

# SCHOOL SPEED ZONES

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# **PURPOSE**

together we create a strong foundation for Houston to thrive



integrity teamwork ownership communication respect





# SCHOOL SPEED ZONES overview

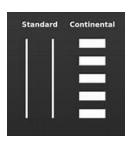
- 562 schools comprised of 12 school districts and 165 private schools
- 1700 school speed zones with
- 7000 reduced speed limit signs (cost 500 per sign)
  - 1400 flashing school beacons (cost 10,000 per sign)
- the roadway speed limit is reduced to 20mph during school zone times
  - begin 45 minutes before intake and end 15 minutes after intake
  - begin 15 minutes before dismissal and end 30 minutes after dismissal
- school zones are updated every 12-18 months and must be approved by City Council
- enforceable by law enforcement (HPD, School District Police, etc.)

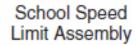
#### components

20mph School Speed Limit Assembly (sign)

#### OR

- 20mph Flashing Solar Smart Beacon
  - ONLY on thoroughfares, collectors, and streets with more than 5000 vehicles/day
  - programmed, monitored and updated remotely
  - early release days, special events, holidays & other exceptions are programmed
- Additionally:
  - school crossing signs and crosswalks
    - continental markings (non signalized intersections)
    - standard markings (signalized intersection)
  - other school related (signs are customized to schools needs)



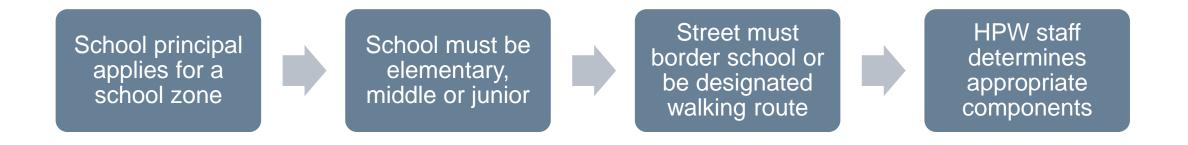








#### **PROCESS**



#### **ALL INSTALLATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH**

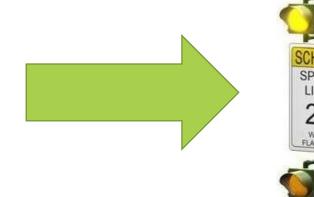
**TEXAS MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES (TMUTCD)** 



#### **FLASHING BEACON VS. STATIC SIGN**

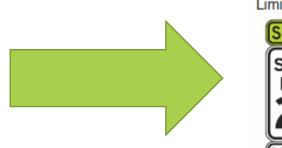
### thoroughfares

- higher speed limits & wider streets
- longer reaction time for drivers
- signs need enhance visibility



