

## WHAT IS A SPEED CUSHION?

A speed cushion is a traffic calming measure that utilizes vertical deflection in the pavement of a street to slow vehicles. They are designed to include a small separation between the cushions for larger vehicles such as fire trucks and buses to cross them unaffected, while reducing passenger car speeds.

## HOW ARE THEY EFFECTIVE?

Speed cushions are effective in reducing the speed of vehicle traffic; particularly in residential neighborhoods. Cushions reduce the number of vehicles that are excessively speeding, and can reduce the volume of traffic on a roadway by deterring cut-through traffic.



## CONTACT US

Transportation Operation & Maintenance  
Public Works Department

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Call: 905-546-4376



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### SPEED CUSHIONS



## WHAT ARE THE DISADVANTAGES?

Some disadvantages of speed cushions can be increased traffic noise levels due to braking and accelerating, and increased gas consumption/emissions levels - especially if there are multiple devices in close proximity.

## HOW IS PLACEMENT DECIDED?

The locations and number of cushions are chosen based on speed data, minimum spacing guidelines between traffic control and traffic calming devices, and driveway spacing. Additionally, the installation area must be clear of catch basins and manholes.

## WHEN ARE THEY INSTALLED?

Speed cushions are implemented twice per year:

- Spring Install: Typically from May – June
- Fall Install: Typically from August – November

## HOW ARE THEY IMPLEMENTED?

City of Hamilton has a Traffic Calming Process. Speed cushions are implemented via a traffic calming assessment, complete streets review, or Councillor motion. A request for Traffic Calming may be submitted to Roadway Safety or your Councillor.

## ARE CARS ALLOWED TO PARK OVER THEM?

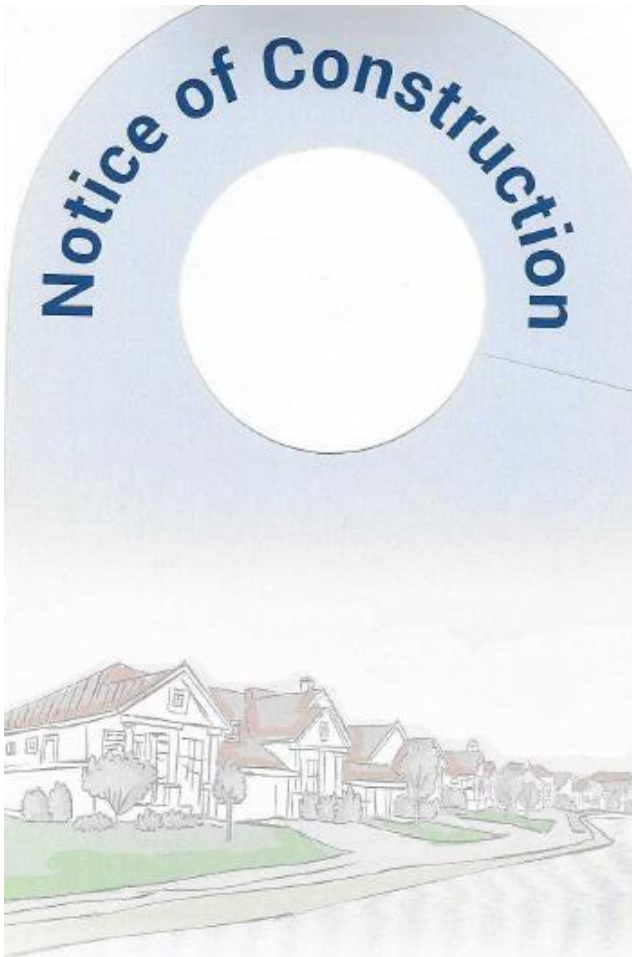
Yes, speed cushions do not affect on-street parking.

## WHAT ARE THE SPECIFICATIONS?

Speed cushions are constructed to 8 centimeters in height. They are designed with three separate "cushions" to accommodate emergency vehicles. All speed cushions are constructed from asphalt and must have accompanying warning signage installed adjacent to construction location.

Based on speed studies, speed cushions are still effective until 4 centimeters in height. Below this threshold they will be replaced upon review.

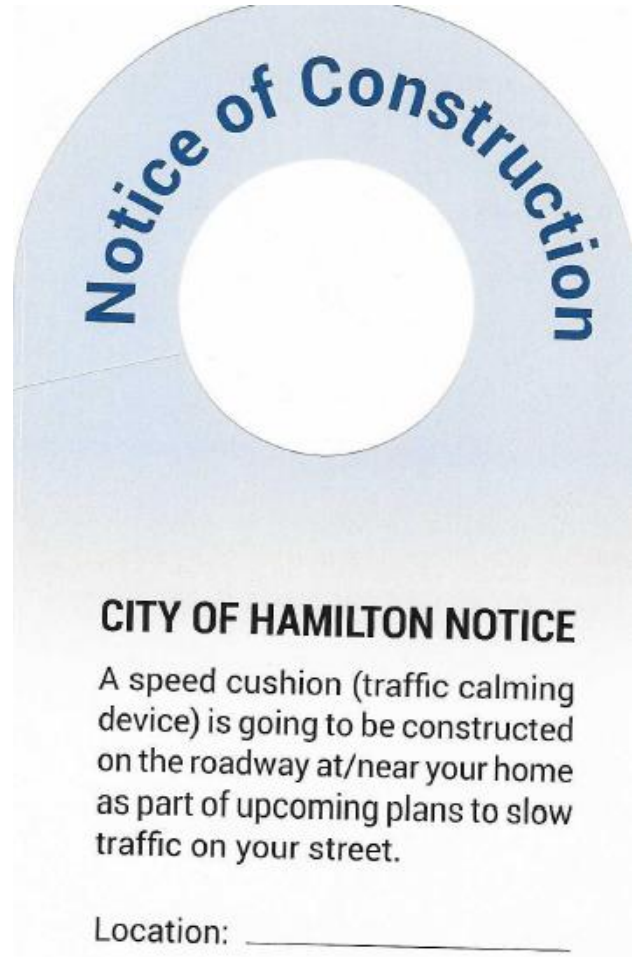
Damaged speed cushions can be reported directly to Transportation Operations and Maintenance, please see contact information on the back.



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**Hamilton**  
Transportation Operations  
& Maintenance



If you require further information  
please contact  
905-546-2424 ext.5421