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District 5 Town Hall

Neighborhood Safety
June 14th, 2011 6:00
NW Area Command
Substation

Department of Municipal Development



Traffic Control Devices

- 4 way stop signs
- Traffic signals
 - For the purposes of managing multiple directions of traffic at an intersection and providing for a motorist's safe crossing at the intersection.

Traffic Calming Features

- Roundabout
- Speed Hump
- Bulbout
- Restricted Access
- Gateway
- Traffic Circle



Why does the City have a warranting process?

- Formalize a procedure for requesting implementation of traffic calming devices within residential areas
- Prioritize available funding for high-risk locations/intersections for the entire City
- Analyze and identify nature of the problem



Warranting Criteria for Traffic Calming Devices

In the 1990's, warranting Criteria, developed for Traffic Management Devices (such as signals), were also adopted for Traffic Calming Devices on Local Streets.

Examples of these Criteria are:

1. Minimum number of vehicles per day for local streets
2. Percent of traffic is cut-through traffic
3. Percent of traffic is speeding at least 5 mph over the speed limit
4. Percent of residents in impacted area petition for the devices



Findings from Studies of Unwarranted Traffic Control Devices

- ❑ Compliance is poor.
- ❑ Do not reduce speeds on residential streets and instead increase speed some distance from intersections as motorists make up the time they lost at the "unnecessary" traffic control device.
- ❑ Secondary issues related to unwarranted traffic control devices:
 - Long term maintenance cost
 - Increase in noise
 - Continued lack of compliance with existing traffic laws
 - Increased use of residential roadways to avoid the traffic device

SANTA FE STOPS

GALISTED

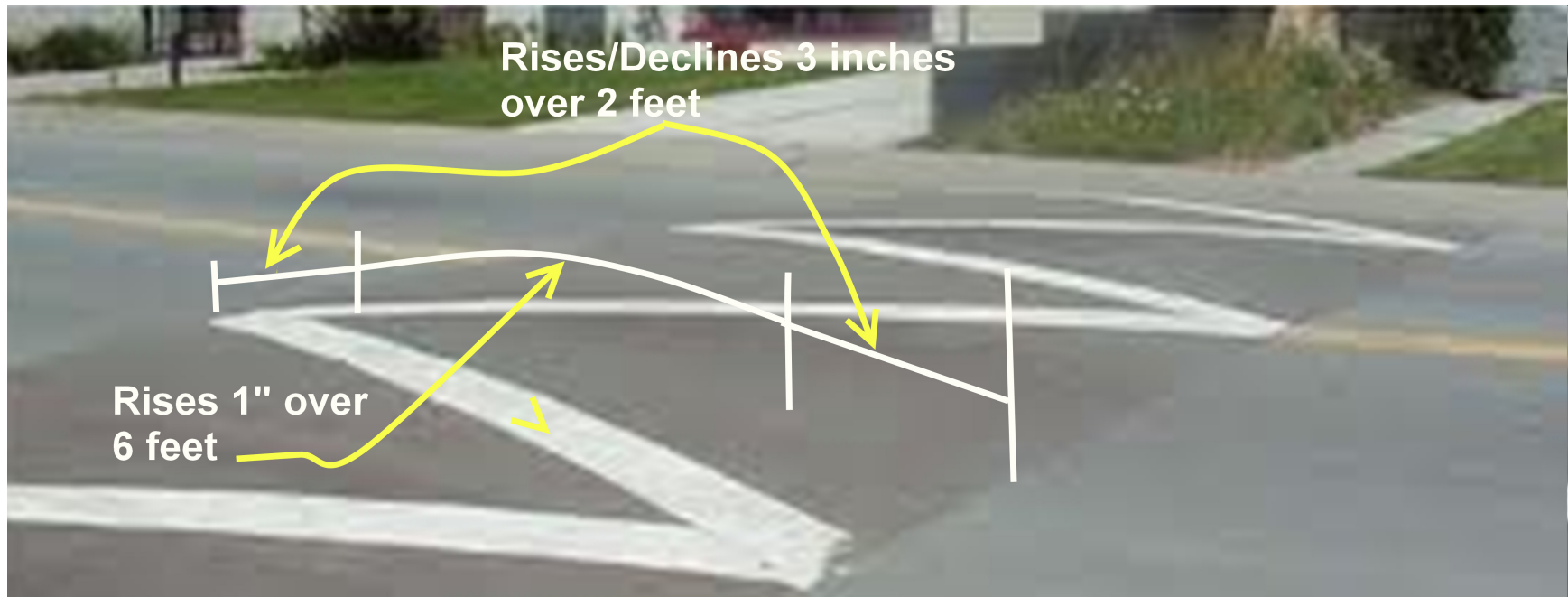
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Traffic Calming Devices



