

How to Obtain a 24/7 Construction Speed Limit on Local Roads

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MnDOT Metro Traffic Engineering & Speed Zoning
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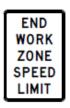












Types of Construction Speed Limits

Advisory Speed Limits \* Advisory (Worker) with "Work Ahead" warning sign

Workers Present Speed Limit

24/7 Construction Speed Limit

#### **Advisory Speeds**

- Brief Description
  - For driver safety let driver know a safe speed to travel to negotiate a potential hazard
  - Advisory (Worker) for worker safety at spot locations let driver know that there are workers ahead
- Examples:
  - Bumps, low shoulders, bypass indicating the curve, narrow lanes, lane shift, poor road



 Established by the District or Local road authority per the MN MUTCD Part 6H-2

WORKERS



http://www.dot.state.mn.us/speed/pdf/WZSpeedLimitGuideline.pdf

### **Workers Present Speed Limit**

### Brief Description

• For worker safety - established in short-term projects during continuous worker activity when workers are present and are in the lane adjacent to moving traffic within 1 mile downstream of sign assembly.

#### Examples:

• Pavement repair, loop detector installation, M&O, concrete joint repair & crack sealing.







#### **Workers Present Speed Limit**

#### Authority

- Established by the District or Local road authority per Minnesota Statue Section 169.14 Subd. 5d
- Local Roads City/County Traffic Engineer or designee
- No Engineering and Traffic Investigation is needed
- Verify
  - Speed limit should be monitored and verified that it is appropriate for activities



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#### 24/7 Construction Speed Limit

#### Brief Description

- For driver safety regulatory speed limit intended for 24 hour posting where motorists must reduce speeds to safely navigate the work zone
- Typical 10 mph reduction research shows that compliance to 10 mph reduction much more likely than greater speed limit reductions

#### Examples

• Bypasses, shoulder drop-offs, narrow lanes, grade separations, and pavement repair







### 24/7 Construction Speed Limit

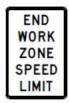
- Authority
  - Regulatory speed limit allowed by <u>MN Statute 169.14 Subd 4</u>, same statute as permanent regulatory speed limits
  - Established by Commissioner as recommended by District Traffic Engineer (requires "engineering and traffic investigation")
- Engineering and Traffic Investigation
  - Traffic Control Plan, idea of staging, location of geometric issues, narrative with reasons why
  - · Speed limit should be monitored and verified that it is appropriate for activities
  - Investigation is done prior to the actual set-up

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# Local Road 24/7 Construction Speed Limits Contingencies

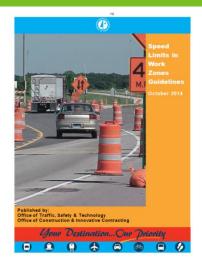
- 1. Notification when signs are erect
- 2. Monitor & verify signs posted signs
- 3. Notify the District Traffic Engineer if any changes are necessary
- 4. Notification when signs are removed





### Speed Limits in Work Zones Guidelines

- Basic Speed Limit Laws
- Speed Limit Types
- Applications
- Layouts (updated)
- Web search MnDOT Work Zone speed limits



http://www.dot.state.mn.us/speed/pdf/WZSpeedLimitGuideline.pdf

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## **MnDOT District Traffic Engineers**



	Minnesota	
District	Traffic Engineer	Phone
1 - Duluth	Jim Miles	218-725-2789
2 - Bemidji	Michelle Rognerude-Adams	218-755-6574
3 - Brainerd	Thomas Dumount	320-223-6540
4 - Detroit Lakes	Trudy Kordosky	218-846-7970
5 - Metro District	Lars Impola	651-234-7820
6 - Rochester	Chad Hanson (mobility)	507-286-7636
7 - Mankato	Brett Paasch	507-304-6156
8 - Willmar	John Hager	320-214-6397

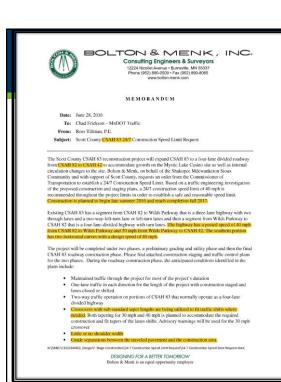
#### What Should be Included in the Request

- Memo Letter
- A Complete Traffic Control Layout
- A City or County Resolution (if requested by a consultant)





