



**Village of Downers Grove**

**Official Village Policy Approved by Village Council**

Description: Traffic Calming Policy

Res. or Ord. #: Ord. 4986

Effective Date: June 17, 2008

Category: Engineering and Public Works

New Council Policy

Amends Previous Policy Dated: 03/15/05; 10/21/91

Description of Previous Policy (if different from above):

Combining Inappropriate Use of Local Streets with  
Traffic Calming

**ORDINANCE NO. 4986**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE POLICY  
OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO TRAFFIC CALMING**

WHEREAS, the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove has determined that it is necessary and desirable to periodically monitor roadways to determine traffic volumes, vehicular speeds, parking activity and pedestrian usage; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Village of Downers Grove to maintain, regulate and promote roadway use and safety in all forms, including, but not limited to, motor vehicles, pedestrians, bicycles, etc., on highways and other public thoroughfares of the Village of Downers Grove, while essentially allowing for access to property and for utility rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove realizes that in certain circumstances when vehicular volumes and/or travel speeds are excessive and may threaten the public safety and welfare, it may be in the public's best interest to study such public thoroughfares in an effort to attempt to restore appropriate levels of vehicular and pedestrian safety through the use of traffic calming measures; and

WHEREAS, the objective of this Policy is to efficiently and effectively respond to traffic, speeding and safety concerns and to develop corrective or mitigating action which proposes to encourage and promote vehicles to travel an appropriate speed and to redirect inappropriate local street traffic to a designated arterial or collector roadway and not an adjacent or parallel local street.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Downers Grove, DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

1. That the Village Council, the Village Manager and the Transportation and Parking Commission or other appropriate recommending body will consider the implementation of traffic calming devices and measures as described in this Policy, as deemed appropriate. In an effort to achieve the objectives of this Policy, a variety of traffic calming techniques, including physical devices and operational measures, may be employed. The Village Council and/or the Village Manager shall

determine the traffic calming technique(s) to be employed in each specific circumstance on a case by case basis.

2. That the Village Manager and his/her designees are hereby authorized and directed to receive and appropriately respond to requests from residents or businesses for traffic calming measures. The Village Manager may refer such requests to the Transportation and Parking Commission for evaluation. Pursuant to Section 2.62 of the Village Code, the Transportation and Parking Commission is authorized to receive, investigate, evaluate and report to the Village Council on transportation activities on public property. The Village shall strive to seek input from and obtain a recommendation from the Transportation and Parking Commission on traffic calming issues when appropriate and practicable, prior to the deployment of a permanent traffic calming device or operational measure. The Transportation and Parking Commission's consideration of a traffic calming issue shall be conducted pursuant to Section 2.62 of the Village Code. In certain circumstances, the Village Council may, within its discretion, refer a traffic calming issue to any other recommending body for input and recommendation (i.e. Plan Commission, Public Safety Committee, etc.).

3. Traffic calming devices and operational measures may be used on any public street, public property (such as Village-owned parking areas) or thoroughfares located within the Village; provided that if used on any arterial and collector streets established as part of the Village's Future Land Use Map such devices or measures shall not unduly limit or restrict the flow of traffic throughout the Village and shall be employed in a manner to allow arterial and collector streets to function appropriately within the Village's street system as established as part of the Future Land Use map.

4. (a) The following standards will be applied when evaluating a request for traffic calming devices and operational measures:

i. The segment of a street or public property is chronically experiencing an inordinate number of vehicles traveling in excess of the posted speed limit;

ii. The segment of a street or public property is prone to experiencing a significant number of vehicles traveling at extreme speeds above the posted speed limit;

iii. The segment of a street or public property is experiencing unintended or excessive traffic volume (i.e. cut-through traffic);

iv. The requested traffic calming device or operational measure will not unduly limit, restrict or have any negative impacts on the flow of traffic throughout the Village;

v. The requested traffic calming device or operational measure will not substantially affect or frustrate the intended use of streets within the established street system, as established by the Future Land Use Map;

vi. The requested traffic calming device or operational measure will not negatively impact the delivery of Village services;

vii. The requested traffic calming device or operational measure will not significantly alter the character of the neighborhood;

viii. The requested traffic calming device or operational measure will not have a negative impact on the public health, safety and welfare.

In addition to the above standards, other relevant factors deemed appropriate that are specific and unique to a particular situation may be considered when evaluating a request, including, but not limited to, school and/or park proximity and pedestrian access.

(b) In the event that the Village wishes to pursue traffic calming devices or operational measures on any street that falls within the jurisdiction of the State, the County or Township, the authority having jurisdiction must review and approve the proposed traffic calming devices or operational measures prior to implementation.

5. The Village Manager may authorize the deployment of certain traffic calming devices and operational measures on a temporary basis, not to exceed a maximum of 180 days, except in cases in which the temporary measures are subject to the provisions specified in Section 14.4 of the Municipal Code, in which case the Village Manager's temporary suspension of regulations related to motor vehicles and traffic shall not exceed 60 days. The Village Manager may extend the timeframe for the use of temporary traffic calming devices and operational measures to allow time for the scheduling of a public meeting before the Transportation and Parking Commission and/or to allow for favorable weather conditions for the implementation of the Village Council approved permanent traffic calming devices.

6. The Village Council, upon receipt of a recommendation from the Village Manager and/or a recommendation from the Transportation and Parking Commission or other recommending body, as appropriate, may authorize the deployment of traffic calming devices and operational.

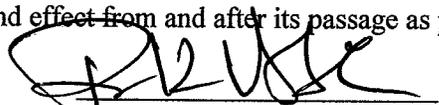
7. Once a traffic calming device or operational measure is approved, the Village shall have the right to prioritize the implementation of such device or measure. The Village's ability to construct approved traffic calming devices may be limited by budgetary constraints. In the event that there are multiple approved traffic calming devices which design and construction costs exceed the amount of funding in the approved municipal budget, the Village Council shall determine the priority of the traffic calming projects.

8. Once a traffic calming measure is implemented, the Village will continuously monitor its effectiveness and periodically report its findings to the Transportation and Parking Commission and/or the Village Council.

9. The validity of any ordinance or resolution otherwise passed in accordance with applicable law shall not be invalidated, impaired or otherwise affected by non-compliance with any part of a procedure or policy set forth herein.

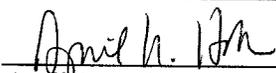
10. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

11. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage as provided by law.

  
Ronald L. Sandack, Mayor

Passed: June 17, 2008

Approved: June 18, 2008

Attest:   
April K. Holden, Village Clerk

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