

FAQs

Can speed bumps be placed on 13th and 14th Avenues to slow traffic?

- Speed bumps are not a device that are currently used in the City and County of Denver. However, *speed cushions* are being piloted as a traffic calming measure in the City and County of Denver. The Department of Transportation of Infrastructure (DOTI) is in the process of doing a data evaluation of how speed cushions affect street sweeping, plowing, and emergency response rates, among other things. After the pilot is completed and should these devices be determined to be a device that DOTI can successfully maintain policy updates will be codified before any further implementation will occur.
- DOTI is only considering speed cushions for local roadways. Because 13th and 14th Avenues are defined as *arterial* roadways, they would not qualify for speed cushions.

Can traffic circles be implemented at some intersections on 13th and 14th Avenues to slow traffic?

- DOTI does not install *traffic circles* on *arterial* roadways. Because of the high-volume of traffic on 13th and 14th Avenues, traffic circles would not be an effective option to slow traffic on these roadways.
- In the current two-lane, one-way condition of 13th and 14th Avenues, *traffic circles* are not possible.

Can the lanes on 13th and 14th Avenues be narrowed to slow traffic?

- When a lane is narrowed, speed goes down. This is why *bollards* are being implemented at crossings to slow turning cars and provide increased visibility and shorter crossing distance for pedestrians.
- *Traffic calming measures*, like *paint-and-posts curb extensions*, are meant to narrow the roadway to slow traffic. Restriping can also be used as a tool to narrow lanes. Major restriping would likely occur during repaving operations. DOTI is looking into the timing of the next programmed street repaving and the effectiveness of lane reductions through restriping. Additionally, DOTI will evaluate opportunities for near-term, smaller scale striping solutions (e.g. localized solid lines along the parking lanes) that could provide benefit.

Can changes be made to speed limits to slow traffic along 13th and 14th Avenues?

- DOTI has said that a change to the speed limit is not effective without environmental changes to accompany it. That is, regardless of the posted limit, people will travel at a speed that feels appropriate. Therefore, changes to the speed limit will not be made until other improvements have been tried.
 - They have seen improvements in areas that have received treatments but have NOT seen improvements in actual speeds when signage was merely changed.
 - *There is research that shows that just increasing speed limit sign frequency does have an effect on lower speeds.*
 - Seattle is one of the first cities in the country to study how reducing speed limits and increasing speed limit sign frequency improves safety for everyone. Early results show a decrease in vehicular speeds and a reduction of up to 39% in crashes.
 - <https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/safety-first/vision-zero/speedlimits>

Can I request additional or replacement signage to clarify the One Way designations along 13th and 14th?

- If you would like to request signage, please report to 311 or pocketgov.org and to denvermoves@denvergov.org and the appropriate Council Office.

I'd like to offer my property for the photo radar enforcement van. How do I request a photo radar enforcement van?

- Under State law, the photo speed vans are deployed on residential streets with a posted speed limit of 35 MPH or less, on *streets bordering parks with any posted speed limit*, and in safety zones, which include *school zones and work zones* throughout the City and County of Denver. Scheduled deployments occur during two shifts from 6:00 am to 9:30 pm.
- Photo enforcement vans can only be placed in the public right of way or on private land with the adjacent owner's consent. If you are willing to host a photo enforcement van on your property, please email dpdpeu@denvergov.org. This is also the email address to use if you'd like to request enforcement.

Traffic calming measures are great, but what about enforcement from the Denver Police Department?

- Staffing issues pose challenges to providing constant enforcement. However, you can request traffic enforcement by calling 720-337-1030.

- Familiarize yourself with the Community Resource Officer in your area, so that you can report what you are seeing in your neighborhood:
 - Simeon Code, Simeon.Codo@denvergov.org
 - Hana Ruiz, Hana.Ruiz@denvergov.org

Can 13th and 14th Avenues be made a two-way street instead of a one-way street to slow traffic?

- DOTI has seen this as a tool to consider, but it must be looked at a network-wide level. In considering two-way conversion, parallel roads must be examined extensively to see what impacts it would have on those surrounding roads. This may be a long-term solution, but DOTI is currently focused on immediate solutions to calm traffic speeds along these roadways.

Can signal timing be adjusted to affect traffic along 13th and 14th?

- If you would like to have signal timing adjusted or examined, please log a request with 311 or pocketgov.org and let your local Council office know as well so that we can follow up with the request.