

NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PETITION: SUMMARY OF CITY POLICY

There is increasing interest across the country in developing new strategies to reduce the speed and amount of traffic in residential neighborhoods. Given the cost involved with implementing any physical changes to streets, and in order to address resident requests in a fair and systematic manner, the City has adopted a *Neighborhood Traffic Management Policy*.

The attached petition represents the first step in the process to investigate reported issues on a street. The full policy includes the following items:

- **CRITERIA** – criteria by which to judge whether there is an objective issue warranting physical changes to a street. The criteria include measured traffic speeds, crash history and any other unique circumstances that may pertain to a street.
- **POINT SYSTEM** – Given the limited amount of equipment for conducting traffic studies and limited staff and funding, the Policy establishes a point system for the ranking of resident requests. If there is a backlog of requests then the highest ranking streets will be addressed first.
- **COST SHARE** – In order to stretch limited funds as far as possible, and in order to ensure the commitment of residents to potential infrastructure changes, the Policy outlines a system of cost sharing. The City provides staff time and equipment for the study, design, construction management, and future maintenance of any items; however, the residents on the subject street must fund the initial cost of constructing the changes. The cost is addressed through the use of a Special Service Area.
- **PROCESS** – After the filing of a petition, the City will perform a traffic study of the street and surrounding neighborhood. The results of the traffic study and any recommendations will be shared with the residents. If basic measures are recommended, they will be implemented upon notification to the residents.

If physical changes are warranted then a more involved process is required. A survey will be sent to each of the affected residents describing the proposed changes and indicating the cost to each residence. If the results of the survey indicate sufficient support for the proposed changes, then a representative from the neighborhood will work with the City's Legal Department on an application to create a Special Service Area (SSA). The SSA provides the mechanism for the subject residences to fund the construction. Upon approval of the SSA, the City will proceed to complete design and construction of the physical changes.

The entire process from petition to implementation of physical changes to the street (if warranted) can take anywhere from 8 months to a year.

The full *City of Des Plaines Neighborhood Traffic Management Policy* is available on the Engineering page of the City of Des Plaines website (<http://www.desplaines.org/Services/PWandEngineering/Engineering/OverviewEngin>)



PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING

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**NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PETITION:
DESCRIPTION OF ISSUE**

Instructions	<p>Please use this form to provide a description of the issue(s) that you wish the City to investigate. Alternatively include the description in a typed letter. Whichever is more convenient.</p> <p>Please include as much detail as you can such as: specific locations, approximate dates; time of day, etc. This will help the City in studying the issue.</p> <p>This form (or letter) describing the issue(s) must accompany the Petition when it is being circulated for signatures.</p>
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Description: