



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

March 12, 2024

Ms. Alice Derian
Town Manager
2008 Loggerhead Ct
North Topsail Beach, NC 28460

Dear Ms. Derian,

Following requests by several residents, and an engineering investigation, the Department has decided to repeal a Municipal Speed Limit 45 ordinance for the 3.92-mile section of SR 1568 (New River Inlet Road) running northeast from NC 210 within the North Topsail Beach Town limits. When the ordinance is repealed, the road section's speed limit will be the statutory 35 mph, matching the existing limit on the remaining 1.4-mile section of the road.

Attached/enclosed are a typical response letter and an advance informational or final Municipal Certification Declaration form, plus a spare form, for the repeal of the speed limit 45 ordinance #1033725. Please put the matter on the Board of Alderman meeting agenda for adoption of a resolution. The required original form on watermarked bond paper is being mailed to you and there can be no annotations, corrections, or changes made on the original form. After adoption by the Board, one original form should then be certified by the city clerk or by the mayor and sent by US mail to my attention at the below address.

Please let Assistant Division Traffic Engineer Allen Hancock at (910) 341-2206 or me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Hammond
Traffic Engineering Technician III
Enclosure(s): 1 Declaration Form & 1 spare, typical response e-letter
cc: Melinda Mier, NTB Town Clerk
Traffic Services staff



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SECRETARY

March 1, 2024

Shane Bartus
shane.bartus@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Bartus,

This is regarding your request for crosswalks, and a reduced speed limit for SR 1568 (New River Inlet Road) in Onslow County. We share your concern for highway safety and appreciate you bringing your concerns to our attention.

Regarding your request for crosswalks, NCDOT is not opposed to crosswalks being installed, however this request will need to come from the Town, City, or local municipality. Please contact the Town of Topsail Beach regarding this request.

The Department has completed an engineering investigation to determine if the technical warrants are met to recommend changing the speed limit. A speed study was conducted on SR 1568 (New River Inlet Road) that included evaluating the 85th percentile speed, road characteristics, and existing conditions. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at or below which 85 percent of the sampled vehicles travel. Typically, the 85th percentile speed is used to determine the speed limit. This helps to avoid posting speed limits that are artificially low, which can become difficult to enforce. Speed data was collected on New River Inlet Road. The 85th percentile speeds were 55mph, 54mph, and 47mph within the 45mph zone, and 43mph within the 35mph zone.

Based on the findings, the speed data does not warrant a lower speed limit. However, since there is a large residential presence along this road, we recommend a speed limit of 35mph for SR 1568 (New River Inlet Road). It may take several months for the enactment of the ordinance by the Department of Transportation, at which time we will install the 35mph signs. A pamphlet is included at the link below on speed limits produced by the NC Department of Transportation, which explains how speed limits are determined throughout the state.

<https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/safety-mobility/Pages/default.aspx>

If you have concerns that the speed limit is not being obeyed, please contact your local law enforcement. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

D. Allen Hancock
Assistant Division Traffic Engineer

Attachments
cc: File

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
5504 BARBADOS BOULEVARD
CASTLE HAYNE, NC 28429

Telephone: (910) 341-2200
Fax: (910) 603-7079
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968

Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
TRAFFIC SERVICES
5504 BARBADOS BOULEVARD
CASTLE HAYNE, NC 28429

**Certification of Municipal Declaration
To Repeal Speed Limits and Request for Concurrence**

Concurring State Ordinance Number: 1033725

Division: 3 County: ONSLOW

Municipality NORTH TOPSAIL BEACH

Type: Municipal Speed Zones

Road: SR 1568

Car: 45 MPH

Truck: 45 MPH

Description: SR 1568 from NC 210 to a point 3.92 miles northeast of NC 210.

Municipal Certification

I, _____, Clerk of _____, do hereby certify that the municipal governing body, pursuant to the authority granted by G.S. 20-141(f), determined upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation and duly declared, on the _____ day of _____, 20____, the repeal of speed limits as set forth above on the designated portion of the State Highway System, which shall become effective when the Department of Transportation has passed a concurring ordinance and signs are erected giving notice of the authorized speed limit.

The said municipal declaration is recorded as follows:

Minute Book: _____ Page: _____ Ordinance Number: _____

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the municipal seal this _____ day of _____, 20____.

BOND
ORIGINAL

(signature)

(municipal seal)

Department of Transportation Approval

Division: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____

Region: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____