

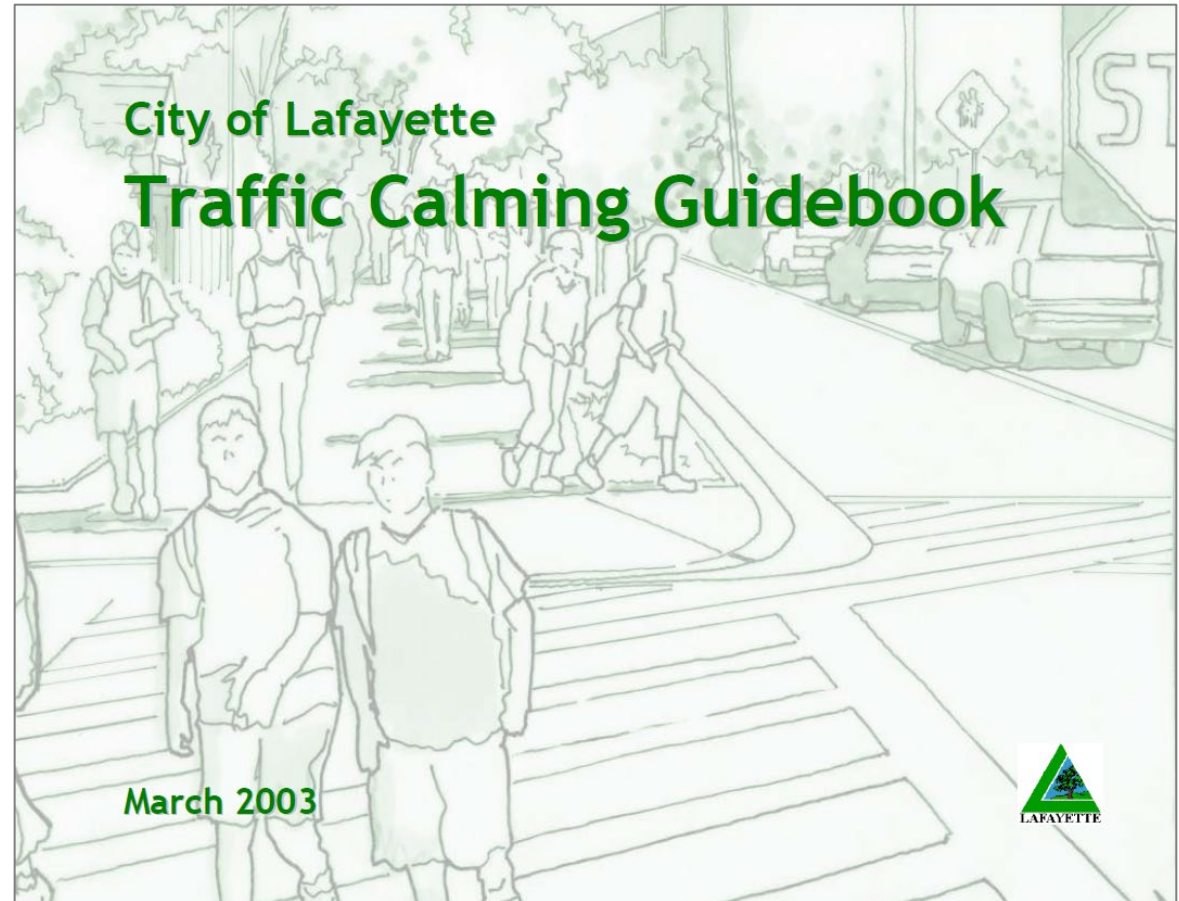
# CITY OF LAFAYETTE TRAFFIC CALMING GUIDEBOOK UPDATE

May 15, 2023



# Agenda

- Purpose of the Update
- Guidebook Organization
- Overview of Recommended Revisions
- Next Steps

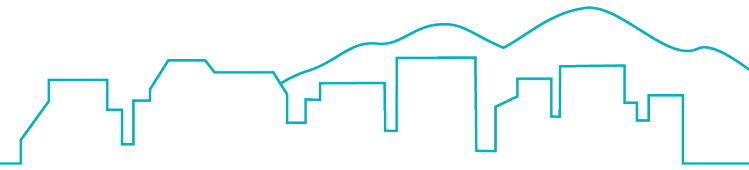


# Purpose of the Update

- Make the program transparent, predictable, and easier to understand
- Improve the efficiency of the program
- Ensure that traffic calming projects align with other adopted City goals and policies
- Base priorities on community support, need, data, equity, and available resources
- Ensure that the traffic calming measures include design and engineering best practices
- Utilize forthcoming Local Road Safety Plan toolbox



# Guidebook Organization



## Current

### Chapter 1

- Introduction
- Purpose of Traffic Calming
- Goals and Policies
- Education, Enforcement, and Engineering
- Levels of Traffic Calming
- Applicable Streets

### Chapter 2

- Implementation Process

### Chapter 3

- Traffic Calming Toolbox

## Proposed

### Chapter 1: Introduction and Traffic Calming Overview

- Purpose of Traffic Calming
- Best Management Practices
- What Traffic Calming Is and Is Not

### Chapter 2: City of Lafayette Traffic Calming Program

- Goals and Policies
- Where Traffic Calming Can Occur
- Street Eligibility Criteria
- Traffic Calming Application Evaluation Criteria

