

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-54**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE POLICY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES IN THE CITY OF NEVADA CITY**

**WHEREAS**, on February 13, 2019 the City Council authorized City staff to prepare a Traffic-Calming Program which shall include a process for the public to inform staff of their traffic concerns and implementation of various calming measures that can be evaluated for appropriateness by City Fire, Police, Engineering and Public Works staff for each unique location or area of concern.; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the traffic calming program is to reduce the negative effects of vehicle use, alter driver behavior, and improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists; and

**WHEREAS**, The Nevada City Traffic Calming Program will be administered by City staff on a time and equipment available basis. Prior to implementation of physical street improvements related to traffic calming, an informational report will be provided to City Council which will include identification of a funding source for such improvements, unless such measures can be included in the current operating budget (i.e. signage, enforcement).

**BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Nevada City, as follows:**

That the City shall adopt the Policy for the Implementation of Traffic Calming Measures in the City of Nevada City as set forth in Exhibit A.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Nevada City held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019 by the following vote:

**AYES: MINNETT, PARKER, SENUM, STRAWSER, MOBERG**

**NOES:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:**

**ATTEST:**

  
David Parker, Mayor

  
Niel Locke, City Clerk

## Exhibit A

# Policy for the Implementation of Traffic Calming Measures in the City of Nevada City

The City of Nevada City Traffic Calming Program consists of a combination of measures to help reduce the negative effects of vehicle use, alter driver behavior, and improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists. Implementation of traffic calming measures in the City of Nevada City shall be evaluated for appropriateness in the following order: (1) education, (2) selective speed limit enforcement, (3) striping and signage, (4) streetscape improvements, (5) lane narrowing or diversion, and (6) speed bumps. Speed bumps will only be considered as a last resort measure, and only with the consent of the City of Nevada City Public Works, Fire and Police Departments.

### Traffic calming measures shall be implemented as follows:

#### Item 1: Education

Education, problem identification and public information is the first step for traffic calming. This will include conversations, meetings, e-mails, newsletters, and handouts regarding neighborhood traffic and pedestrian safety issues. Resident complaints can be submitted to the City Police Department with specific details including time and location of traffic related concerns. Upon receipt of complaints about speeding traffic, pedestrian safety, safe intersections or other traffic calming concerns, City staff will initiate problem identification with an emphasis on clearly identifying the perceived or actual severity of the problem. The request is then referred to the Police Department for enforcement activities and, if needed, Public Works for maintenance action and, if needed, Engineering for street design considerations.

#### Item 2: Enforcement

Selective speed limit enforcement will be initiated on a time and equipment available basis by the City Police Department upon receipt of any complaints about speeding traffic at a specific location. Speed driver-feedback electronic signs may be used to notify drivers and collect data. Targeted Police enforcement, observation, and physical presence will be used to discourage speeding.

Other vehicle code violations (not speed related) that are monitored and enforced by the City Police Department include stopping, yielding of right-of-way to pedestrians and bicyclist at crosswalk and intersections, and safe turning movements.

#### Item 3: Striping and Signage

Street centerline striping will be evaluated for appropriateness in the event the desired results are not achieved with Items 1 and 2. In some cases, an outside lane line (fog line) may be used to delineate and narrow the travel lane and to increase safety for pedestrian and cyclists.

Installation of stop signs at any intersection in the City will be evaluated by staff upon notice that a special problem or unique condition may exist. The stop sign is a useful regulatory traffic

## Exhibit A

control device that directs motorists to stop at all times before proceeding through an intersection. A fully justified and properly installed stop sign can facilitate traffic movement, effectively assign right-of-way, reduce vehicle delay and decrease accidents. A stop sign is not a cure-all and is not a substitute for other traffic control devices. The Police Department shall approve of all stop sign locations.

### **Item 4: Streetscape Improvements**

Streetscape improvements will be implemented by City Engineering and Public Works Department and in accordance with City Council approval and budget considerations. Streetscape improvements will be used to enhance safety of the street for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists. This may include new curbing, crosswalks, sidewalks and on-street parking.

### **Item 5: Lane narrowing or Diversion**

Physical alterations to the street may affect traffic safety and shall be governed by the following procedure. A request for physical traffic calming measures shall be submitted to the City Engineer in the form of a petition signed by the residents of the street or street segment with an alleged speeding problem. Only one signature per residence shall be counted for purposes of determining the extent of support for the implementation of such measures. A minimum of two-thirds of the residents on a street or street segment shall support the request for implementation of the physical measure. In addition, no less than three of four adjoining residences shall support the installation of the specific physical traffic calming measure at a specific location.

Physical traffic calming measures that may be considered include raised crosswalk; raised median islands; bulb-out curbs at intersections; neckdown or choker curb to reduce width; roundabouts; diversion alignment change or one-way segments and flashing warning lights.

Prior to the implementation of any physical traffic calming measures, the City Engineer shall perform traffic studies to determine traffic volumes and speeds, and work with interested and concerned residents and City Departments (Public Works, Fire and Police) to determine which traffic calming measures are most appropriate and feasible to implement on specific streets. The effect on maintenance, commercial sized vehicles, emergency response times and snow plowing will be considered. Street narrowing will be restricted to 12 foot minimum lanes to accommodate fire trucks and commercial vehicles. The City Engineer shall provide an informational report to the City Council on recommended traffic calming measures prior to the implementation of such measures.

### **Item 6: Speed Bumps & Humps**

Speed bumps or speed humps will only be considered as a last resort measure, and only with the consent of the City of Nevada City Public Works, Fire and Police Departments. Prior to the implementation of any speed bumps, the City Engineer will coordinate with Public Works, Fire and Police Department staff to determine potential effects on maintenance, emergency response times, impacts on commercial sized vehicles and snow plowing. As with item 5, the City Engineer shall provide an informational report to the City Council for speed bumps prior to the implementation of this traffic calming measure.

## Exhibit A

Speed bumps & humps are considered a physical alteration of the street and shall be supported with a written petition with a minimum of two-thirds of the residents on a street or street segment as further described in Item 5. The location and type of speed bump or speed hump to be used will be evaluated for aesthetics, impact on residents, wear and tear on vehicles, discomfort for drivers and noise potential from braking / acceleration or bumping.



City of Nevada City  
317 Broad Street  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
Telephone: (530) 265-2496

## REPORT A CONCERN FOR TRAFFIC RELATED PROBLEMS

Please provide the information requested below to report a problem or concern to City staff. If you would like to speak directly with a staff member, you may call City Hall at (530) 265-2496, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m.-noon & 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Description of Problem (please include specific time and location):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

When completed, please return to **City of Nevada City Police Department**



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317 Broad Street  
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## PETITION FOR TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

### TRAFFIC CALMING APPLICATION

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Problem (please include specific time and location):

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#### Petition

We, the undersigned, hereby petition the City of Nevada City to evaluate \_\_\_\_\_ (street) between \_\_\_\_\_ (street) and \_\_\_\_\_ (street) for traffic calming.

The best day/time of the week to conduct the traffic study would be \_\_\_\_\_.

RESIDENT / OWNER NAME	ADDRESS OF RESIDENCE OR COMMERCIAL PROPERTY	PHONE NUMBER	SIGNATURE

Only one signature per address shall be counted for purposes of determining the extent of support for the implementation of such measures. A minimum of two-thirds of the residents or property owners on a street or street segment shall support the request for implementation of the physical measure.

When completed, please return to **City of Nevada City Police Department**