

RESOLUTION NO: 15-

VILLAGE OF AIRMONT

TITLE: Traffic Calming Program for Airmont

WHEREAS, speeding on residential streets is a common complaint of concerned citizens; and

WHEREAS, although the enforcement of speed limits by the Police is an effective means of reducing speeds, limited resources do not allow such enforcement on a consistent Village-wide basis; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive five-year study by a team of Oakland, California doctors-the study, "A Match Case-Control Study Evaluating the Effectiveness of Speed Humps in Reducing Child Pedestrian Injuries" as featured in the April 2004 American Journal of Public Health-has found that children living on blocks with speed humps have 53% to 60% lower chance of being injured or killed by motorists; and

WHEREAS, this study is particularly important because it is one of the few rigorous analyses performed in the United States on the effectiveness of speed humps in reducing pedestrian deaths and injuries. The doctors who conducted the study scrutinized emergency room records for five years and carefully mapped crash and speed hump locations, while correcting the income disparities between victims; and

WHEREAS, a speed hump is a gradual rise and fall of the pavement surface along the roadway extending across the pavement width, generally, speed humps used on residential streets are 12 to 22 feet long with a maximum height of 3 to 4 inches; and

WHEREAS, speed humps cause a gentle vehicle rocking motion that causes drivers to slow down to approximately 20 mph at each hump, which, depending upon street geometry, are placed every 200 to 600 feet, thus speed humps become self-enforcing because drivers slow down at the humps and in between properly spaced successive humps; and

WHEREAS, the opinions of affected property owners should be taken in to account when deciding whether to utilize traffic calming methods that may otherwise adversely impact their perceived quality of life.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Airmont shall institute a Traffic Calming Program to allow citizens to request the installation of Speed Humps on certain neighborhood roads with the following requirements:

1. The placement of speed humps may be requested by any citizen of Airmont. The specific number and locations of such speed bumps shall be determined by the Village Board at the recommendation of a Traffic Consultant.

2. In order to make a request a citizen will need to successfully complete a Traffic Calming-Speed Hump Application, a copy of which shall be attached to the minutes hereof, which shall require the following:

- a. The name of the street, segment of street, or streets proposed for Speed Humps.
- b. The name and address of every homeowner on the proposed street or streets.
- c. The name and address of every homeowner who lives on any street that connects to the proposed street(s) and who would have no other alternate means of egress to avoid the encountering of the Speed Humps.
- d. The signatures of 75% of the above listed households (the Affected Households) supporting the request for speed humps on the designated street(s), briefly explaining the plan and purpose of the request, and acknowledging that they understand the following: The installation of Speed Humps on the designated street(s) will require the installation of additional signage warning drivers of the presence of the humps. These signs also indicate the speed which drivers are advised to travel over the hump. To be properly visible, the speed hump will be marked with diagonal bright stripes. The location and number of humps will be determined by the Village Board or the Village's Traffic Consultant and they may be placed at relatively frequent intervals (200-600 feet). Speed humps may increase noise levels due to vehicle braking and may increase the response time of emergency vehicles. Support of the petition by signing shall constitute a waiver by the households of any claims upon the Village for any loss or damage that the homeowner may suffer or claim to suffer as a result of the installation of the speed humps on the proposed street(s).

3. The installation of Street Humps will not be placed on the following:

- a. Streets where fewer than 75% of the Affected Households support by way of a signed petition, the placement of Speed Humps.
- b. County Roads, State Roads, Private Roads or any road not owned by the Village of Airmont.
- c. Streets with fewer than 10 homes.
- d. Streets that are construed by the Village Board as high volume "Through Streets" in the Village
- e. Streets with more than two lanes or with a speed limit of over 30 mph.
- f. Street sections which are curved or where the street slopes uphill/downhill (generally greater than 8% grade).
- g. Any street that is a primary access route for emergency vehicles and where the humps would cause unacceptable delay in response time to emergencies.
- h. Any street where the Village Board believes, on the advice of the Village Traffic Consultant, that such humps are ill advised for any reason.

4. Procedure for Submission, Verification and Processing of the Petition:

Upon completion of the required petition with 75% of the Affected Households supporting the proposal, the applicant will submit the petition to the Village Clerk. The proposal will then be scheduled for a Public Hearing of the Village Board and all Affected Households will be notified by mail at least 10 days in advance of the Public Hearing and the general public shall be notified by posting and publication. The application and legal notice shall also be submitted to the Police Department, Fire Department, Emergency Services, Town Highway Department, a Traffic Consultant, and other relevant parties for comment. After the Public

Hearing the Village Board shall approve or deny the request after reviewing all of the above evidence in the best interest of the public. Street hump requests will be funded in the order received and approved, unless the Village Board determines that conditions on a particular street, as demonstrated by speed or accident statistics, require greater priority.

5. Removal of Speed Humps

Speed humps installed upon citizen petition pursuant to this policy may be removed either by the Village upon a determination brought on by its own initiative after a public hearing that the removal is required for public safety reasons, or by petition of a substantial majority (67% or more) of affected households who petitioned for the humps, requesting the removal. If removal by petition is granted, the petitioning households shall pay the cost of removal, which sum shall be deposited with the Village prior to the removal.

Trustee _____ moved the resolution and Trustee _____ seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Gigante declared the motion carried unanimously and directed the Clerk to file the same.

Date:
Village of Airmont

Mayor Philip Gigante

Speed Hump Petition

Date: _____

Application to Village Board to Request a Public Hearing for the Installation of Speed Humps on _____ between _____ and _____ in Airmont, New York.

The following petition shall include the name and address of every homeowner who lives on any street(s) in which speed humps are requested and on any street that connects to the proposed street(s) and who would have no other alternate means of egress to avoid the encountering the Speed Humps. A signature from 75% of the households listed is necessary for this Petition to be considered by the Village Board.

By signing this petition the homeowners acknowledge that they are in favor of the installation of speed humps on the proposed street. The homeowners understand that the installation of Speed Humps on the designated street(s) will require the installation of additional signage warning drivers of the presence of the humps. These signs also indicate the speed at which drivers are advised to travel over the hump. To be properly visible, the speed hump will be marked with diagonal bright stripes. The location and number of humps will be determined by the Village Board on the advice of a traffic consultant, and they may be placed at relatively frequent intervals (200-600 feet). Speed humps may increase noise levels due to tires crossing over them and due to vehicle braking, and may increase the response time of emergency vehicles. Support of this petition shall constitute a waiver by the homeowners of any claims upon the Village for any loss or damage that the homeowner may suffer or claim to suffer as a result of the installation of the speed humps.

Reasons why speed humps are appropriate as requested:

Homeowner's Name

Address

Signature

