SPEED HUMPS

massDOT
Massachusetts Department of Transportation



- DEFLECT BOTH WHEELS & FRAME OF TRAVELING VEHICLE
- ESTIMATED COST: $2500 PER PERMANENT INSTALLATION
- CREATES AN UNCOMFORTABLE ROCKING MOTION
- TEMPORARY HUMPS ($1,600 PLUS INSTALLATION) ARE 3 FT LONG, 2 INCHES HIGH, BUT HAVE THE SAME EFFECT

+ ADVANTAGES

Reduces speed violations significantly.

Cost-efficient and flexible.

TYPICAL LOCATIONS

Local streets and collector streets that are not an emergency response or bus route.

- CONSIDERATIONS

Install every 150-300 ft.

Sign hump locations and give snowplow operators a traffic calming map.

Treat a set of streets to avoid traffic diversion to parallel local streets.

For emergency response / bus routes, a lower profile hump with a flat table may be considered.

Temporary humps must be removed for winter, stored, and re-installed.



EXPERIENCES FROM AROUND THE COMMONWEALTH

Somerville
On Powder House Blvd., a series of five speed humps reduced speed limit violations from 59% to 11%.

Salem
Temporary speed humps on four parallel local streets (Buffum, Barr, Barstow, and Dunlap) were well received and replaced after two years with permanent humps.

Boston
Since 2023, Boston's Safety Surge program is installing 500 per year, neighborhood by neighborhood.