

**COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA  
ORDINANCE NO. 2000-1**

**AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE LOCATION AND APPROVAL OF SPEED HUMPS; PROVIDING THE PURPOSE OF SPEED HUMPS; PROVIDING THE ELIGIBILITY FOR SPEED HUMPS; PROVIDING PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING SUPPORT FOR SPEED HUMPS; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, speed humps have been shown to be an effective and appropriate device to reduce speed on certain types of streets. Cities nationwide have similar programs and their experiences indicate speed humps reduce travel speeds and do not affect the safe operation of motor vehicles crossing the humps; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to minimize driver frustrations and encourage safe driving practices, it is imperative that speed humps be installed in accordance with certain transportation engineering criteria; and

**WHEREAS**, speed humps will not be installed until eligibility for speed humps as set forth in this Ordinance has been determined following the procedures set forth in this Ordinance and assuring appropriate safeguards to protect persons and their property.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1:**     **Eligibility for Speed Humps.** The County Public Works Department will conduct the necessary transportation engineering studies to determine whether or not a street is eligible for speed humps. The general policy criteria is as follows:

- a.       The street must be classified as a local street within the

unincorporated area of Columbia County. "Local street" shall be defined as a street whose primary function is to provide the initial access to the collector and arterial roadways. These facilities are characterized by short trips, low speeds, and small traffic volumes.

- b. The street must abut and/or provide access to residential properties.
- c. There must be no more than one (1) moving lane of traffic in each direction.
- d. The street must have a posted speed limit of 30 mph or less.
- e. Humps may be located on streets that contain horizontal curves, but the hump itself must not be located within the horizontal curve. Safe stopping sight distance must always be provided.
- f. Humps may not be located on a street with a vertical grade with more than an 8% change on the immediate approaches where the visibility of the hump may be restricted.
- g. Special consideration must be given to streets without curb and gutter to accommodate drainage and prevent vehicle run arounds.
- h. The street must be paved.
- i. The 85% speed must exceed the speed limit by at least 5 miles per hour.
- j. Other factors such as emergency vehicle access and safe sight distance will be taken into consideration along with all other considerations which the County may deem appropriate or as may be recommended by the Florida Department of Transportation.

**Section 2. Speed Hump Location.**

- a. The County Public Works Department will determine the final location of all speed humps in accordance with the standards and procedures set forth in this Ordinance and in accordance with safe engineering practices.
- b. The street must have adequate sight distance to safely accommodate the hump as determined by the County Public Works Department.

- c. Speed humps near drainage inlets should be placed just downstream of the inlet. Drainage consideration can affect speed hump location and/or spacing.

**Section 3. Resident Support for Speed Humps.**

- a. In order for speed humps to be installed, the property owners in the subdivision of development adjacent and contiguous to the street must support the speed humps. In addition, where the residents of a contiguous subdivision or development must pass through the subdivision or development within which the speed hump is proposed will also be included in the balloting process. The County Public Works Department will determine the properties to be included in the vote and conduct a ballot by mail. An affirmative vote of no less than 75% of the effected property owners as described in this section is required for approval. A ballot not returned will be counted as a “no” vote. The ballots shall be public information subject to the provisions of the Florida Sunshine Law. The information that is mailed to the property owners will include a drawing showing the proposed location(s) for the humps.
- b. Ballots will be mailed to the last address maintained by the property appraiser’s office or tax collector’s office of Columbia County. The Board of County Commissioners will determine the format of the ballot, and specific procedures to be followed.

**Section 4. Final Approval or Disapproval of Speed Humps.**

The Board of County Commissioners shall make the final determination whether the requested speed hump will be installed at the requested location based upon the following factors:

- a. Recommendation of the County Public Works Department as to eligibility for speed humps as provided herein.
- b. Recommendation of the County Public Works Department as to the recommended location of the speed humps in accordance with the criteria set forth herein.
- c. Whether a minimum 75% of the affected residents support the installation of speed humps.
- d. All other criteria and considerations which the Board of County

Commissioners may deem appropriate to insure the quiet enjoyment of their property and safety of the affected residents as well as the consideration of the best interest of the motoring public, including their person and property.

- e. The Board of County Commissioners in its discretion may elect to install speed humps or not install humps for good cause.

**Section 5.** **Severability.** The provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and it is the intention to confer the whole or any part of the powers herein provided for. If any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the decision of such court shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional provision not been included therein.

**Section 6.** **Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective as provided by law.

**DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED** in regular session of the **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2000.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COLUMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**