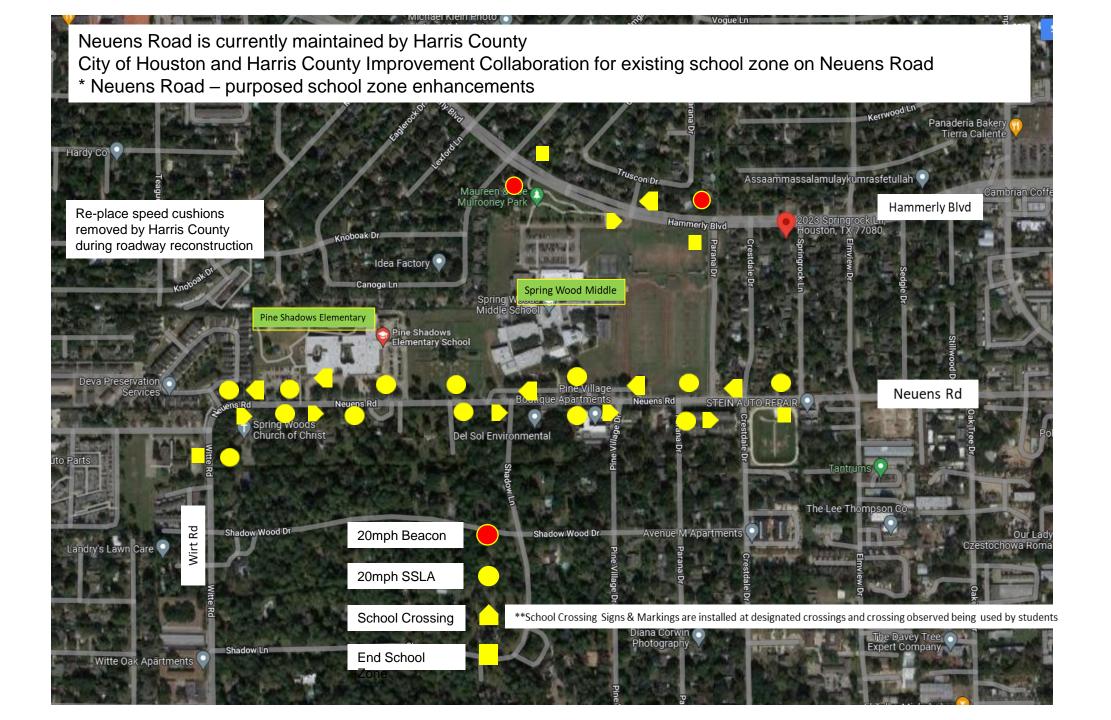


- lower speed limit and traffic volumes
- primarily school traffic
- if standard treatment and other speed reduction devices are not effective, beacon can be considered

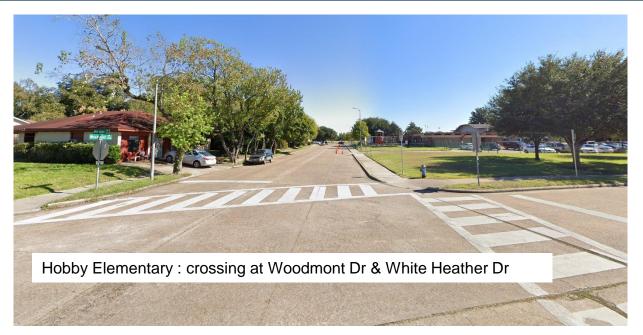








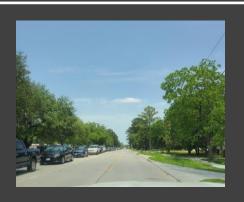












#### **MAINTENANCE**

Removal and replacement timeframe

Weeks / Months







Days



#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Who pays for school zones signage

• School zone signage is funded by Houston Public Works (HPW). No private or public school incurs a cost for school zone signage.

#### Are school zones installed for public and private schools

 HPW installs school zones at public and private elementary, middle and junior high schools located within the City of Houston city limits.

#### Can a party other than HPW pay for school zone signage

• HPW will conduct investigation on reported school zone concerns or needs and address the safety issues. Cost for school zone signage are incurred by HPW.

#### Can school zone concerns only be reported by the school's principal

 Anyone can report a school zone concerns. HPW team will investigate the location and contact the school's principal for collaboration as needed.



#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Are school zones installed for signalized intersection

• Traffic signals provides a higher means of protection. School zones are not warranted at signalized intersection with pedestrian crossing signals.

#### How long does it take to get a school zone installed

- An investigation will be conducted within 2 to 3 days after HPW receives a request.
  - Investigations take place when schools are in session and will be conducted during the school's intake and dismissal time.
- Request submitted during non-school session are placed in pending until school resumes.
- If a school zone is warranted, a work order will be submitted to install the zone.
  - Sign shop installs school zone signage within 14 days upon receipt of work order, except flashing beacons.
  - Flashing beacons may take 2 to 3 months for installation (longer in cases of equipment failure, shortage, etc.)

Note: School zones are installed for student crossing activity. Installation of reduce school speed zone is not warranted if there are no students or potential of students crossing the roadways.



