

Adopted: 11/28/2016

Supersedes: N/A

Policy Number: 101



Neighborhood Speed Reduction Policy

Purpose

The Town of Wendell's *Neighborhood Speed Reduction Policy* has been developed to guide Town staff and inform residents about the process and procedures for requesting and implementing neighborhood speed reduction measures. Under this policy, the Town Planning Department will work with residents to identify speed reduction needs in their neighborhoods and identify appropriate solutions.

First, the policy outlines how citizens may request speed reductions in their neighborhood no lower than 25 miles per hour. Secondly, the policy describes the procedures for reviewing a speed reduction request and developing an implementation plan.

Definitions

Neighborhood – The Webster's International Dictionary defines a neighborhood as "The region near where one is or resides." A neighborhood can be as small as one street or a network of homes and small businesses with shared streets, parks, and people.

Affected Residents – An affected resident is a resident that lives on the street under study within the limits of the block or blocks being considered for speed limit reduction.

Affected Street – A minimum roadway section of 1000 feet in length with 75 percent of the road frontage comprised of residential land uses directly fronting the roadway. **Note:** As a part of the review process, staff may determine that the study area may need to be expanded to other street sections for continuity.

Direct Fronting – A property is considered direct fronting when its address and driveway are oriented to the roadway section.

Request Reduction – The initial speed reduction petition to 25 miles per hour must be submitted by 20 percent of the residents on the affected roadway section.

Procedure for Applying for a Speed Reduction

Initiation – Resident(s) of the proposed speed reduction project area may initiate the process by submitting a petition from 20 percent of the residents in an affected area to the Town Planning Department. Once the petition is received, a speed reduction survey form is then mailed or hand

delivered to all resident(s) in the affected area along with a copy of the Neighborhood Speed Reduction Policy.

In order for the speed reduction request to be considered, the Town Planning Department must receive a minimum of 75 percent of the residents' signatures in the affected area in favor of the speed reduction. Only one signature per household is counted to determine the 75 percent approval. Surveys must be returned within 60 days of the survey's post mark. If the required signatures are not obtained, the process is stopped. If the resident signature requirement is met, the request is reviewed by the Town Planning Department and then sent to the Town Board for action.

Qualifying Criteria for a Neighborhood Speed Reduction

There are many factors taken into consideration when reviewing residential traffic concerns to determine the feasibility of the request. These factors include:

- Speeds and /or volume of traffic
- The surrounding roadway network
- Accident history
- Resident network and access
- Neighborhood response and
- Budget considerations.

In order to qualify for a speed reduction under the Town of Wendell Neighborhood Speed Reduction Policy, the roadway being considered should be a town-maintained public street classified as a local or collector street, and must be primarily residential. "Primarily residential" means that at least 75% of the properties with frontage on the street are in residential zoning or have existing land use that is residential. State maintained roads are not eligible for consideration under this policy.

The street must have:

- A posted speed limit of 30 mph or more.
- Traffic volume on the affected street less than 4000 vehicles per day (vpd) regardless of its classification.
- Not a primary run route for emergency services such as fire and ambulance.
- Application must not have been denied or become void within the last 6 months.

It is critical that the following appropriate agencies be contacted and included in the review process.

- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Eastern Wake EMS
- Public Works
- Planning Department
- Wake County Public Schools – Transportation
- Solid Waste Contractor



Town staff will perform a site study and determine if the request meets the preliminary qualifying criteria for a speed reduction. If the data does not meet the qualifying criteria, alternative measures are offered for discussion. If the data meets the criteria, the traffic calming process is taken to the Town Board for consideration.

Implementation - The proposed schedule for implementation must consider the availability of funding and prioritization. Due to limited resources, some areas may not be identified and funded for a project for significant periods of time.

Budget & Funding

For projects previously approved by the Town Board, and for which funding is not available, property owners or a home owners association may elect to pay for 100% of the installation to implement the speed reduction.



Appendix A

Speed Reduction Petition

Neighborhood Name: _____

Street Name & Location: _____

Citizen Neighborhood Speed Reduction petition to be completed by 20 percent of residents directly fronting the requested section of roadway under consideration.

We, the undersigned property owners, do respectfully petition the Town of Wendell to reduce the neighborhood speed to 25 miles per hour within the neighborhood/intersection

_____.

*A detailed map to include block numbers or addresses within the area to be considered must be included.

The reasons for the petition include:

Phone Number: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Signature	Name Printed	Address	Apt. No.



Neighborhood Name: _____

Street Name & Location: _____

Reason for Petition: _____

Signature	Name Printed	Address	Apt. No.



Appendix B

Resident Speed Reduction Survey

Note: In order for a speed reduction request to be considered by the Town Board for approval, this request must be signed by a minimum of 75 percent of the affected residents. Should the request receive insufficient signatures or otherwise be denied by the Town Board, no similar requests shall be considered through this policy for a five year period.

I, the undersigned resident do respectfully request the Town of Wendell to reduce the neighborhood speed to 25 miles per hour within the neighborhood/intersection

The reasons for the requests are:

I have lived in the neighborhood for _____ months/years.

*****Please note any additions, corrections, or vacancies to the attached map*****

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

