



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

EUGENE A. CONTI, JR.
SECRETARY

May 20, 2011

LEE COUNTY

Mr. Paul Weeks, Jr., PE
City Engineer
City of Sanford
PO Box 3729
Sanford, NC 27331-3729

Dear Mr. Weeks,

Thank you for contacting the Division Traffic Services Office concerning your request for a speed zone reduction along Horner Boulevard between the southern City Limits and Main Street. The request required an extensive review of collected speed data, accident records for the past five years as well as updated development along the requested segment. The results of our study are now complete.

For the basis of analysis, the study segment was broken out into two segments including the existing 55 MPH zone between Harvey Faulk Road (SR 1138) and US 421 as well as the existing 45 MPH zone between the US 421 and Main Street (NC 42/78). For comparison purposes, the existing 35 MPH zone between Main Street and Rose Street (SR 1119) was evaluated under the same guidelines. The results of the data can be summarized below:

Posted Speed Limit	85 th % Speed	Delta	Percent Developed	Accidents per 100MVM	Percent Angle Accidents	Percent Left Turn Accidents	Percent Rear End Accidents	Percent Side Swipe Accidents
35 MPH	44.3 MPH	+9.3 MPH	62%	521.9	28%	8%	43%	8%
45 MPH	49.7 MPH	+4.7 MPH	51%	509.0	26%	10%	43%	9%
55 MPH	59.2 MPH	+4.2 MPH	26%	222.5	27%	11%	32%	7%

Based on the data presented it is evident that traffic is operating within reasonable compliance with both the 45 and 55 MPH speed limits. The percentage of development falls within the appropriate guidelines for the current posted speed limits. Accident rates were found to be highest in the existing 35 MPH zone and all accident types were relatively consistent across the study segment. Considering all the data collected and evaluated, we find no engineering basis upon which to lower either of the current 45 or 55 MPH zones. It is recommended that these results be forwarded to the Sanford Police Department for their information. Should the City have any information or data that contradicts our findings please feel free to forward it to us for further consideration.

Thank you for taking the time to bring your concern to our attention and for your interest in traffic safety on our State Highway System. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we can be of further assistance or answer any question you may have.

Yours very truly,



Matthew Kitchen
Assistant Division Traffic Engineer

cc: Mr. Timothy Johnson, PE
Mr. Chuck Dumas, PE
Mr. Rob Stone, PE
Ms. Kelly Becker, PE
Mr. David Willett
File: Lee – Horner Boulevard

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