

Town of Rutland

Dane County

Acceptance of WisDOT Traffic Safety and Field Recommendations

July 11, 2024

To: John Steiner, WisDOT

Purpose: Accept the WisDOT recommendations to improve road safety on certain roads due to increased heavy dump truck and commuter traffic. After meeting with WisDOT staff in person, and by phone, Town Officials accept the below listed recommendations to address Town road safety. These recommendations are based on the following facts:

- Town of Rutland roads are narrow in nature, between 19-22 feet wide, with no shoulders.
- Town roadways are generally flat but there are areas with horizontal and vertical curves that hide driveways that have been there for decades.
- There are two operating quarries within the town that have trucks driving from the quarries through the town most days, estimated at around 4-500/day.
- There has been an increase in single-family homes built.

Town of Rutland Board accepts the following WisDOT engineering and safety recommendations for the Town of Rutland:

Signing as time and finances become available:

- Mounting heights of signs to be moved to 5 feet from edge of the pavement to the bottom of the sign in accordance of WMUTCD.
- Mount only one sign per post for maximum effect
- Sign Conspicuity- update faded red/orange flags as needed
- Ensure the spacing of speed limit signs occur at the beginning of the roadway segment and after major intersecting roadways.
- Usage of Hill Blocks View sign
 - This sign alerts drivers to reduce speed as they approach crest vertical curves or the sight distance issues with an approaching driveway.
 - Should be accompanied with an advisory speed sign based on available stopping sight distance.

Foliage along roadways and driveways

Several driveways have tree branches that limit sight distance when exiting them and some residents expressed concerns about reduced sight distance at driveways. After reviewing these driveways, some are due to the horizontal and vertical curves, but foliage trimming would be very helpful as well. This is a yearly check by the Town and residents.

Pedestrian/Bike concerns

Consider posting Pedestrian/bike route signs on the routes most frequently used by dump trucks that are also used by pedestrians and bicyclists. Signs would read Ped/Bike route next 3 miles. This will alert drivers that there may be pedestrian or bicyclist on the roadways.

Speed feedback signs

Continue to use Town purchased speed feedback signs to educate drivers of their speeds.

Enforcement

The Dane County Sheriffs Office has been contacted about the reduction of the speed limit on certain roads. They have agreed to provide extra speed enforcement and have indicated staffing has improved.

Education

The Town Chair will use his newsletter to educate the community on changes of speed limits. This newsletter will also be posted on the Town webpage.

Speed limit changes

Town officials have been working with the two quarry operators to determine the routes dump truck drivers will be asked to use when using their quarries. Both owner/operators of K & D Stone and Yahara Materials have indicated they want to work with the Town to minimize complaints. They agree to try to avoid/minimize having two dump trucks going in opposite directions pass each other on our narrow roads. The goal is to try to get the drivers to travel in a loop, not using the same roads to and from the quarries. It has been suggested that if they post a "Left Turn Only" at their exits for drivers to follow.

The suggested routes will be as follows:

K & D Stone will ask drivers to use Center Road to either County Hwy A or Old Stone Road to get to Hwy 14. When returning to this quarry, drivers will use Old Stage Rd.

Yahara Materials will ask drivers to use N Union road to Holt Rd to get to Hwy 14 or to take Lake Kegonsa Rd to County Hwy A to hwy 14. When returning to this quarry they will use Old Stage Rd.

Alternate routes identified to use are using the roundabout at hwy 14/hwy 92 and to use Biglow Rd and Oak Lane Rd.

WisDOT recommends the following roads have their speed limits reduced to 35mph:

- Old Stage Road (US 14 to N Union Rd)
- Center Rd (Old Stage Rd to CTH A)
- Old Stone Rd (Center Rd to Old Stage Rd)
- Biglow Rd (US 14 to Old Stage Rd)
- Oak Lane (Biglow to Old Stage Rd)

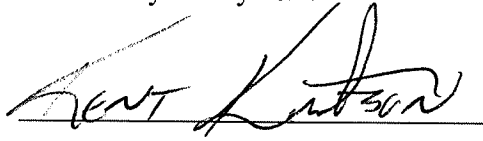
Conclusion

The Town of Rutland Board believes that following the above listed recommendations of WisDOT, there will be a reduction of road safety concerns and improved community sentiment. We appreciate working with the WisDOT staff Chris Wells and John Steiner on this project. They were very attentive to our concerns and diligently worked with us to find solutions. They put in a great deal of time and resources to this project and recognize that changes may be needed in the future as truck drivers use our roads. We

are truly grateful for all their work and look forward to implementing their recommendations as soon as possible.

The Town of Rutland

The 11th day of July 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kent Knutson", is written over a horizontal line.

Kent Knutson Chairman