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TOWN OF
DENMARK, MAINE

MUNICIPAL OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday – Friday
9:00am – 4:30pm
2nd & Last Saturday
9:00am-12:00pm



September 12, 2024

Mr. Randy Illian
Maine DOT Region 1
51 Pleasant Hill Road
Scarborough, ME 04070-0358

Re: Request for Roadway Speed Limit Changes

Dear Mr. Illian

Please accept this letter as a Request for Speed Limit Changes per Title 29-A §2073. The Town of Denmark Select Board feel existing speed limits on the list of roads below are unsafe. The Board reached this determination after driving the municipal roads on July 17, 2024 during off peak hours. The Board has also received several residential complaints concerning both pedestrian and vehicle traffic safety regarding the existing speed limits on these roads and requests the proposed speed limits as described below. Please also note that over the past several years, many prior lots on these roads have been developed (both through new construction and seasonal homes-turned permanent) and more residents, tourists and businesses now use these roads for both vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

Denmark Road:

- Existing Speed Limit is 40 MPH from approximately 500 feet prior to Holiday Shores Road (point where current speed limit increases to 40 MPH from 25 MPH) to the Fryeburg Town Line. The Board requests this be decreased to 35 MPH. This road is a dirt road, narrow in areas and is a heavily traveled thoroughway to Fryeburg. The Fryeburg section of this road is paved and the Speed Limit is currently set at 35 MPH.

Rocky Knoll Road:

- Existing Speed Limit from Route 160 (node 34475) to Cold Springs Road (node 34471) is 45 MPH. The Board request this be decreased as follows:
 - Route 160 (node 34475) to Lords Hill Road (node 34472) become 40 MPH. This portion of the road includes several steep hills, with many curves, used frequently by pedestrians and is heavily travelled.
 - Lords Hill Road (node 34472) to Cold Springs Road (node 34471) become 25 MPH. There is a 90-degree turn (node 34466) with very limited vision to oncoming traffic, in either direction, both before and during this turn. In addition, many homes are in close proximity to the road with driveways having limited vision in this section of the road (very compact). From Cold Springs Road, the road slopes downward through a sharp curve to the 90-degree turn (node 34466). This

is a heavily travelled road, including large commercial trucks, that acts as a throughway between Fryeburg and Denmark/Brownfield. Limited sight vision by vehicles makes the current heavy use of pedestrian traffic very dangerous to both pedestrians and vehicles in this section of the road.

Mountain Road:

- Existing Speed Limit from Hio Ridge Road (node 34486) to Bridgton section of the road (node 3352) is 30 MPH. The Board request the speed be decreased between the intersection of Swan Road (node 35694) to the intersection of Walsh Drive to 20 MPH. This section of road includes a very narrow bridge (node 0736) used by pedestrian traffic all year as well as vehicles. This road is heavily used as a throughway to access Pleasant Mountain Ski Resort from the east and between Denmark and Fryeburg.

Moose Pond Road:

- Existing Speed Limit from Route 117 (node 34491) to Hummingbird Lane (node 59812) is 35 MPH. The Board request the road be decreased and approved as follows:
 - Route 117 (node 34491) to 100 feet prior to intersection with Heron Circle become 30 MPH.
 - 100 feet prior to intersection with Heron Circle to end of road (node 34495) become 25 MPH.The section of road from Route 117 (node 34491) is downhill with many curves that traverses a small culvert with poor vision at the intersection of Hummingbird Lane (node 59812). Travelling to Heron Circle is also hilly with several curves. From Heron Circle to the end of the road (node 34495) is a very compact residential area. The entire road is heavily used by the residents.

Lords Hill Road:

- Existing Speed Limit from Rocky Knoll Road (node 34472) to Brownfield section of the road (node 34461) is thought to be 45 MPH (unposted public way) as MDOT has not officially approved a speed limit for this road. The Board requests the speed limit on this road be approved at 35 MPH. This is a heavily travelled road, including large commercial trucks and is used as a throughway between Brownfield, Denmark and Bridgton.

Hio Ridge Road:

- Existing Speed Limit from Rout 117 (node 3488) to the intersection of Mountain Road (node 34486) is 40 MPH. The Board request the road be decreased to 35 MPH. This section of road has a recently opened ice cream business close to the intersection with Route 117 and has a steep hill as you approach the intersection with Mountain Road. This is a heavy traveled road and there has been several accidents at both intersections.

Berry Road:

- From the Intersection of Route 117 (node 34493) to node 34499, there is no posted speed limit. Existing Speed Limit from node 34499 to the intersection of Hancock Pond Road (node 34534) is 35 MPH. The Board request the road be decreased and approved as follows:
 - Route 117 (node 34493) to node 34499 a speed of 25 MPH be posted. From node 34499 to the intersection of Hancock Pond Road (node 34534) become 25 MPH. This road has several sharp curves and a steep hill where there have been several accidents. The road is traveled a lot because it is a “shortcut” road from Hancock Pond to Route 117. The road is used by pedestrians and also an ATV access road.

Route 117 (W Main Street)

- Existing Speed Limit from the intersection of Picket Hill Road (node 35690) to the intersection of Bull Ring Road (node 34500) is 30 MPH. The Board request the road be reduced to 25 MPH. This section of road is within our Village District. Along this strip of road is the Town's Bicentennial Park and the Denmark Arts Center. Several events are held at each of these throughout the year with large gatherings of people. There are two steep hills on each end of this section of road which also causes issues with the gain of speed.

Route 117 (E Main Street)

- Existing Speed Limit from the intersection of Bull Ring Road (node 34500) to the intersection of Haven Drive, approximately 3200 feet, is 30 MPH. The Board request the speed limit be reduced to 25MPH. This section of road is within our Village District. There is a general store, the Town Office and Town Library located on this short stretch of road. It is a busy section of our Town and most often is used as a throughway from Brownfield to Bridgton. Our Fire Department is also located at the intersection of Bullring and Route 117, the increased speed through the Village would help ensure the safety of our Firefighters as they leave the station and enter onto Route 117.

Thank you for your attention to these requests and please contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Andrew E. Kruczek
Chairperson
Town of Denmark Select Board
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cc: B. LeGoff
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