



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS DIVISION
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TRAFFIC OPERATIONS MEMORANDUM NO. 1805

Work Zone Speed Reductions on Freeway and Expressway Resurfacing Projects

Effective 8-1-2018, all resurfacing projects on freeways and expressways are approved for a 10 MPH Variable Speed Limit reduction.

NCHRP Research Results Digest Number 192 summarizes the findings of NCHRP Project 3-41, "*Procedures for Determining Work Zone Speed Limits.*" This report has been incorporated into TDOT's *Guidance on Setting Speed Limits* manual. Per the finding in this research, it has been determined that freeway and expressway resurfacing projects should be less than the maximum speed provided in Section 55-8-152 of the *Tennessee Code Annotated*.

At the end of the speed zone, a temporary speed limit sign reflecting the change back to the normal speed limit should be installed. This temporary sign shall not be needed if an existing speed limit sign is within view of the end of the zone. Where feasible, every effort shall be made to minimize the length of the speed zone to roadway sections that provide minimal width, lane shifts, poor alignment, and/or lane drops.

The foregoing action has been taken pursuant to the authority granted the Department of Transportation under the provisions of Section 55-8-153, *Tennessee Code Annotated*.

A blue ink signature of M. Jason Oldham, written in a cursive style.

M. Jason Oldham
State Traffic Engineer

A blue ink signature of Phillip B. Freeze, written in a cursive style.

Phillip B. Freeze
Traffic Operations Division