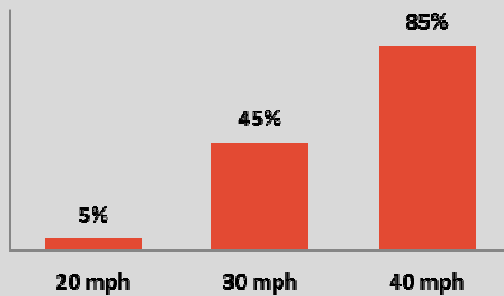


Everyone Is a Pedestrian

Everybody walks, whether it's from the car to the house, to get the mail, to travel, or for recreation. Speeding motorists negatively affect the safety and quality of life in our neighborhoods.

- Injury or death is likely when a vehicle collides with a pedestrian. A pedestrian's chance of death, if struck at 40 mph, is 85%.
- Reduced speeds increase likelihood that residents will feel safe to use provided sidewalks and walk through the neighborhood.
- Parents can help by teaching their children about dangers of the roadway. Young children especially may dart into the street without warning.
- Slower vehicle speeds allow drivers to react to unpredictable circumstances.
- Slower speeds lead to a greater sense safety, trust and support among neighbors.

**Chance of Pedestrian Death
by Vehicular Speed**



Source: United Kingdom Department of Transportation, *Killing Speed and Saving Lives*, (1987) and Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

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THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SERVICE

City of Columbus

Guide to Reducing Neighborhood Speeding



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Guide to Reducing Neighborhood Speeding

Traffic Calming

The City of Columbus often receives requests for speed humps on residential streets to combat neighborhood speeding. Physical traffic calming devices such as speed humps can help slow drivers but are not always an appropriate solution. They can increase noise, cause speeding between devices, slow down maintenance crews and affect emergency vehicles' lifesaving response times.

In addition, residents often request all-way stops. Studies have shown that Stop signs are not effective at slowing traffic because drivers often speed between stops to make up for perceived lost time.

Pavement striping is a cost effective traffic-calming tool that slows down speeders. Pavement striping has been shown to reduce speeds in neighborhoods by visually narrowing the roadway; see example in photo below.

While physical devices are sometimes a necessary tool, attempts must be made to first educate drivers and enforce traffic laws.



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What You Can Do in Your Neighborhood

- Set a safe pace – Drive the speed limit every time you drive. Cars behind you will be forced to slow down.
- Request a speed awareness trailer or speed enforcement by police officers by calling (614) 645-3111 or e-mailing 311@Columbus.gov.
- Work with Division of Traffic Management staff to develop and distribute fliers.
- Talk to your area commission or civic association. While the City has limited funding for traffic calming, other funding sources may be available.
- Talk to your neighbors about speeding vehicles. Encourage your neighbors to be engaged and committed to help solve the problem.
- Encourage children of driving age to drive safely and without distraction.
- Teach children to understand the potential danger of vehicular traffic and advise them to use caution when crossing the street. Never allow children to play in the street!
- Allow extra time when making travel plans, including for your commute. Reduce your own stress and inclination to speed.
- File crash reports with Police. The City relies on crash data to help identify and prioritize speeding problem areas. Unreported crashes, even when minor, do not factor into traffic calming prioritization.
- Avoid distracted driving. Phone calls, texts and food can wait!

“ On average, a pedestrian was killed every two hours and injured every eight minutes in traffic crashes in 2015. ”

— National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Tips for Drivers

- Always stop for pedestrians at marked and unmarked crosswalks. Pedestrians are permitted to cross at intersections, even when there are no pavement markings, unless there are signs posted that prohibit crossing.
- Never drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Allow time for travel to prevent feeling rushed.
- Stay focused and slow down, especially in school zones and neighborhoods where children may be present.
- Never exceed the speed limit when passing vehicles. Never pass vehicles that are turning or stopped at intersections.

Tips for Pedestrians

- Wear reflective or light colored clothing especially during nighttime and early morning hours.
- Be aware of your surroundings, avoid being distracted by music, phones or other activities.
- Do not suddenly enter the street, always look both ways before crossing a street and teach children to do the same.

Speeding and distraction kill

Speeding, aggressive, impaired, or distracted driving create dangerous conditions for pedestrians, cyclists, and other motorists. These driving behaviors are *choices*. Choosing to obey posted speed limits, to put away cell phones, and be aware of our surroundings can prevent property damage and most importantly, loss of life. Data shows a pedestrian's chance of survival when hit by a vehicle drastically decreases as speeds rise.