

UNDERSTANDING THE 85TH PERCENTILE

CITY OF SARASOTA: TRAFFIC CALMING PROGRAM

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WHAT IS IT?

The 85th percentile speed is the speed that 85 out of 100 drivers are driving at or below on a road. If most drivers (85%) follow the speed limit, it means the design speed, target speed, and posted speed are working well together. If most drivers (85%) are going faster than the speed limit, it means the roads are designed for higher speeds than what's posted, which can be a safety issue.

A circular infographic with a yellow border and a black center. The text "85%" is written in black in the center.

85%

02

WHY IS IT USED IN ENGINEERING?

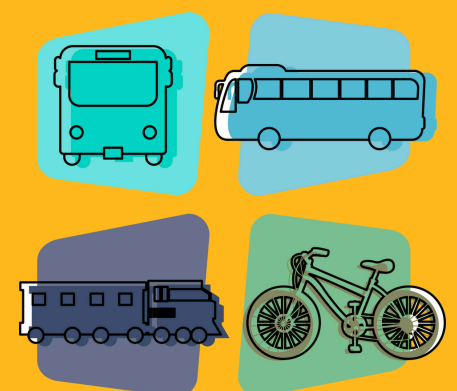
Traffic engineers use the 85th percentile speed to set speed limits at a safe level. This helps reduce crashes and keeps traffic moving smoothly. If the design speed, target speed, and posted speeds don't match, it can make the road unsafe for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.



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HOW IS IT USED FOR THE TRAFFIC CALMING PROGRAM?

The 85th percentile is one criteria the city uses to determine if streets are eligible for traffic calming solutions. Visit the website for more details about the traffic calming program.



www.SarasotaFL.gov/TrafficCalming

Get Involved! Visit www.SarasotaFL.gov/TrafficCalmingPlan to see how YOU can make a difference.