

# Central Street News

## Neighborhood Traffic Management Program



**We have received a request to install traffic-calming devices on Central Street, between 11 Avenue and Legion Way.**

**Read this newsletter, then fill out the enclosed survey and let us know if you support this request.**

### **We Received a Request**

In April of 2008 we received a Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) received a traffic-calming request for Central Street SE, between 11 Avenue and Legion Way .

Good News! Your neighborhood's request is on the 2010 schedule. Transportation staff will work with you and your neighbors to gauge the level of support for installing traffic-calming devices, and to develop a plan that fits your street's unique needs. As NTMP is a neighborhood driven process, your participation is vital to its success.

### **We Need Your Feedback**

The enclosed survey will help us gauge the level of support for installing traffic-calming devices on your street. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey; staff will not move forward on this project unless we hear that there is support from the residents who live on the street.

### **Traffic-calming Devices**

Traffic-calming devices cannot solve all traffic problems; they address certain types of traffic concerns, such as:

- Reducing speeds of traffic on neighborhood streets
- Promoting safe and pleasant conditions for residents, pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorist, and
- Encouraging commuter traffic to use arterial streets.

Attached is a fact sheet for the four available traffic-calming devices. This fact sheet and more information about the NTMP is available on our website.

### **Next Steps**

Once we determine the level of support for installing devices, we will mail you another newsletter. It will provide you with the results of the survey and the next steps in the process.

### **Staying Informed**

This newsletter is the first in a series designed to keep you informed. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact us. We are here to help.

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[www.olympiawa.gov/ntmp](http://www.olympiawa.gov/ntmp)

# Central Street Survey

## Neighborhood Traffic Management Program

### Support Survey

Central Street SE between 11 Avenue and Legion Way is being considered for installation of traffic-calming devices. We would like to gauge the level of support for installing the devices on this section of the street. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

1. Do you support the installation of traffic-calming devices on Central Street?

- Yes
- No
- Undecided
- I do not have enough information to decide. Visit our website to learn more about NTMP.

2. What do you feel are the traffic problems on Central Street (check all that apply)?

- Speeding
- High volumes of traffic
- Pedestrian safety
- Other
- I have no concerns about traffic on Central

3. What other traffic-calming information would you find helpful?

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**Watch your mailbox:** It will contain an NTMP project newsletter with next steps and survey results for Central Street.

**Have questions?** Contact Lee Keech at 360.753.8565 or lkeech@ci.olympia.wa.us.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Please respond by Friday,  
February 26, 2010**

**Just use the enclosed  
envelope, postage is provided.**

# Traffic-calming Devices

## Neighborhood Traffic Management Program



### Bulb-outs

These devices inform drivers that they are transitioning from a higher speed facility to a low-speed, pedestrian-oriented area.



Bulb-outs work well when constructed at intersections or at mid-block locations to make the street appear narrow, thereby reducing speeds. Landscaping maintenance is the responsibility of the adjacent property owners or the neighborhood association.

#### Advantages

- Works well in combination with other devices.

#### Disadvantages

- Where no sidewalks exist, vehicles share the same area used by pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Need to accommodate drainage.
- Increased street maintenance.

### Two-lane Narrow Points

This device has a raised, landscaped center median that creates a narrowing effect that makes the street more visually confined, yet maintains two-way traffic.



#### Advantages

- Works well in combination with other devices.
- Works well for emergency services response routes.

#### Disadvantages

- Need to accommodate drainage.
- Increased street maintenance.

### Speed Cushions



The mounded shape of the devices cause a vehicle to rise and fall a height of 3 inches over a span of 14 feet. Wheel paths are designed into the device to allow these large vehicles, like fire trucks to drive through, rather than over the device. This feature minimizes their effect on emergency response times and equipment wear. The spacing of the wheel paths prevents most passenger vehicles from by-passing the device.

#### Advantages

- Works well in combination with other devices.
- Reduces, and can maintain, lower speeds when used in a series.

#### Disadvantages

- Need to accommodate drainage.
- Increased street maintenance.

### One-Lane Narrow Points



Reduces the roadway width to one 12-foot travel lane for approximately 20 feet. The device requires drivers to take turns driving through one lane, as it creates a narrowing effect that makes the street more visually confined.

#### Advantages

- Works well in combination with other devices.
- Single lanes can reduce speeds.

#### Disadvantages

- Need to accommodate drainage.
- Increased street maintenance.

**Learn more about the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program online.**

## Want More Information?

For more information, visit our website or contact staff listed below.

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## Contact Public Works

- **Physical Address:** 924 7th Avenue SE, Suite A
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