

## **223 SPEED REGULATIONS**

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Speed regulations should be adopted for all sections of paved highway which are under the jurisdiction of the Director, Arizona Department of Transportation; this includes Interstate highways, United States numbered highways, State highways, crossovers and crossing roadways at traffic interchanges, and frontage roads. If no speed limits are posted, Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) §28-701 establishes reasonable and prudent speeds.

The State Traffic Engineer is empowered to adopt regulations per ARS Title 28, as amended, and Delegation of Authority 97-04.

### Procedure to Transcribe Speed Regulations

Speed regulations are legal and binding documents that establish a numerical speed limit on a defined segment of highway and are transcribed and maintained by route and milepost within the Traffic Engineering Group for the entire State Highway System. **The following procedure shall be used to transcribe speed regulations in a uniform and concise format:**

- (1) **The official speed regulation file is located in the Traffic Engineering Group, generally filed by route and route type (mainline, frontage roads, etc.). Each speed regulation shall identify the specific route segment, milepost limits of established speed zones, and route direction and vehicle type, where appropriate (see Exhibit 223-A). The speed regulation shall be prepared based on the existing speed regulation (if one exists) and shall incorporate the recommended changes per an engineering and traffic investigation for that segment of highway prepared in accordance with ARS §28-702. On the speed regulation, changes in speed limits and/or mileposting shall be indicated with an “X”.**
- (2) A transmittal memorandum may be drafted from the State Traffic Engineer to the appropriate Regional Traffic Engineer, which includes the route and milepost limits to be affected. If used, the memorandum should state that the original signed documents are to be annotated, signed, and returned to Traffic Group for retention in the speed regulation file. A copy of the transmittal memorandum also should be sent to the appropriate District Engineer and the author of the traffic engineering study.
- (3) **The speed regulation, transmittal memorandum (if used), and traffic engineering investigation shall be sent to the State Traffic Engineer for their review and signature (see Exhibit 223-B). The speed regulation shall not be effective until signed and dated by the State Traffic Engineer.**
- (4) The information from the speed regulation is then entered into the speed regulation data base.

- (5) Once the speed regulation has been signed by the State Traffic Engineer, it is scanned, and a scanned copy of the speed regulation is placed in the appropriate electronic folder in the speed regulation section of the Traffic Group server. The superseded speed regulation is moved to the "Old" subfolder for that highway number for archival reference. If an engineering investigation or study accompanies the speed regulation, it should also be scanned and placed in the "Studies" subfolder for that highway number for archival reference. A photocopy of the speed regulation should also be placed in the speed regulation file for interim recordkeeping until the signed original speed regulation is returned to Traffic Group, along with a hardcopy of the engineering investigation or study.
- (6) **The original signed speed regulation, along with transmittal memorandum (if used) shall be mailed (via interoffice or other means) to the appropriate Regional Traffic Engineering Office.**
- (7) **Upon completion of sign installation, the installer shall complete and sign the original speed regulation and mail the original signed and completed speed regulation to the Traffic Engineering Group via the Regional Traffic Engineering Office.** The Regional Traffic Office may retain a photocopy or scan of the signed and annotated speed regulation for their records.
- (8) When the original speed regulation is returned with signatures, it should be reviewed by Traffic Group staff for any modifications in the speed zone limits. If modifications are within allowable tolerances, the installation or confirmed dates are entered into the speed regulation data base and the master data base. The original speed regulation with installer notes and signature should be scanned and the scanned electronic file placed in the speed regulation section of the Traffic Group server in place of the document listed in Step 5. **The signed original speed regulation shall be filed in the official speed regulation file in place of the interim hardcopy listed in Step 5. If the modifications to speed zones are not within allowable tolerances, a new speed regulation shall be prepared.**
- (9) Once the speed regulation has been entered into the speed regulation data base and the master data base, the MPD Data Team should be notified of the speed change so they can update the statewide speed map.

**Exhibit 223-A. Example of a Speed Regulation Summary**

Arizona Department of Transportation  
**SPEED REGULATION**

SR X00-D-0-00

Date Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_.

PAGE 2 OF 2

ROUTE: SR 00

Location: From the non-milepost boundary (MP 00.00) to the non-milepost boundary (MP 00.00).

Length of Section: 00.00 Miles

Vehicle Type: All

Miscellaneous:

Direction: Both

<u>MILEPOST</u>	<u>MILEPOST</u>	<u>MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT (mph)</u>	<u>(C)ONFIRMED OR (I)NSTALLED</u>		<u>INITIAL</u>	<u>DATE</u>
			<u>(C)</u>	<u>(I)</u>		
<u>Both Directions</u>						
00.00	00.00	00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
00.00	00.00	00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

-----LAST ENTRY-----

X Denotes change in speed limit

Note to Regional Traffic Office: Return original document with initials and dates to the Traffic Engineering Group (061R).

**Exhibit 223-B. Example of a Speed Regulation Document**

Arizona Department of Transportation  
**SPEED REGULATION**

**Reg No.** SR X00-D-0-00  
**Study No.** 000-00-00-0000  
**Page 1 of 2**  
**Document No.** 0000-0000

Pursuant to Title 28, Sections 363A.4, 701, 701.02, 702, 702.04, 703, 703.01, 703.02, 704, 706, 707, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended, and Departmental Directives, the State Traffic Engineer, is empowered to determine on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that any maximum speed limit is greater or less than is reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist on any part of a State Highway, and may determine and declare a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit or varying speed limits for the location.

Pursuant to this authority, the State Traffic Engineer, determines and declares the following maximum speeds to be reasonable and safe on those sections of the Highway System set forth below:

On SR 00 from the non-milepost boundary to the non-milepost boundary for a distance of 00.00 total statute miles.

The maximum speeds set forth are to be effective at all times, but are not intended to relieve highway users from exercising due care for actual and potential hazards then existing on such highways as set forth in Section 28-701.D., Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended, or otherwise, and reduce the speed of their vehicle accordingly to less than the maximum speeds herein set forth.

The maximum speeds established by this regulation shall be effective on the date the Arizona Department of Transportation places appropriate signs to advise highway users of these maximum speeds.

This regulation rescinds and revokes any and all previous regulations fixing maximum speed limits on those sections of the State highway herein set forth.

This regulation is adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, by the State Traffic Engineer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

The signs necessary to implement this regulation were installed (or) confirmed on the

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

Note to Regional Traffic Office: Return this original document with signatures to the Traffic Engineering Group (061R). Photocopies or scans may be used as field sheets or for recordkeeping at the Regional Traffic Office.