Speed Humps



1. Can reduce up to 85% speeding
2. Liked if on your street, reviled if it is the street you drive on to get to your street.
3. Reduce emergency vehicle response time.

Traffic Circles



1. Vastly improves intersection safety
2. Eliminates the “T-Bone or 90 Degree Angle collision between cars moving diagonal to each other. This is both the most common collision at residential intersection and the most dangerous.
3. Places a vertical obstacle in the drivers view causing motorists to take caution and slow down.



Bulb Outs

1. Also known as street narrowing. Serve Different purposes depending on their configuration.
2. Staggered on same side of street which provides narrowing effect on street and protected parking.
3. Staggered on different sides of streets, know as chicanes, narrowing effect on street removes the ability to just travel straight down the street.



Gateway

Forces drivers to enter street slowly and become cognizant they are in a residential area.



Restricted Access



Also known as semi diverters. Help restrict traffic using the neighborhood streets as a bypass by not allowing for a direct access on a local road



Challenges of Neighborhood Traffic Calming Devices

- Any designated emergency route should not be considered for traffic calming measures that impede emergency response (i.e. speed humps, barricades, etc.).
- Arterial roadways are not eligible for Neighborhood Traffic Calming Measures, (though the City does employ medians, striping and landscaping to reduce traffic speeds on arterial streets).
- Any calming device in one direction could disrupt the flow of traffic in another direction.
- When traffic calming devices are improperly implemented speeds and the effects of traffic can actually become worse for residents.



DMD Contact Information

- 311
- John Kolessar P.E. Manager City Traffic Engineering Operations Division.
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Albuquerque Police Department



Statistics



| | 2010 | 2011 | |
|----------------------|------|------|-----------|
| Residential Burglary | 233 | 191 | down -18% |
| Auto Burglary | 464 | 277 | down -40% |
| Stolen Vehicle | 153 | 125 | down -18% |
| Commercial Burglary | 35 | 31 | down -11% |
| Armed robbery | 33 | 31 | down -6% |
| Domestic Violence | 93 | 218 | up+134% |
| Vandalism | 419 | 330 | down -21% |



Police Department's Role in Neighborhood Safety

- ❑ Education: attend neighborhood meetings
- ❑ Enforcement: Tactical operations to monitor areas of concern
- ❑ Close communication with Neighborhood Association and Home Owner Association board members
- ❑ Encouraging people to call if they see any activity in their neighborhood or parks that is suspicious, especially after the park has closed

Tools available at the Albuquerque Police Department

“Slow Down Albuquerque”
signs



Portable Radar Signs



Neighborhood Watch Program

- ❑ Encourages an atmosphere of cooperation between APD and neighborhood residents
- ❑ Helps reduce residential and auto burglaries, auto thefts and vandalism
- ❑ Block Captains help keep the block actively involved in crime prevention efforts





APD Contact Information

- ❑ Northwest Area Command: 768-4850
- ❑ Neighborhood Watch Program: 924-3600
- ❑ Non-life threatening: 242-2677 (242-COPS)
- ❑ Life-threatening emergency: 911