

Eden Police Department
308 B East Stadium Drive
Eden, North Carolina 27288

Memorandum

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council
Through: Chief Reece Pyrtle
From: Sgt. Sam Shelton
Subject: Traffic Study Request in reference to changing the speed limit on NC 700-770 (Meadow Road) from a point 0.88 of a mile east of NC 700 (Fieldcrest Road)-SR 1714 (Summit Road), westward to SR 1962 (Pierce Street)
Date: September 10, 2012

On July 26, 2012, I received a traffic study request from Council Member Wayne Tuggle in reference to changing the speed limit on NC 700-770 (Meadow Road) from a point 0.88 of a mile east of NC 700 (Fieldcrest Road)-SR 1714 (Summit Road), westward to SR 1962 (Pierce Street) - (the 45mph section of Meadow Road, see attached).

Traveling west into the City on Meadow Road (NC 770, 700) from the City Limits, the speed limit is 35mph for 1.3 miles. The speed limit then increases to 45mph for 1.7 miles and then reduces once again to 35mph at the intersection of Pierce Street (SR 1962) until it terminates another 1.2 miles west at the Spray Traffic Circle.

There are at least twelve roadways that intersect Meadow Road (NC 770, 700) in the 1.7 mile section that is currently posted 45mph. The majority of these roadways are residential in nature,

with the traffic along the 1.7 mile stretch both residential and commercial in nature. Both Morehead High School and Holmes Middle School are located just south of the Pierce Street (SR 1962)/ Meadow Road (NC 770, 700) intersection. The majority of buses for these two schools and a great number of car riders utilize this intersection.

I canvassed the area of Meadow Road (NC 770, 700) affected by the 45mph zone and was able to make contact with three households and three businesses. Everyone I spoke with was in favor of reducing the speed limit.

Concerns mentioned included:

The high volume of students going to and from school

The difficulty in entering the roadway in a safe manner

The high volume of traffic in the area

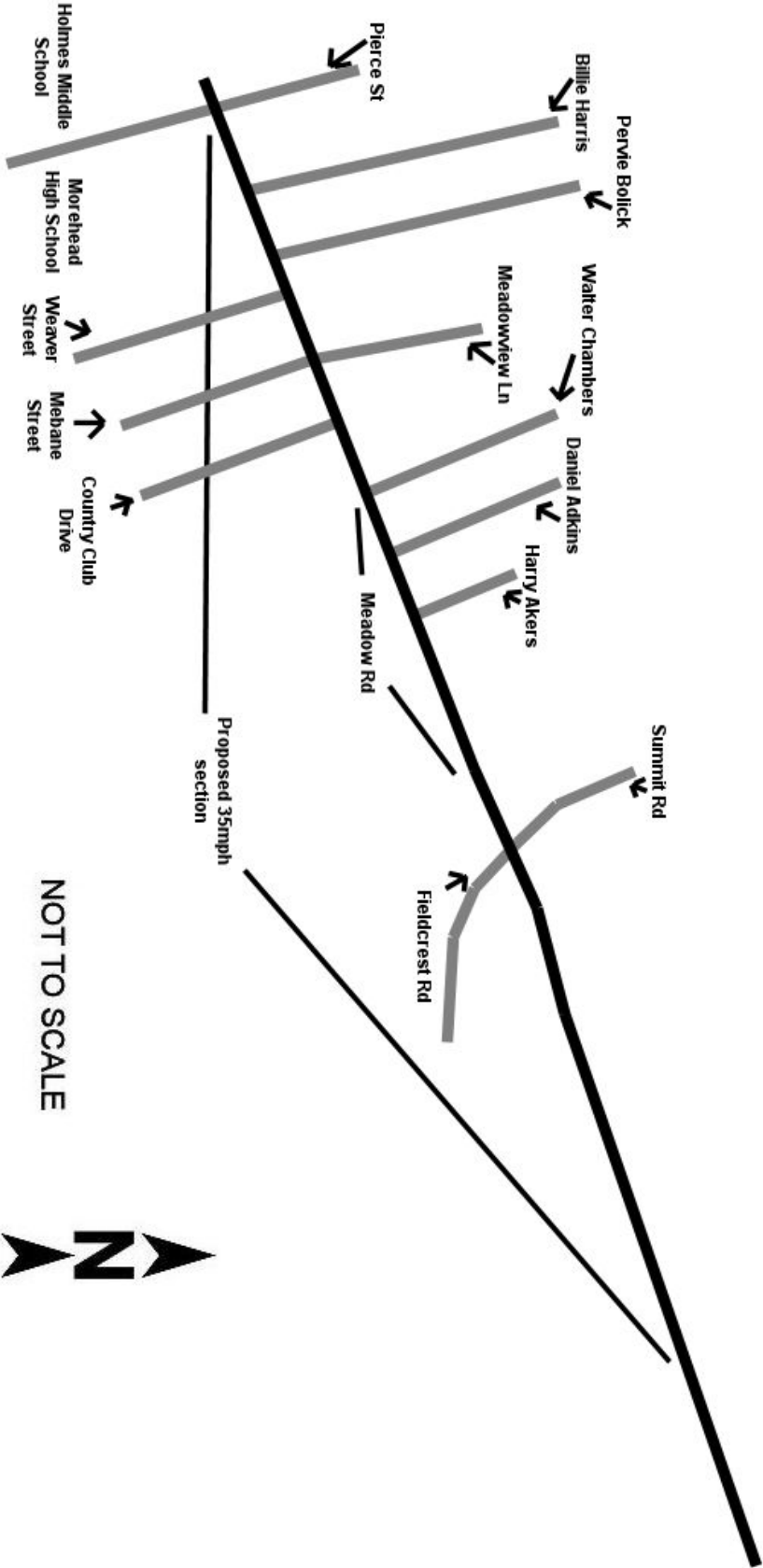
The confusion of constantly changing speed limit for such a short length of roadway

The number of accidents they have seen along this roadway

In the 3 year period of 2009-2011, the Eden Police Department had 95 crashes reported in the area of Meadow Road. 52.63% of these crashes occurred in either the 45mph section or within 50 feet of the Pierce Street (SR 1962)/ Meadow Road (NC 770, 700) intersection (location of speed limit change). 19 of the 95 reported crashes involved injury. Of these, 73.68% occurred in either the 45mph section or within 50 feet of the Pierce Street (SR 1962)/ Meadow Road (NC 770, 700) intersection (location of speed limit change).

The Police Department's recommendation is that the speed limit on Meadow Road (NC 770, 700) from 1.3 miles west of the City Limits west to Pierce Street (SR 1962) should be reduced to 35

MPH with two ordinances being drafted to concur with the two state ordinances that cover this 1.7 mile stretch of roadway.



NOT TO SCALE

