



City of Quincy Traffic Commission

City of Quincy - City Hall
730 Maine Street, Quincy Illinois
(217)228-4527

TRAFFIC COMMISSION GUIDELINES

Note: The procedure described below is intended to provide guidance to the Traffic Commission in the evaluation of requests. It is intended to provide a benchmark in making recommendations; it should not be construed as to limit the discretionary authority of the Commission or the Quincy City Council in making subjective evaluations on a case-by-case basis.

Date: 2/13/06

Revised: _____

Subject: Request to Change Speed Limits on City Streets

Background:

The Traffic Commission is frequently asked to review and change vehicle Speed Limits on streets throughout the City. This Traffic Commission Guideline has been created to document the proper and prudent way to address this issue.





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Guideline Procedure: After an official request to review and change the vehicle Speed Limit on a City street, the Traffic Commission will use the following guidelines:

1. Speed Limit changes shall only be established or changed on the basis of an Engineering Study in accordance with the latest editions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and IDOTs Policy on Establishing and Posting Speed Limits.
2. The Engineering Study should include an analysis of the current speed distribution of free-flowing vehicles. The Speed Limit within a speed zone shall be set at the nearest 5 MPH increment to the 85th percentile speed or the upper limit of the 10 MPH pace. No speed zone shall be established in a location where the 85th percentile speed is within +/- 3 MPH of the statutory speed limit. The existing speed limit within a speed zone shall not be changed if the 85th percentile speed is within +/- 3 MPH of the posted speed limit.
3. The Engineering Study may include other factors such as:
 - a. Geometric features including but not limited to: vertical/horizontal alignment, and sight distance;
 - b. Roadside development and access;
 - c. Road and shoulder surface characteristics;
 - d. Parking, pedestrian and bicycle activity;
 - e. Speed Limits on adjoining roadway segments;
 - f. Accident experience for at least the past 12-month period.

Conclusion: Following the Engineering Study the Traffic Commission will make a determination and then forward this information and their recommendation on to the Quincy City Council for either their approval or denial.