

Howard N. Dashiell
DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION

Road Commissioner
County Engineer, RCE 42001
County Surveyor, PLS 7148



FUNCTIONS

Administration & Business Services
Airports
Engineering
Land Improvement
Roads and Bridges
Landfills

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
340 LAKE MENDOCINO DRIVE
UKIAH, CALIFORNIA 95482-9432
VOICE (707) 463-4363 FAX (707) 463-5474

December 17, 2020

Charles Sargenti, Secretary
Round Valley Area Municipal Advisory Council (RVAMAC)
PO Box 372
Covelo, CA 95428

Email: charlessargenti@gmail.com
admin@mac.roundvalley.org

RE: REQUEST FOR SPEED ZONE ON HOWARD STREET COUNTY ROAD (CR) #334D,
MILEPOST 0.00 – 0.54 (COVELO AREA)

Dear Mr. Sargenti:

Pursuant to the RVAMAC meeting of November 5, 2020 and your letter of December 17, 2020 I have the following responses:

1) The Mendocino County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) did send the attached "11-5-20 form letter" to Jessica Stull-Otto explaining our Speed Zone process. Please note that our advice to the RVAMAC was to be the "circulator of a petition" that confirms that the majority of property owners along Howard Street understand that posting this "unposted" road for radar enforcement will likely be at some speed above the 25 mph Prima Facie Speed Limit defined for residential, and business districts. As stated at the meeting the Prima Facie 25 mph school zone speed posting would remain at the school with the qualifying additional sign "*when children are present.*" However, know that if the RVAMAC has not communicated with the area residents that we could have a protest when a "higher than expected" MAXIMUM a speed zone is processed. I will accept this request from the RVAMAC as "meritorious request" in lieu of a petition or letters from a majority of the residents; but, I expect the RVAMAC to take responsibility for communication and representation of that proposed speed to the community.

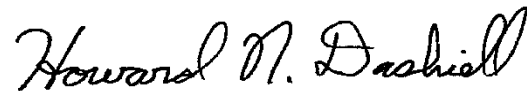
2) Your request is to establish MAXIMUM a speed zone on the subject Howard Street where no posting exists now. MCDOT staff did explain our process and desire to set a MAXIMUM a speed zone that could be legally enforced. Presently radar enforcement is subject to the State's 55 MPH maximum speed law: The maximum speed limit per California Vehicle Code (CVC) § 22349 "...(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person may drive a vehicle upon a two-lane, undivided highway at a speed greater than 55 miles per hour...".

3) A Prima Facie 25mph Speed Limit as specified in the CVC for residential, and business districts does exist; unfortunately CVC does not support radar enforcement “residence or business district” without supporting Engineering and Traffic Survey (E&TS - CVC §627).

We have the commitment to patrol from the CHP along with support from public safety - Sheriff which is very important as the success of any speed zone depends on law enforcement presence – without that speed zones have little to no effect.

Please feel free to contact me or Bill Wood, Sr. Engineering Technician at (707) 463-4363 with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard N. Dashiell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Howard N. Dashiell, Director

Cc. John Haschak, Supervisor, Third District
Carmel Angelo, Chief Executive Officer
Christian Curtus, County Counsel
Bill Wood, Sr. Engineering Technician (traffic safety) for MCDOT