

Dynamic Speed Display Devices – Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Dynamic Speed Display Device (DSDD)?

A Dynamic Speed Display Device (DSDD) measures the speed of approaching vehicles and communicates the speed to drivers on a digital display. DSDDs are used to encourage drivers who are travelling faster than the speed limit to reduce their speed.



What is the purpose of installing DSDDs on Austin roadways?

Although law enforcement may be an effective way to manage speeds, it requires significant resources to ensure compliance. In some cases, alternative speed management methods may be necessary to deter drivers who travel faster than the posted speed limit. One such method is using DSDDs to help motorists self-enforce their speed.

The Transportation and Public Works Department (TPW) deploys DSDDs for temporary and permanent installations. Temporary installations typically follow resident requests and are deployed at least six weeks to collect real-time data on vehicular speeds and volumes before being redeployed to other locations in the City. In some cases, TPW deploys DSDDs on a permanent basis for on-going speed monitoring and management and as a part of the Speed Management Program toolbox.

What data is collected with DSDDs?

Only spot speed data for vehicles approaching a DSDD unit are collected and stored in a remote data management site (in the cloud). Data such as license plate numbers or any other vehicular/personal property information is not collected by the device. The DSDD units use radar but no cameras.

How is data collected by DSDDs used?

The spot speed data is used to analyze trends in vehicular speeds and generate custom reports which may be used either for on-going speed management and/or targeted speed enforcement activities.

Are DSDDs effective?

TPW has determined that while DSDDs are unlikely to reduce the majority of traveling speeds below the posted speed limit, they are effective in reducing the highest end traveling speeds which lead to the most serious traffic injuries.

What happens if a DSDD is vandalized?

If there is an act of intentional damage, TPW will work with Austin Police Department (APD). According to the Texas Penal Code, vandalizing public property is a felony, and the individual(s) committing the crime may be held criminally responsible for any injuries or damage caused by their actions. Please help

the City keep your streets safe by reporting vandalism to APD, so that the individual(s) may be held responsible.

How can I request a DSDD?

Please contact [Austin 3-1-1](#) to request a DSDD deployment on your street.