### Chapter 3: Applications for Traffic Calming Improvements

- Application Process
- Timeline

### Chapter 4: Traffic Calming Toolbox

- List of Traffic Calming Tools

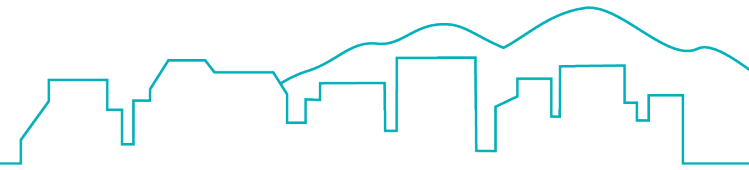
### Appendices

- Traffic Calming Evaluation Worksheet
- Bicycle Network Map
- Transportation Action Request Form and Petition for Neighborhood Traffic Calming



# RECOMMENDED REVISIONS

# Introduction & Traffic Calming



## Introduction

- Emphasize a multimodal approach and apply new technologies and techniques
- Modernize language to reflect best practices from similar-sized and situated cities
- Change focus from “inappropriate” driving to modifying street design to remedy unsafe driving practices
- Highlight that that safety on local streets is a collaborative effort that depends on community involvement

## Purpose of Traffic Calming

- Revise to state more clearly state that the purposes of the program are to make Lafayette streets safer and more comfortable for all travelers by:
  - Reducing vehicle speeds
  - Enabling residents to contact the City with requests for traffic calming through a standard and equitable application process
- Explain what traffic calming can and cannot achieve to avoid confusion about what may be allowed under the City program

# Goals

## Current Goals

- *Improve driver attention, awareness, and behavior.*
- *Promote safe and pleasant conditions for residents, motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists on neighborhood streets.*
- *Preserve and enhance pedestrian and bicycle access to neighborhood destinations.*
- *Encourage citizens to be directly involved in neighborhood traffic management activities.*
- *Facilitate social interaction among neighborhood residents.*
- *Provide a process that will equitably address requests for action by neighborhood residents and will balance resident needs with all users of City streets.*

## Recommended Goals

- Utilize effective design, programming, and related techniques to improve safety and quality of life for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists by promoting compliance with traffic laws while minimizing reliance on limited police resources.
- Encourage interaction and consensus among neighborhood residents regarding needed transportation improvements that are appropriate to address identified issues.
- Assess traffic calming proposals in a fair, consistent, transparent, and comprehensive manner, and balance requests for action with the needs of all users of city streets.
- Ensure that traffic calming decisions are equitable in terms of where improvements happen.
- Operate the traffic calming program consistently with, and as a complement to, other City transportation policies and programs, such as those related to Safe Routes to School.

# Policies

## Current Policies

- *To the extent feasible, traffic flowing from one arterial that is contiguous to another should not make use of local or collector streets as a bypass.*
- *Emergency vehicle access should be preserved at levels that meet City response standards.*
- *The City will cooperatively work with its citizens to employ a variety of measures that help reduce traffic speeds and/or volumes on local and collector streets.*
- *Permanent traffic calming measures will be designed in conformance with sound engineering and planning practices and should complement the residential character of the neighborhood.*
- *Traffic calming measures employed along particular street corridors should not create substandard traffic conditions on other streets. In other words, solve the problem; do not shift it elsewhere.*
- *Traffic calming measures will be developed while being cognizant of their impacts on others who have no reasonable alternative routes.*
- *Residents and property owners within an area where traffic-calming features are installed should be prepared to share in the cost of their installation.*

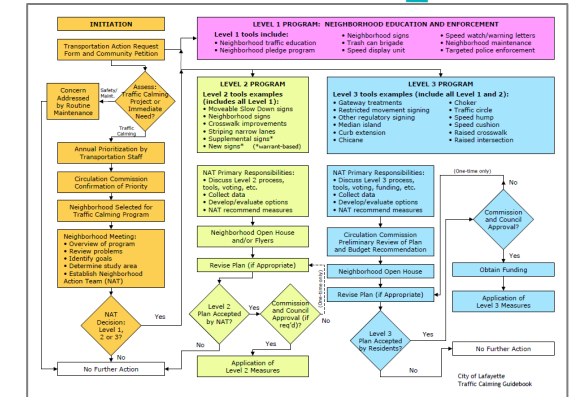
## Recommended Policies

- Discourage cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets, to the extent feasible, using innovative design techniques
- Ensure that traffic calming techniques do not impede emergency vehicle access.
- Work cooperatively with residents to employ a variety of measures that help reduce traffic speeds on local and collector streets.
- Design traffic calming measures to conform with sound engineering and planning practices and to not detract from the residential neighborhood character.
- Ensure that traffic calming measures do not create substandard traffic conditions on other streets.



# Implementation Process

- The implementation process is currently a complex three-level approach and does not include data-based criteria.
- New list clearly describes the application and review process:
  - Step 1: Request Action
  - Step 2: Neighborhood Education
  - Step 3: Evaluation and Ranking
  - Step 4: Engineering and Design
  - Step 5: Inform Applicants
  - Step 6: Transportation and Circulation Commission
  - Step 7: City Council
  - Step 8: Implementation and/or Construction
  - Step 9: Monitoring



## Criteria to be considered:

- Speeds
- Volumes
- Adjacent land uses
- Collisions
- Bike/ped route proximity and condition

# Levels of Traffic Calming Measures



1. Neighborhood Advocacy – Distribute educational materials; form a speed watch group; maintain landscaping; request use of the radar speed sign
2. Striping and Signage – Highly visible crosswalks; lane narrowing; speed limits; stop signs; dedicated bike and pedestrian facilities; bike boulevards
3. Physical infrastructure – Speed bumps, humps, and tables; bulbouts; raised crosswalks; curb, gutter, and sidewalks, landscaped medians, roundabouts and traffic circles

# Next Steps



- Draft updated Guidebook for review by staff, Commission, and community
- Prepare final updated Guidebook for action by the City Council

# Evacuation and Bike Routes