# thank you!









# NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

KHANG NGUYEN
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
TRANSPORTATION & DRAINAGE
OPERATIONS



#### **OBJECTIVE**

- overview of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program
- application/project process
- project cost
- funding
- active projects
- project backlog



#### **OVERVIEW**

### NTMP (Neighborhood Traffic Management Program)

- Volume Control all traffic calming devices
- Speed Control speed cushion only

#### - Volume Control

- at least 3 public meetings, 120-day trial period, before-after traffic studies
- concept plan reviewed by PDD, HPD, HFD, Solid Waste
- 2+ year process

### Speed Control

- one public notice/public meeting, limited traffic review
- concept plan reviewed by HFD
- 4+ month process



#### **APPLICATION & PROJECT PROCESS**

- review application
  - support (petition of signatures or letter from civic club)
  - project boundary
- assign project name & number
- place on waiting list until funding becomes available
- project development
  - concept plan
  - internal approvals
  - public input
  - Houston Public Works approval for installation
  - Council approval and project close-out



#### **PROCESS - SPEED CONTROL**

**Concept Plan Funding confirmed HFD Review Application Cost Estimate** 1 week 1-2 weeks 3-4 weeks varies **Council Approval Review Public Public Notice** Construction Comments **Final Product** 4-6 weeks 4-8 weeks 4 weeks HOUSTON I PUBLIC WORKS

#### **PROCESS - VOLUME CONTROL**

Before-Study **Public Momments Funding Application Public Meeting 1** Concept Plan **Traffic Committee** 1-2 weeks 4 weeks varies 4 weeks 4-8 weeks **Public Comments** Installation **City Review Public Meeting 2 After-Study Plan Revision** 4-8 weeks 4 weeks 4-6 weeks 4-8 weeks 4-6 months **Public HPW** Final Council **Public Meeting 3 Approval** Comments Approval **Product** 

HOUST 4 weeks 4-6 weeks 2 weeks

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# **EXAMPLES SPEED CONTROL**

**ASPHALT SPEED HUMP** 



RUBBER SPEED CUSHION



**ASPHALT SPEED CUSHION** 



# **EXAMPLES**VOLUME CONTROL

PARTIAL STREET CLOSURE





CHICANE

#### PROJECT COST - SPEED CONTROL

- average cost \$5,000 per cushion
- average project cost \$50,000 \$70,000

#### **FUNDING FOR INSTALLATION**

- Council District Service Funds
- private (from HOA, civic club, or developer)
  - residents/HOA: Briarmeadow, Meyerland
  - developer: Timbergrove Manor
  - CDSF/HOA cost share: Willow Meadows

#### **FUNDING FOR MAINTENANCE**

need a constant funding source



#### **SPEED HUMPS/CUSHIONS**

<b>Council District</b>	Installed						
Α	600						
В	243						
С	630						
D	523						
Е	219						
F	347						
G	610						
Н	449						
I	454						
J	252						
K	463						





Total - 4790





#### **APPLICATIONS PROCESSED & ACCEPTED**

District	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
А	3	5	10	5	3	2	4	5	1	38
В	5	4	9	2	5	0	3	9	0	37
С	4	7	9	5	4	7	0	2	5	43
D	2	5	11	5	6	3	3	7	0	42
Е	2	5	6	2	3	3	2	2	2	27
F	1	1	7	8	4	0	2	3	2	28
G	8	2	6	1	4	5	6	5	2	39
Н	1	9	7	3	4	2	5	2	1	34
	1	1	7	3	4	2	5	2	1	26
J	0	3	1	3	1	2	1	2	2	15
K	6	11	15	3	0	0	0	2	2	39
	33	53	88	40	38	26	31	41	18	368

