

ASPHALT SPEED CUSHIONS



Description: Speed cushions consist of asphalt, raised about 3 1/4 inches in height. The length of the cushion is about 10 foot. The spaces between the cushions allow emergency vehicles to partially straddle the device.

Advantages

- Reduces vehicle speed.
- Can reduce vehicular volumes.
- No restrictions to on-street parking.
- Does not restrict access to residents.
- Requires minimum maintenance.
- Minimal impact to emergency response times.

Disadvantages

- May increase emergency response times.
- May divert traffic to parallel streets.
- Not aesthetically pleasing.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program

Public Works Department, City of Austin, Texas

May 21, 2008

CUSHIONS & MEDIAN



Description: This combination of devices consists of speed cushions and a center median. The median provides some area for landscaping and narrows the travel lane while speed cushions reduce vehicle speed.

Advantages

- Reduces vehicle speed.
- Can reduce vehicular volumes.
- Does not restrict access to residents.
- Minimal impact to emergency response times.
- Aesthetically pleasing.

Disadvantages

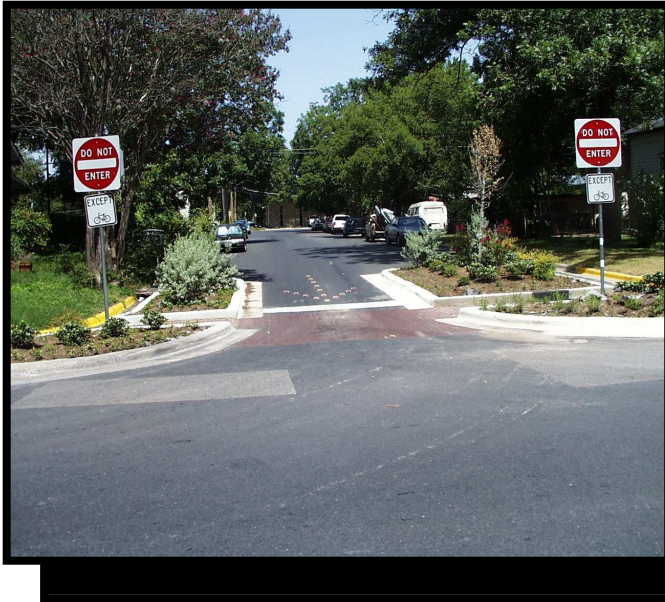
- May divert traffic to parallel streets.
- Curbside parking must be prohibited to adjacent residents.
- Maintenance responsibility.

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SEMI-DIVERTER



Description: Semi-diverter is a curb extension or barrier that restricts movement into a street. The semi-diverter is constructed to approximately the center of the street, effectively obstructing one direction of traffic. Creates a one-way segment at the intersection while maintaining two-way traffic for the rest of the block.

Advantages

- Restricts movements into a street while maintaining access and movement within the street block for residents.
- Reduces cut-through traffic.
- More self-enforcing and aesthetically pleasing than turn restriction signing.
- Reduces crossing distances for pedestrians.
- Aesthetically pleasing.
- In emergency situations, emergency vehicles can travel in the restricted direction.

Disadvantages

- May divert traffic to parallel streets without traffic calming measures.
- May increase trip length for some residents.
- Curbside parking must be prohibited adjacent to the device.
- May increase emergency response time as they maneuver around the device.
- Maintenance responsibility.

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PINCH POINT & CUSHION



Description: A combination raised islands and a speed cushion. Raised islands that narrow the roadway mid-block, simultaneously providing bicycle bypasses. Speed cushions and a narrow lane reduce speed.

Advantages

- Reduces vehicular volumes.
- Can reduce vehicle speed.
- Does not restrict access to residents.
- Provides bicycle bypass.

Disadvantages

- New device may be confusing.
- Some curbside parking will be removed.
- May divert traffic to parallel streets.
- May increase emergency response times.

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December 7, 2009