MANAGING SPEEDS

Redefine geometry with vertical elements, paint, and markings, where possible.

Temporary signs (and markings) to indicate new speed limits.

Manage vehicle speeds to enhance the safety of all street users.

CONTEXT

- Streets with long, straight stretches or inadequate traffic-calming infrastructure; intersections with wide turning radii.
- Wide, typically congested streets currently experiencing higher vehicle speeds.
- Citywide speed limit reductions, critical corridors; specific streets, intersections, and zones.

KEY STEPS

- Reduce the posted speed limit to a level consistent with eliminating serious injuries and update markings and signs.
- Deploy quick-build designs and/or pair with other street or public space interventions.
- Publicize speed limit and anti-speeding message with media campaigns.

TIMELINE: Days to weeks to plan, hours or days to implement.

DURATION: Days to months.

Sigulda, Latvia

Sigulda created a high-comfort bike street using interim curb extensions and reduced speeds.
**Planning**

- Plan citywide, district-wide, or corridor speed limit reductions based on the extent to which modes and movements interact on the street. Deploy automated enforcement over time to minimize cost and person-to-person contact and to increase equitable application.
- Gather available data on sites with increased speeding. Allow community to help prioritize interventions and locations. Focus on greatest impact for vulnerable groups.
- Implement measures in combination with all other interventions to maximize impact and safety.

**Engagement**

- Partner with community groups and local associations to identify key obstacles or issues affecting design and to help prioritize locations.
- Use flyers, temporary signs, and social and digital media to notify all street users of design changes.
- Engage transit operators and emergency services to reduce undue impacts to response time.
- Convey clear goals for managing the space among agency partners.

**Design + Implementation**

- Post a speed limit at which the expected use of the street does not result in severe injuries.
- Reduce design speeds through traffic-calming strategies, using quick-build materials such as paint, barriers, planters, cones, and delineators.
- Reduce the width of vehicle lanes. Install bike lanes and interim sidewalk extensions.
- Prevent speeding on straight streets using chokepoints and chicanes. Conduct on-site trials with cones to confirm proposed geometry.
- Use quick-build asphalt or pre-cast modular elements (speed humps, raised crosswalks).

**Monitoring**

- Key criteria: monitor speeding within the block or at intersection before and after implementation.
- Check placement of equipment daily for the first few weekday and weekend days, then weekly.

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**Bogotá, Colombia**

Bogotá implemented a city-wide speed limit of 50 km/h.

**Pasadena, CA, USA**

The Pasadena Department of Transportation placed traffic calming signs along the city’s major roads to remind drivers to slow down for neighbors who may be walking, running, or bicycling.