

# What is Traffic Calming?



Traffic Calming is the management of vehicular traffic to minimize negative impacts on neighborhoods and schools. Some roads in the City of Laguna Niguel have been modified to encourage better manage motorist travel behavior.

Two levels of Traffic Calming are identified by the City. The Basic level consists of concise measures that can be easily implemented by City staff. Complex challenges that cannot be addressed using Basic traffic calming may be eligible for a Comprehensive level project that requires additional review.

Individuals and organizations with traffic concerns can contact Laguna Niguel's Public Works Department with their issues or concerns, and staff will perform the appropriate study to address the specific concern.



## More Questions About Traffic Calming Measures?

This brochure is designed to provide a model to guide residents toward a better understanding of the available tools and the necessary steps to seek basic and comprehensive traffic calming services. If you have additional questions, you may contact the Laguna Niguel Public Works Department.

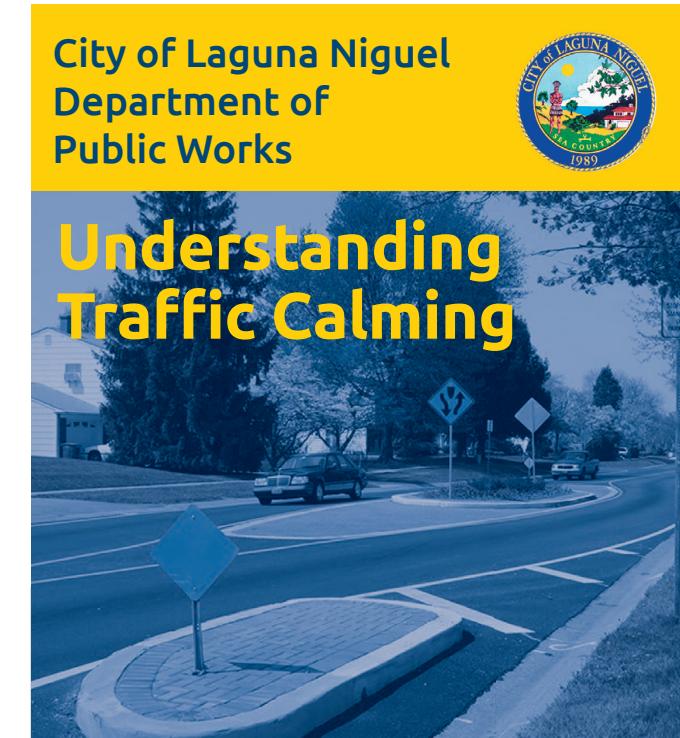
Contact Us for More Information

City of Laguna Niguel  
Public Works Department  
30111 Crown Valley Parkway  
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677  
**949-362-4337**

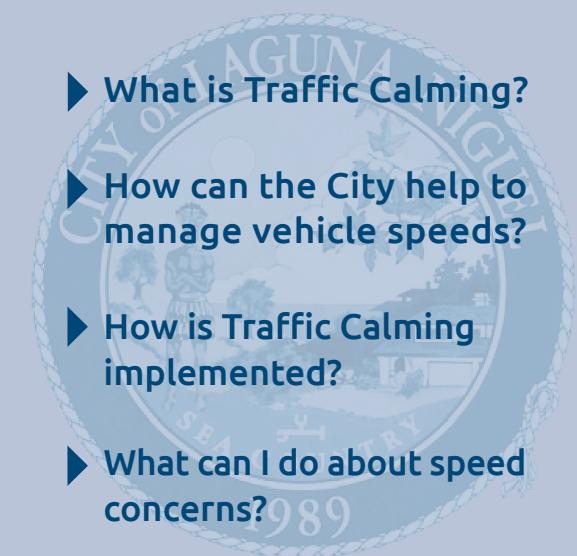
**City of Laguna Niguel  
Department of  
Public Works**



