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SUBJECT: Transformed Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program
DATE: October 22, 2025

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:
Public Works Department staff will present an overview of the updated Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program, including program structure, goals, tools, and implementation.

BACKGROUND:
The Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program (Program) is part of the City's commitment to promote safer transportation conditions on Tacoma's residential streets while also enhancing the livability of our neighborhoods and communities. From its inception, the Program was established to address excessive vehicle travel speeds and cut-through traffic on non-arterial neighborhood streets.

A restructuring of the Program has been taking place since 2024. A data-driven approach has been adopted to identify and prioritize locations for consideration of future traffic calming measures. Residents can still engage with the City to request traffic calming improvements in their neighborhoods, but demand alone will not guide the best use of the Program's limited resources. The Program also takes initiatives to seek opportunities to partner with or advise other public or private projects, as appropriate.

ISSUE:
The Program's primary objective is to deter excessive vehicle speeds and cut-through traffic on non-arterial streets. This presents a large breadth of potential needs and constituents interested in results. The Program's restructuring takes into account current program funding for evaluation and implementation of appropriate traffic calming measures. Even though implementation of traffic calming measures does not guarantee the elimination of speeding or reckless driving-related collisions, the expectation is that associated collisions will be less severe—especially for vulnerable road users—due to slower vehicle speeds. Traffic calming measures and related engineering solutions include, but are not limited to, installation of speed humps and traffic circles, changes in street alignment, and other physical improvements.

ALTERNATIVES:
This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:
This is an information briefing only. There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:
This is an information briefing only. There is no recommendation.