



Ward

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
RALEIGH 27611

September 30, 1975

JAMES E. HOLSHOUSER, JR.
GOVERNOR

J. F. Alexander
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Division Engineers

FROM: W. A. Ward, Assistant Manager of Traffic Engineering *W.A.W.*

SUBJECT: Revised Guidelines for Posting of Speed Limit Signs Inside Municipalities

Our present policy for posting speed limits at municipal limits states that "for traffic entering an incorporated Town or City there shall be erected at or near the corporate limit a sign indicating "35 MPH Unless Otherwise Posted". This sign shall not be erected on control access highways". This has caused many problems to arise, especially at locations where the existing speed limit on the road inside the municipality is other than 35 MPH. Therefore, this policy has been revised and the following guidelines shall be put into effect immediately.

1. Cities or Towns under 5,000 Population:

A City Limit sign (I2-5) shall be erected at the City (or Town) Limit providing the City Limit line actually crosses the roadway. At or near this City Limit sign a speed limit sign shall be erected showing the prevailing speed of the road or street at that point. Inside the municipality, if the prevailing speed limit is other than the statutory 35 MPH, speed limit signs shall be erected so that the motorist has at least one sign in view at all times. Inside the municipality where the statutory 35 MPH is in effect, a 35 MPH sign shall be erected at or near the City Limits as described above and at other needed locations; however, it is not necessary to retain a 35 MPH sign in view at all times.

The new guideline above is intended for use on State maintained roads. Cities or Towns are encouraged to follow this guideline when posting speed limit signs on their City maintained streets. It is requested that you have your forces remove the existing "35 MPH Unless Otherwise Posted" signs at the City Limit lines of all Towns under 5,000.

2. Cities or Towns Over 5,000 Population:

A City Limit sign (I2-5) shall be erected at the City (or Town) Limit providing the City Limit line actually crosses the roadway. A speed limit sign showing the prevailing speed on the street or road at that point shall be erected at or near the City Limit line.

There shall also be erected at or near the City Limit line a sign with the message "Citywide Speed Limit 35 Unless Otherwise Posted". The color of this sign shall be green background with white message and border. The size of the sign for major streets entering the City shall be 60" x 36", and the size of the sign for minor streets entering the City shall be 42" x 30". A full scale drawing of each sign is being furnished your Traffic Services Supervisor.

It is requested that you have your forces begin removing the existing "35 MPH Unless Otherwise Posted" signs and replacing them with the new standard "Citywide 35 MPH Unless Otherwise Posted" signs as soon as is practical.

It is requested that you give first priority to the change in the signing in Towns under 5,000. After these have been completed, you should begin changes in the signing for Towns over 5,000. It is suggested that in the larger Towns you have your Supervisor consult with the City Traffic Engineer in determining the more appropriate locations to erect these signs.

Full scale drawings of these signs have been furnished Central Prison and a number has been assigned to each. Your forces can order these signs directly from the Prison Sign Shop by referring to part number. Please advise if you need additional information on this subject.

WAW:pp

cc: Area Traffic Engineers
Traffic Services Supervisors
Division Traffic Engineers
Mr. L. B. Powell
Mr. J. M. Lynch
Mr. N. C. Crowe
Mr. P. G. Deaver