. A list shall be established with descending order of total cumulative points, with earliest date of application having a higher priority when sites have the same number of cumulative points.

The following criteria will be used to rank the sites:

- Traffic volume (24 hour)
- Traffic volume (peak hour)
- Speed
- Accident data
- Activity generators

Traffic Volume (24 hour)

Traffic volumes will be measured for a 24 hour period on the streets in the traffic calming area. Points will be allocated based on the following table.

24 hour volume	Points
0-250	1
250-500	2
500-750	3
750-1000	4
1000+	5

Traffic Volume (Peak Hour)

Traffic volumes will be measured during the peak hour for both directions on the streets in the traffic calming area. Points will be allocated based on the following table.

Peak Hour Volume (vehicles per hour in both directions)	Points
0-50	1
50-75	2
75-100	3
100-125	4
125+	5

Traffic Speed

The site specific existing 85th percentile speed will be used in the evaluation process, and not the posted speed limit. [All Class 3 roads in the Village of Essex Junction are posted at 25 mph.] Points will be allocated based on the following table.

Site specific 85th percentile speed	Points
Within speed limit	0
5-10 mph above speed limit	5
10-15 mph above speed limit	10
15+ mph above speed limit	15

Accident Data

Site specific evaluation shall be limited to accidents in the traffic calming area. The analysis shall be limited to the total number of reported accidents over a period of the recent past three years. One point shall be assigned for each reported accident that is susceptible to correction by a traffic calming measure.

Activity Generators

Points for features will be assigned based on the type of activities on that street. Generators will be considered in terms of likely pedestrian and bicycle activity. The following table will act as a guide.

Activity Generators	Points
A street with a mid-block crosswalk or school crossing guard	5
A street with a public school	5
A street with a public park	5

Section 4. Appeal

If person(s) think that there are unique circumstances that require a higher prioritization, they may write a letter to the Village Trustees, c/o Village Manager, 2 Lincoln Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452.

Section 5. Funding

Budget: Requests for speed tables shall be prioritized in the Fall of each year for consideration as part of the proposed General Fund Budget or the General Fund Capital Budget in a subsequent fiscal year.

Special Assessment: If traffic calming is determined to be warranted, but money is not readily available for implementation, all affected parties may agree to pay for the improvements in accordance with 24 V.S.A., Chapter 87.

Section 6. Removal or Suspension

The Village Trustees reserve the right to direct the immediate removal and/or suspension of any traffic calming measure(s).

Adopted by the Village Trustees on 1/27/04. Revised 7/13/04, 8/10/04 and 8/26/14.

