

STARK COUNTY ENGINEER

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TOWNSHIP SPEED ZONE AUTHORITY

As stated in the **ORC Section 4511.21(K)** a Board of Township Trustees may, by resolution, declare a prima-facie speed limit on unimproved highways and on highways under their jurisdiction, which are within residential and commercial subdivisions. Therefore, the Board of Trustees may, under authority of ORC Section 4511.21(K)(5), adopt a resolution declaring a reasonable and safe prima facie speed limit less than fifty-five but not less than twenty-five miles per hour for the above mentioned roadway sections. In ORC Section 4511.21(K)(1), an unimproved highway is defined as a highway consisting of unimproved earth, unimproved graded and drained earth or gravel.

By virtue of the above, the Board is not obligated to act. The Trustees should use proper judgment as to when or if they wish to reduce these speed limits.

Altered speed limits will become effective when appropriate signs are posted for both directions of travel. Refer to the *Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (OMUTCD)*, Section 2B.13 and 5B.03.

Roadway sections reduced by the Trustees will not appear on ODOT's listing of Director's journalized speed limits. Therefore, maintain accurate records of the names of the roadway reduced, the beginning and ending points of the reductions, speed limits enacted, length of zones, dates of resolution and dates the signs are installed. This information should be readily available for enforcement purposes.

The driver's only notice of a speed reduction is when a roadway is properly posted. The Board should not pass a resolution reducing the speed limit on a roadway section unless it intends to properly post the roadway, maintain the signing and seek the necessary enforcement action when necessary.

The Board must also notify the appropriate law enforcement agencies of the action taken so that they may update their speed zone logs.

The Stark County Engineer's Office would request that you also provide this information to our office so that we may keep our records current.

Should you require any assistance, please contact our office.