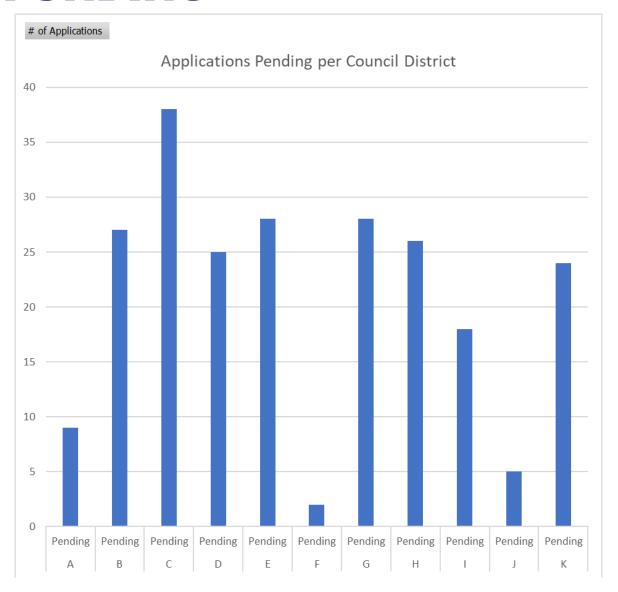


#### **COUNCIL DISTRICT SERVICE FUND PROJECTS**

District	FY	2017	F	Y18	F'	Y19	F	Y20	F	Y21	F	Y22
	Est.	Funded										
Α	6	5	5	5	1	1	10	10	5	4	3	0
В	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	10	2	1	8
С	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	7	1
D	5	4	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	3	5	1
E	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	0	0
F	8	7	5	4	2	2	3	3	1	1	4	2
G	6	3	5	3	4	0	4	2	4	4	1	1
Н	1	1	3	2	6	5	1	1	6	6	12	8
I	0	0	5	2	0	0	9	9	3	0	7	0
J	3	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	0	0	4	1
K	4	4	7	5	0	0	3	2	0	0	1	1
Total	33	27	36	26	19	13	40	35	34	21	45	23
HOUSTON	\$2	2.1M	\$	1.8M	\$1	.0M	\$2	2.3M	\$	0.8M	\$^	1.5M

#### PROJECTS AWAITING FUNDING

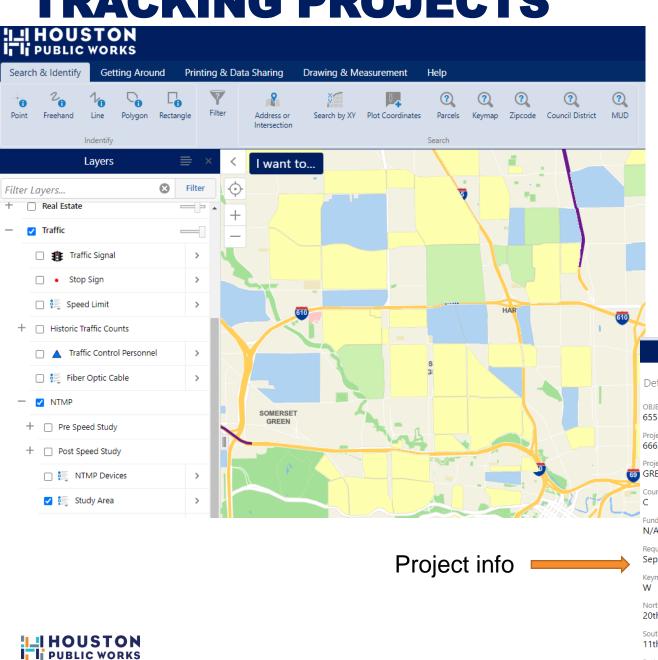
District	Project					
Α	9					
В	27					
С	38					
D	25					
E	28					
F	2					
G	28					
Н	26					
I	18					
J	5					
K	24					





**Total - 230** 

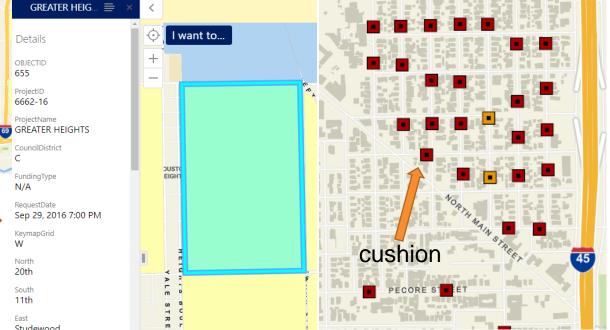
#### TRACKING PROJECTS



#### GeoLink

- -project name & number
- -location & status
- -type of device

https://geogimsprod.houstontx.gov/Html5Vi ewer/index.html?viewer=geolink-public



#### **INPUT?**

### Suggestions for improvement?

- Changes to NTMP ordinance?
- Changes to process?

### **Question or request for information**

NTMP@houstontx.gov

## City traffic engineer

- Khang Nguyen
- khanq.nguyen@houstontx.gov; 832-395-3008



# thank you!





