

John Hutchings  
District One

Gary Edwards  
District Two

Bud Blake  
District Three



## PUBLIC WORKS

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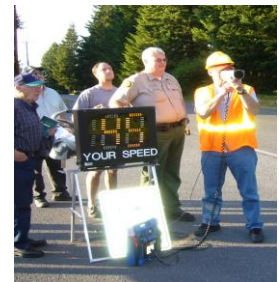
Jennifer D. Walker, P.M.P.,  
Director

### Thurston County Public Works Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program

The program offers educational, behavioral and environmental solutions to assist in addressing traffic safety concerns in neighborhoods. This program consists of two phases or steps and is intended to obtain neighborhood participation coupled with low cost activities by Thurston County to assist in changing driver behaviors and the second (if necessary) consider environmental changes to the roadway system (i.e., speed bumps).

*Phase I – Changing Driver Behavior* – Many times this we find these low cost solutions resolve neighborhood traffic safety concerns. Several of the options in phase I our outlined below

- a) Neighborhood Speed Watch - Neighborhood Speed Watch provides a way for you to alert drivers to your concerns about speeding and to encourage safe, controlled driving on residential streets. This program actively involves residents in the education process as participants. The Neighborhood Speed Watch Program is a way residents can improve the safety of their own neighborhood without waiting for the county to provide enforcement or the installation of physical devices. The program has proven effective across the nation



- b) Yard Signs - This program actively involves residents in the education process as participants. The program allows for timely and cost effective responses to speeding traffic in neighborhoods. These signs or devices should only be used when there is activity in front of your home, otherwise they will quickly lose their effectiveness.



- a) Signing, markings and Brush Trim - We can improve the safety of some areas by simply cutting vegetation, installing stop bars, establish no parking zones, installing roadway reflectors and upgrade signing. These are easy and inexpensive things to do that can improve the safety of a roadway or neighborhood.



- b) Radar Trailer - Upon request or by county action the speed trailer and speed sign will be deployed on county roads. The trailer is primarily used for short term operations (a week or less) and the sign is for longer term operations (a month or more).



- c) Targeted Enforcement - Even though there are a limited amount of deputies for the actual enforcement, we are able to conduct targeted patrols of your neighborhood as patterns emerge from the speed watch data and as residents provide more specific information regarding observed traffic patterns too.

*Phase II Changing the Roadway Environment* - If the actions employed in Phase I of the Neighborhood Traffic Calming program do not reduce reported traffic problems, physical changes may be made to streets. If residents still have concerns and the location meets county guidelines, the location will be reviewed for the possible installation of physical devices, such as medians and speed humps. To be eligible for this phase the following criteria will need to be met:



- a. certain roadway criteria be satisfied
- b. support from the majority of the neighborhood
- c. neighborhood has ability to fund project

In summary we can meet with you and your neighborhood upon request to discuss the County's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. If you would like to become involved in the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program please send us a service request by going the following website: <http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/publicworks/> or by calling 360-867-2300. Please specify the street names, neighborhood and other locations of concern.

If you have any questions, you contact Bernie Sison at (360) 867-2300 or by email at [sisonb@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:sisonb@co.thurston.wa.us).