



Cleveland Heights' Traffic Calming Program

The goal of Cleveland Heights' Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program is to reduce excessive speeding and/or traffic volumes on local and collector streets (the streets that connect local roads with arteries). The process for including streets in the program must be initiated by neighborhood residents, not the City. Residents should be advised that some requests and subsequent studies may not result in the recommendation of traffic calming measures. Additionally, traffic calming measures may be limited based on funding availability.

TRAFFIC CALMING is the practice of trying to manage speeds and/or volumes of traffic on residential streets using one or more approaches:

- Increased police enforcement,
- Education, or
- Physical changes to the roadway.

Each of these approaches has its appropriate application and together they can help reduce unwanted cut-through traffic (traffic diversion) or reduce speeds on neighborhood streets.



Which streets qualify?

1. To be considered for Traffic Calming, a street must be functionally classified as either a local residential street or collector street.
2. Traffic calming will be considered only along street frontages where 75% of lots are developed.
3. Collector streets will not be considered for traffic diversion, though they may be considered for speed reduction.
4. **For traffic reduction:** A traffic study must determine that traffic volumes exceed:
 - 500 vehicles per day on a local street;
 - 1,000 vehicles per day on a collector street.Streets with traffic volumes exceeding 3,000 vehicles per day will not be considered for the program.
5. **For traffic reduction AND speed reduction:** Speed measurements must show that at least 15% of drivers are exceeding the posted speed limit by more than 5 MPH.

How are streets approved for traffic calming?

Step 1: PETITION FOR TRAFFIC CALMING

Complete a petition requesting a traffic study. Only residents along the portion of the street for which traffic calming is being sought may sign. To be valid, the petition must include signatures from no less than 50% of the homes or apartments located on property along the affected portion of the street (only one signature per household will be counted). *See the petition form on the back of this sheet.*

Step 2: STUDY AND EVALUATION

Once a qualified petition is received, City staff will initiate a traffic study to measure vehicle volume and speeds over a 72-hour period. The city's Traffic Engineer will review the data and current roadway conditions. If speeds or volumes meet the criteria for traffic calming, staff will review the street section and propose a set of traffic calming measures that may be safely implemented.

Step 3: NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Staff will review the traffic study with residents of the street and describe possible remedies at a neighborhood meeting. This provides an opportunity for residents to ask questions of staff and discuss solutions with their neighbors. The goal of the meeting is to determine whether there is support from the neighborhood to pursue any of the measures proposed by staff.

Step 4: NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY

If residents at the neighborhood meeting wish to move forward with a proposed traffic calming measure, staff will send a mail-back survey card to each household along the affected section of the street. At least 50% of the households surveyed must return the survey card and more than 60% of the responding households must agree with the traffic calming proposal for it to be considered for implementation.

Step 5: REVIEW AND APPROVAL

If the mail-back survey indicates approval by 60% of respondents, Staff will approve the traffic calming request and schedule its installation. The City will correspond with each of the residents on the street regarding the changes and implementation schedule.

For questions or to submit a petition for Traffic Calming, please contact:

Department of Planning & Development
planning@clevelandheights.gov

40 Severance Circle, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

PETITION FOR A TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY ON YOUR STREET

By signing this petition, you indicate your support for a traffic calming study on your street. If more than 50% of the resident households along the affected section of your street (listed below) sign this petition, the City of Cleveland Heights will study traffic volumes and speeds along your street and provide you with the results.

If the measured comfortable speed of drivers (85th percentile speed) is found to be more than 5 MPH over the posted speed limit AND if measured volumes meet the program's minimum criteria, City staff will organize a neighborhood meeting to discuss possible solutions to calm traffic along your street.

STREET NAME: _____ **From:** _____ **To:** _____
Indicate the specific intersections (or addresses) between which the traffic calming study is being requested (e.g., Desota between So. Taylor and Compton).

TO SIGN THIS PETITION, YOU MUST RESIDE ALONG THE PORTION OF THE STREET LISTED ABOVE. RENTERS MAY SIGN. ONLY ONE SIGNATURE PER HOUSEHOLD, PLEASE.

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