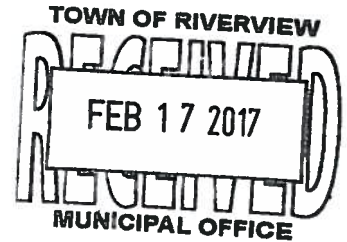


File No.: M/16/462



February 7, 2017



Her Worship Ann Seamans
Mayor of Riverview
30 Honour House Court
Riverview, NB E1B 3Y9

Dear Mayor Seamans:

This is a follow-up to the correspondence from the previous Minister of Finance / Transportation and Infrastructure, and a response to your latest letter addressed to me regarding a speed limit evaluation on Route 112 (Coverdale Road) between Patricia Drive and Townsend Avenue.

The Operations Branch has completed the speed limit review at the above noted location. The speed limit evaluation took into consideration several factors such as roadway and shoulder widths, roadside development, traffic volumes and horizontal and vertical roadway alignments. A speed limit is posted based upon engineering judgment involving an assessment of all the pertinent factors. This approach is utilized throughout the Provincial Highway network in order to promote consistency in signing and is consistent with methods used in other jurisdictions throughout Canada. Consequently, based on the results of the completed evaluation a reduction in the current posted speed limit of 70 km/h is not recommended.

The department strives to adopt reasonable speed limits that drivers will generally follow. Research has shown that artificially lowering the posted speed limit on a roadway does not ensure compliance. If a speed limit is lower than practical for an area, drivers tend to show little respect for the posted speed and the result is a range of vehicle speeds. This variance in travelled speeds contributes to driver frustration, unsafe passing maneuvers, and a false sense of security for residents who believe this lower speed limit will be followed. It is thus very possible that, rather than improving safety, a reduction in the posted speed limit could have a negative impact on traffic flow, resulting in decreased safety in the above-noted area.

During the evaluation, it was also identified that some existing signs are not warranted. Accordingly, two curve advisory signs and a road narrows sign will be removed by district staff.

Sincerely,

Bill Fraser
Minister

c.c. Mr. Charles Boudreau, District Engineer – Moncton
Mr. Michel Ouellet, Director of Engineering and Public Works
Ms. Veronica Pelkey, Senior Traffic Engineer – DTI

Minister/Ministre

Transportation and Infrastructure/Transports et Infrastructure

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