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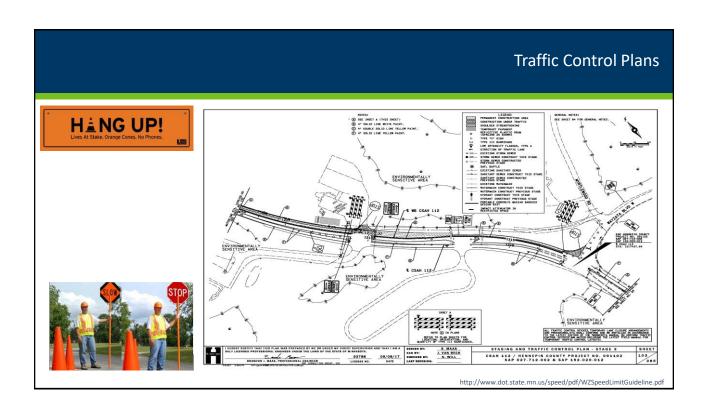


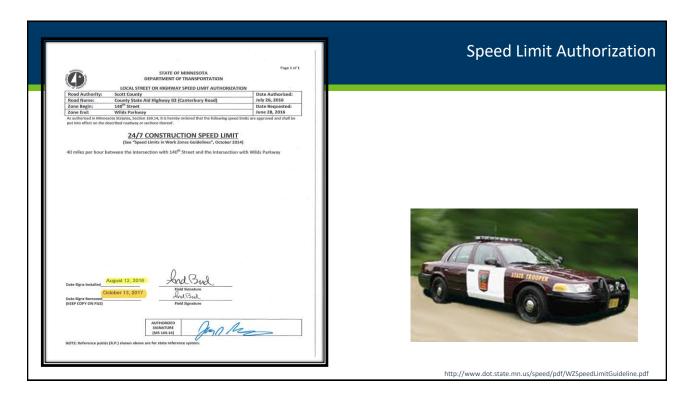
### Memorandum Request

#### The Letter Should Contain:

- Request road name (numeric & alphabetic)
- Beginning and ending termini
- Construction scheduled start and end dates
- Authorized and or posted speed limit(s)
- Desired 24/7 Construction speed limit
- Why you believe the limit is warranted
- Any other relevant information







#### Work Zone Speed Limit Violations

MN Statute 169.14, Subd. 6a

- •\$300 fine for violating speed limit in work zone
  - "Fines double" no longer applies
- All work zones that meet statutory definition
  - Even those without posted speed limits
- MN MUTCD allows turning existing posted speed limits into work zone speed limit assembly



http://www.dot.state.mn.us/speed/pdf/WZSpeedLimitGuideline.pdf

### Questions?

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# Speed Limit Sign (only)

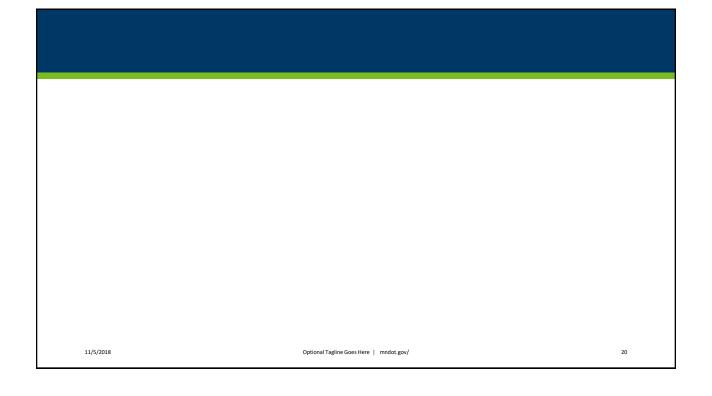
Table 1. Potential Voluntary Speed Reductions for Various Work Zone Conditions.

Work Zone Condition	Potential Voluntary Speed Reduction*	
Work Zone Reduced Speed Limit Sign	0 to 3 mph	
Barrier Near Inside Travel Lane	0 to 3 mph	
Lane Encroachment	1 to 5 mph	
Lane Closure	1 to 7 mph	
Construction Vehicle Access/Egress Location	5 to 6 mph	
Temporary Crossover	4 to 9 mph	
Two-Lane, Two-Way Barrier Separated Traffic	7 to 9 mph	

<sup>\*</sup> The speed reductions listed are based on a study conducted in Texas. Operating speeds upstream of the work zones ranged from 60 mph to 77 mph.

