Speed Humps vs. Speed Bumps

Speed Humps

- Are a gradual raised area in the pavement surface extending across the entire travel width
- Typically, 3½ inches in height with a travel length of 22 feet
- Have evolved from extensive research & testing
- Create a gentle vehicle rocking motion which results in most vehicles slowing to 15 -20 mph at each hump and 25 to 30 mph between properly spaced humps in a system
- They are painted to identify a vertical change in the road
- Need to be properly designed, marked and signed according to the standards in the MUTCD)
- Effective at controlling speeds without creating accidents or imposing unreasonable or unacceptable safety risks
- Either permanent bituminous ones or portable rubber ones can be installed---there are pros and cons to each type
- Can be utilized as a raised crosswalk as well
- Pilot project successfully complete on Lexwoods Drive

Speed Bumps

- Are an abrupt raised area in the pavement surface
- Effective at controlling speeds on low volume private driveways and parking lots
- Typically, 3 to 6 inches in height with a travel length of 6 in. to 3 ft
- Cause significant driver discomfort at typical residential speeds
- Cause vehicles to slow to 5 mph or less at the bump
- Considered an increased liability risk on public roads
- Truck, emergency response, cargo and bus passengers more likely to be affected
- Maintenance headaches especially for plow trucks