## Understanding Traffic Calming

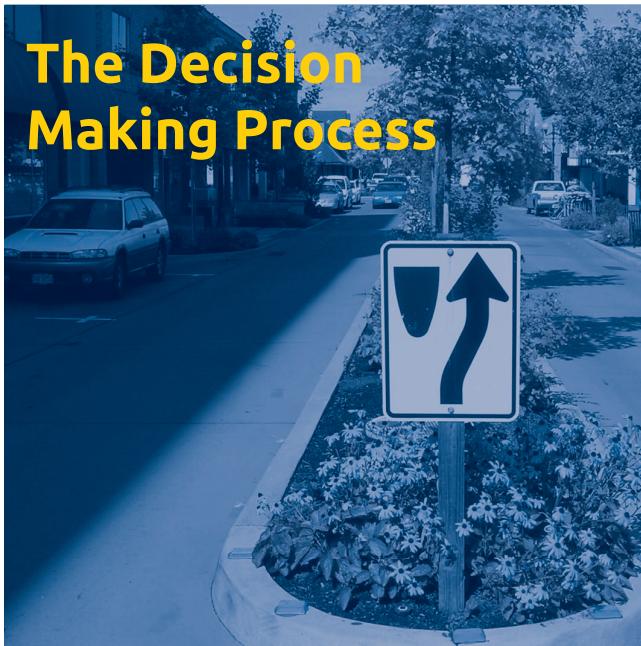


- ▶ What is Traffic Calming?
- ▶ How can the City help to manage vehicle speeds?
- ▶ How is Traffic Calming implemented?
- ▶ What can I do about speed concerns?



This brochure is designed to answer these questions and more.

# The Decision Making Process



## Here is how the Traffic Calming process works:

- 1. INITIATE:** Resident submits request by contacting the Public Works Department.
- 2. STAFF REVIEW:** City staff considers request, site conditions, traffic volumes, enforcement, and crash history.
- 3. IMPLEMENT:** If minor (Basic Level) items within City staff authority, staff takes action.
- 4. PETITION:** If major (Comprehensive Level) items, neighborhood petition signatures may be needed. A petition requires majority support (67% or more) to consider traffic calming measure.
- 5. PUBLIC REVIEW:** Comprehensive items may require review by the Transportation & Traffic Commission and City Council.
- 6. ENGINEERING:** Per City Council direction, staff develops engineering plan for trial installation.
- 7. EVALUATION:** City staff evaluates the trial six months after installation. The engineering plan is refined for permanent installation.

## Basic Traffic Calming



Basic Traffic Calming utilizes the 3 E's: **Education, Enforcement, and Engineering**. These traffic control devices and programs can be implemented quickly by city staff.

### • EDUCATION

Traffic safety education is an important tool to bring awareness to safe practices for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Talk to your neighbors and help establish a culture of travel safety in your neighborhood!

### • ENFORCEMENT

Enforcing traffic laws (speeding and parking compliance) is a traffic calming measure that promotes safe travel behavior. Enforcement by local police can help with education when new traffic calming measures are first implemented.

### • ENGINEERING

Traffic engineering is the installation of traffic control devices to address speeding, parking violations, pedestrian safety, and other traffic concerns. Examples of basic engineering measures include:

- Curb markings to restrict or limit parking along the curb
- Traffic signs to make drivers aware of the roadway condition
- Speed Feedback Sign Trailers that inform the drivers of their speeds
- Roadway or edgeline striping to reduce vehicle speeds
- Turn restrictions to keep traffic off residential streets

## Comprehensive Engineering Traffic Calming



Where needed, physical design features or dynamic signage and warning systems are used to enhance safety, slow traffic, or direct motorists to use major roads instead of residential streets.

### ► LEVEL 1: Reduce speed

- Flashing Beacons
- Radar Speed Signs
- Median Islands
- Road Humps
- Chokers
- Bulb Outs
- Traffic Circles
- Chicanes



### ► LEVEL 2: Discourage cut-through traffic on residential streets

- Diversers
- Extended Medians
- Partial Street Closure
- Full Street Closure

