

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mike DeWine, Governor

Jack Marchbanks, Ph.D., Director

District 8
505 S. State Route 741, Lebanon, OH 45036
513-933-6568
transportation.ohio.gov

October 21, 2021

John Brazina, P.E. Director, DOTE 801 Plum Street, Suite 450 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Director Brazina:

Thank you for your invitation to the upcoming Law & Public Safety Committee meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, 2021. Earlier this month, a crash involving a pedestrian occurred at the intersection of Hamilton Avenue (US-127) and Pullan Avenue, and I understand that the committee is planning to discuss pedestrian safety improvements and a potential speed limit reduction in this area. Unfortunately, due the timing of the meeting, representatives of our District 8 Office are not able to attend the meeting in person, and I am writing to provide a few key points related the process for revising speed limits.

In response to your inquiry, our Traffic Studies staff reviewed our speed zone files for this portion of Hamilton Avenue (US-127) and found that the legal speed limit was established as a 30mph speed zone in 1955. This zone extends along Hamilton Avenue (US-127) from north of Chase Avenue to the intersection of Robinson and Stanford Drive.

If the City would like to consider lowering the speed limit, the City needs to complete a speed zone study per Section 1203 of the ODOT <u>Traffic Engineering Manual</u> and submit the required information to Brianne Hetzel, ODOT District 8 Traffic Studies Engineer. ODOT staff will then review the information and notify the City of ODOT's final action on the proposed speed zone.

Recently, in 2021, ODOT implemented a few important changes to our speed zone study process to place a higher emphasis on pedestrian safety. The process now provides a quantitative approach to account for vulnerable road users. Please find the attached files with more information about this newly updated, process.

Finally, Pete Metz, the chair of Northside's Community Development Corporation (NEST), contacted ODOT and asked for a meeting to discuss potential safety improvements in this area as well. ODOT District 8 staff are working to schedule a meeting with Mr. Metz and will be sure to include the DOTE in this discussion.

If you have any questions during review of this information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 513-933-6588 or at tom.arnold@dot.ohio.gov.

Respectfully

Thomas Arnold, Jr., P.E.

ODOT District 8 Planning Engineer

Attachments

C: file, T. Campbell, S. Spinosa, B. Hetzel, W. O'Gorman