Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – Speed Humps

Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT)

1. **What is the process for requesting and installing a speed hump?**
   For detailed information on this process, see the flow chart on page 2.
2. **Will a speed hump address speeding in my community?**
   Before and after data from previous studies show a 7 to 8 mph reduction in the 85th percentile speeds when a speed hump is installed. However, those same studies also indicate that travel speeds generally increase by approximately 0.5 to 1 mph for every 100 feet of additional spacing between speed humps beyond 200 feet. More information can be found in the Traffic Calming Design Manual.
3. **Where can I ask for speed humps to be installed?**
   The first step to request a speed hump is to discuss with your HOA or community. After the community has discussed, the local legislator can be contacted regarding the request. Speed humps are appropriate for local roads and subdivision streets with a posted speed limit of 25 mph or below. They will typically be placed on a straight and level section (less than 6% grade) of roadway not near any intersection, driveway, or drainage inlet.
4. **Can my community install a speed hump without contacting DelDOT?**
   Communities may not install speed humps on state-maintained subdivision roadways without prior approval from DelDOT.
5. **How will a speed hump affect Emergency Medical Services (EMS)?**
   Speed humps will reduce the speed in which ambulances and fire trucks can comfortably drive, much more than passenger vehicles.
6. **Who gets balloted when a speed hump is requested?**
   DelDOT identifies which homes will be affected by the proposed speed hump(s) and should be balloted. Typically, this includes homes along the route, homes that can only be accessed from the route, and other homes along adjacent parallel routes. Only one vote will be counted per household and must be mailed or emailed back to DelDOT individually.
7. **A speed hump did not pass the community ballot. When can we try again?**
   DelDOT will not consider a speed hump at the same location for a minimum of two years.
8. **How much does a speed hump cost?**
   Speed humps typically cost between $10,000 and $15,000 each.
9. **What if a speed hump in my community is not properly marked?**
   Send an email to DelDOTTrafficCalming@delaware.gov and include the location and a photo of the speed hump. If DelDOT determines the appropriate signage and striping is not in place, the new signage or striping will be considered for installation.

DelDOT Speed Hump Request Process

The process for installing a speed hump on a state-maintained subdivision roadway with a speed limit of 25 MPH is as follows:

1. A citizen, in coordination with their HOA, requests a speed hump in their community from their local legislator.
2. The local legislator forwards the request to DelDOT.
    a. The local legislator may request that DelDOT conduct a speed study on the roadway to determine the speed and volume statistics for the roadway.
3. Funding discussions occur with parties involved to determine the tentative funding source.
4. DelDOT conducts a community ballot to confirm approval of the installation of a speed hump in the proposed location.
    a. If at least 15% of the ballots are returned and at least 2/3 of the received ballots are in favor, continue to Step 5.
    b. If less than 15% of the ballots are returned AND/OR less than 2/3 of the received ballots are in support, a speed hump at this location will not be reconsidered for at least 2 years.
5. Funding request is submitted for the speed hump(s).
6. DelDOT installs the proposed speed hump(s).

