



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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GOVERNOR

DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
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SECRETARY

February 5, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO: Division Engineers
Division Traffic Engineers
Area Traffic Engineers

FROM: J. M. Lynch, P.E.
State Traffic Engineer

THRU: J. D. Goins, P.E.
Chief Engineer-Operations

SUBJECT: Subdivisionwide Speed Limits

The Area Traffic Engineers in coordination with Division Traffic Engineers have developed the following recommendations regarding the use of subdivisionwide speed limit signs and the required ordinance process. Their efforts were directed to clearly define the type of residential subdivision that would be appropriate for the sign use, and to simplify the process while still meeting legal requirements.

Subdivisionwide speed limits are intended to be used only in those cases where the subdivision can be considered a closed subdivision. The following list is a brief overview of some of the criteria that should be considered when reviewing a subdivision for subdivisionwide speed limit signs:

- * Subdivision should have clearly defined access point(s) which may have a permanent sign or signs designating the subdivision. Subdivision name signs shall be responsibility of the subdivision.
- * Subdivision should consist of two or more paved streets which are internally connected.
- * Entire length of streets should be within the boundary of the subdivision.
- * Subdivision may consist of more than one specifically named or unnamed subdivision.

It should be noted that subdivisionwide speed limit signing is to be applied only in those subdivisions that qualify



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under the above stated criteria. As in all cases, a thorough engineering investigation of the subdivision or subdivisions should be conducted in regard to speed limit signing before any speed limits are reduced.

At the present time, all ordinances submitted for reduction of speed limits including subdivisionwide speed limits will have to be submitted providing the following information:

- * Route numbers of secondary roads within subdivision.
- * Route Description - Subdivisionwide-(name of subdivision if any) with a beginning and ending point of each secondary road located within the subdivision.
- * Length of each secondary road within subdivision.
- * Recommended speed limit for cars and trucks.

Until a computer program is developed, and the appropriate data base collected, that would negate the need for providing some of the above data such as route description and length of road, you will need to continue to provide that data as in the past.

Attached for your review are several typical designs for subdivisionwide speed limit signing with an example from Division Six and Division Two. If additional information is required, please let us know.

Attachments

JML:ls

cc: Jack Murdock
L. R. Goode, P.E.
B. G. Jenkins, Jr., P.E.
N. C. Crowe, Jr., P.E.