



# MEMORANDUM

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## LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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**To:** Carjacking and Reckless Driving Task Force  
**From:** Kathleen Brengosz, Fiscal Planning Specialist, x3926  
**Date:** May 24, 2019  
**Subject:** City Assessment for Speed Humps

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In response to the Task Force's request for information regarding the current assessment policy for the installation of speed humps in the City of Milwaukee, the Legislative Reference Bureau is providing the following information.

Section 115-43-2 of the Code of Ordinances establishes the recovery rates for assessable improvements. Recovery rates vary between 50% and 90% depending on the project type. The recovery rate for the installation of traffic-calming devices is 90%. Each year, the Department of Public Works determines the assessment rate which will be paid by property owners for each type of project. For 2019, the assessment rate for the installation of speed humps is \$6.50 per frontage foot.

The actual percentage of project costs recovered through special assessments varies from project to project. The most notable reason for the variation is the City's assessment policy for corner lots. Properties which have street frontage on two sides are only assessed for projects done on the "short" side of the property. Projects done on the "long" side of the property are non-assessable which increases the City's contribution to project costs. City-wide, approximately 75% of project costs are recovered through special assessments.

If you would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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