TECHNICAL GUIDELINES & PRACTICES

SUBJECT:	**SPEED LIMITS**		**A-2a**
CATEGORY:	Traffic Signing	**Revision Date:**	April 2020

PURPOSE:

Speed limit signs indicate to drivers the maximum legal vehicle speed that is permitted under ideal driving conditions on the road section where the signs are installed.

REFERENCE:

Highway Traffic Act Sections 77, 94, and 95
Traffic Authority Speed Limits Regulation 30/2019
Traffic Control Devices Regulation 13/2019
City of Winnipeg Speed Limit By-Law 63/2019 and amendments
MUTCDC, Section A2.3, A3.6.9
Technical Guideline A-1
Technical Guideline A-2b

GUIDELINES/PROCEDURES:

MAXIMUM SPEED SIGN REQUIREMENTS

The City of Winnipeg is designated as a restricted speed area and all roadways within the restricted speed area have a statutory speed limit of 50 km/h as established by the Highway Traffic Act (HTA). The back lane speed limit of 30 km/h is established by Speed Limit By-Law 63/2019. All motorists are expected to be aware of these speed limits and therefore, speed limit signing is not necessary, other than at the boundaries of the urban restricted speed limit area as specified in HTA Section 77.

Maximum Speed signage must be installed:

- At the point where a change in speed limit occurs (either increase or decrease).
- Temporarily for a transition period of 6 weeks (and then removed) where a speed limit has been lowered to 50 km/h.

Additional speed limit signs (often referred to as confirmatory speed signs) should be installed to improve road safety and traffic operations by informing or reminding the motorists of the posted speed limit. Motorists may not always recall the speed limit that is in effect; as a result, they may tend to drive at a self-selected speed, which may increase speed differentials between vehicles and lead to potential safety issues. Confirmatory Maximum Speed signs should be installed at the following locations:

- Downstream of major cross street intersections where the speed limit has been modified from 50 km/h on a particular street or section of street,
- Downstream of major cross street intersections where the speed limit is 50 km/h but the roadway environment is often interpreted by motorists as having a higher speed limit.
- Intervals of approximately 1.5 km where the speed limit has been modified from 50 km/h but there are no major cross street intersections.

In addition, Traffic Authority Speed Limits Regulation 30/2019 requires that for speed limits less than 50 km/h, Maximum Speed signs must be installed:

- After each intersection with a roadway other than a back lane, as close as practicable to that intersection.

MAXIMUM SPEED AHEAD SIGN

The Maximum Speed Ahead sign (WB-9) indicates to drivers that they are approaching a section of road where the maximum speed is reduced. The sign must always be installed in advance of the Maximum Speed sign if there is a reduction in posted speed. The sign must NOT be used to indicate an increase in speed. Guidance for placement distance of the Maximum Speed Ahead sign in advance of the Maximum Speed sign is provided in Technical Guideline A-1.

SIGN MOUNTING LOCATION AND SIZE

Maximum Speed (RB-1) sign:

- The Maximum Speed sign must be installed on the right side of the road on undivided roadways. Additionally, signs should be dual mounted (left side and right side of the road) for divided multi-lane roadways and one-way multi-lane roadways.
- If the speed limit is ≤ 60 km/h, the Maximum Speed sign will generally be 600 x 750 mm.
- If the speed limit is ≥ 70 km/h, Maximum Speed sign will generally be 750 x 900 mm.
- Where there is a transition from a speed zone ≥ 70 km/h to a speed zone ≤ 60 km/h the first Maximum Speed sign will generally be 750 x 900 mm.

Maximum Speed Ahead (WB-9) sign:

- The Maximum Speed Ahead sign must be installed on the right side of the road on undivided roadways. Additionally, signs should be dual mounted (left side and right side of the road) for divided multi-lane roadways and one-way multi-lane roadways.
- If the speed limit is ≤ 60 km/h, the Maximum Speed Ahead sign will generally be 900 x 900 mm.
- If the speed limit is ≥ 70 km/h, Maximum Speed Ahead sign will generally be 1200 x 1200 mm.
- Where there is a transition from a speed zone ≥ 70 km/h to a speed zone ≤ 60 km/h the first Maximum Speed Ahead sign will generally be 1200 x 1200 mm.

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APPROVED:

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