Source:  $Guidelines\ on\ Managing\ Speeds\ in\ WZ$  – Roadway Safety Consortium, published by FHWA, available on www.workzonesafety.org

### Drivers disregard static signs that don't reflect current driving speeds



# Speed Limit Signs – with other enhancements

Table 2. Potential Speed Reductions for Various Speed Management Techniques.

Speed Management Technique	Potential Speed Reduction*	
CB Radio Information Systems	0 to 2 mph	
Narrow Lanes With Channelizing Devices	0 to 5 mph	
Transverse Pavement Markings	0 to 5 mph	
Portable Changeable Message Sign With Radar	0 to 6 mph	
Drone Radar	2 to 3 mph	
Transverse Rumble Strips	2 to 5 mph	
Speed Display Trailers	2 to 10 mph	

<sup>\*</sup> The speed reductions listed are based on a number of studies, and the results vary considerably.

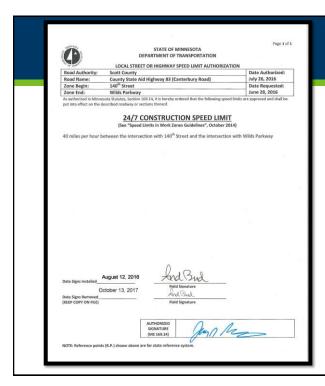
15 mph reduction in some situations

5-10 mph reduction more common



Spring 2018

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# Signed Authorization

#### Statutory definition of a work zone

# MN Statute 169.011, Subd. 95 – slightly paraphrased

- Official traffic control devices that indicate the segment of a street or highway under construction, reconstruction, or maintenance, are erected
- One or more lanes of traffic are closed
- A flagger is present
- A 24/7 construction speed limit is established
- A workers present speed limit is in effect

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#### **Required Workers Present Speed Limit**

### MN Statute 169.14, Subd. 5d

• The speed limit on a road having an established speed limit of 50 mph or greater is adjusted to 45 mph in a work zone (remember definition) when...

- At least one lane or portion of a lane of traffic is closed in either direction
- · Workers are present

and

· Exceptions follow -



### Required workers present speed limit - exceptions

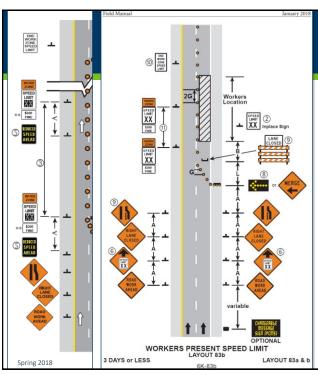
### The work zone speed limit of 45 mph is not required when...

- Positive barriers are placed between the workers and the traveled portion of the highway
- The work zone is in place for less than 24 hours
- 24/7 Construction Speed Limit used
- If there is a median



Agency determined Workers Present Speed Limit used

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### 24/7 Construction Speed Limit Layout

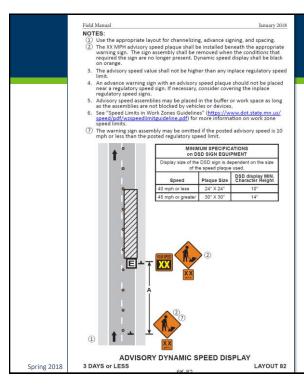
- Almost identical to Field Manual Layout 83
  - Spacing table is slightly different
- Modified from the figure in Speed Limits in Work Zones Guidelines to match new lane closure signing
- Could combine with Electronic Workers Present Speed Limit (Diagram on left)

## **Speed Limit Reduction on Detours**

	Minnesota	
District	Traffic Engineer	Phone
1 - Duluth	Jim Miles	218-725-2789
2 - Bemidji	Michelle Rognerud-Adams	218-755-6574
3 - Brainerd	<u>Thomas Dumont</u>	320-223-6540
4 - Detroit Lakes	<u>Tom Swenson</u>	218-846-7970
5 – Metro District	<u>Lars Impola</u>	651-234-7820
6 - Rochester	Michael Schweyen	507-286-7636
7 - Mankato	Scott Thompson	507-304-6156
8 - Willmar	John Hager	320-214-6397

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### **Advisory Speed Layout**

- See Field Manual Layout 82
- Shown with Dynamic Speed Display
- Modified from figure in Speed Limits in Work Zones Guidelines due to lane closure signing modifications