



MEADE COUNTY - SOUTH DAKOTA

Nicholas W. Broyles
Highway Superintendent
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Residents of Meade County

28 July 2020

FROM: Meade County Highway Superintendent

SUBJECT: Policy Regarding Speed Limit Change Requests

1. The Meade County Board of Commissioners determines speed limits on County roadways. Speed limits are reviewed as necessary, and the process for changing speed limits is addressed in this policy.

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define the process for residents of Meade County to petition the Board of Commissioners to consider a change to an existing speed limit. The policy applies to all County Road speed limits and supersedes previous policies of the same subject.

B. PROCESS

1. Speed limit changes may be requested or initiated via the following three methods. First, the Meade County Highway Department may initiate the request. If the Highway Superintendent feels a speed limit change is necessary due to a change in road condition or accident rate, they will provide reasoning and supporting documentation at a regularly scheduled Commission Meeting for the Board's decision.

2. Second, a speed limit change can be requested through a citizen petition process. If a citizen wishes to change a speed limit, they must submit a signed petition form containing signatures of at least 10% of the Average Daily Traffic (ADT) for that portion of road. If ADT counts do not currently exist for a particular portion of road, a petition form with ten (10) signatures obtained from ten (10) different households would be required. The households must be within five (5) miles of the portion of road in question when possible. ADT is the total volume of vehicle traffic in both directions at a particular location on a road and is obtained through traffic counters utilized by the Highway Department or data provided by the SDDOT. The petition will also include a brief justification provided by the petitioners identifying the need for a speed limit change. Lastly, there will be opportunity for the Sheriff and the Highway Superintendent to provide input. Once a valid petition form is received, the topic will be added to the agenda of an existing Commission Meeting for public discussion and subsequent decision. A public hearing will be scheduled, and the Board will rule. All requests should meet the threshold of a significant change to road condition or accident rate.

3. Third, the Meade County Sheriff's Department may initiate the request. If the Sheriff feels a speed limit change is necessary due to a change in road condition or accident rate, they will provide reasoning and supporting documentation at a regularly scheduled Commission Meeting for the Board's decision.

2. This policy was approved by the Meade County Board of Commissioners on 28Jul20 and is effective immediately. Please direct any questions to the Meade County Highway Superintendent at 605.490.0116.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Broyles', written in a cursive style.

NICHOLAS W. BROYLES
Highway Superintendent
Meade County, South Dakota

MEADE COUNTY SPEED LIMIT CHANGE REQUEST PETITION FORM

Meade County Highway Department
1300 Sherman Street, Suite 132
Sturgis, South Dakota 57785

Meade County Contact: Nick Broyles – 605.490.0116

CITIZEN PETITION TO CHANGE SPEED LIMIT

Date: _____

Road Name: _____

Location on Proposed Road: _____
(mileposts, intersections, etc.)

Current Speed Limit: _____

Suggested Speed Limit: _____

Average Daily Traffic: _____ x 10% = _____
(supplied by County) (required number of signatures)

Contact: _____
Name (please print) Address Telephone

Reason for the Speed Limit Change:

Petition Signatures and Home Addresses:
