

FAQ: NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC SAFETY



SPEED LIMITS

are crucial for maintaining safe and consistent driving conditions. They help reduce conflicts between faster and slower drivers, aid in judging the speed of oncoming vehicles, and provide a clear enforcement tool for law enforcement.



1. What is the Basic Speed Law?

The Basic Speed Law states that “No person shall drive a vehicle on a highway at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing.” This law emphasizes the driver’s responsibility to adjust their speed based on roadway conditions, ensuring safe driving under varying circumstances.

2. What is the standard speed limit in Kitsap County?

The statutory speed limit for local roads in Kitsap County is 25 mph, unless otherwise posted. For arterials and collector roads, speed limits are determined through traffic studies.

3. How do I request a speed limit reduction in my neighborhood?

Lowering the speed limit in your neighborhood is subject to specific criteria. Kitsap County will consider changing the speed limit only when there have been significant changes in the area’s development or a rise in collisions due to speed that can be mitigated. If you believe your road meets these criteria, you can request a speed limit reduction by contacting Kitsap1 by email at help@kitsap1.com or call 360.337.5777.

4. Can speed limits be lower than 20 mph?

State law prevents counties from setting speed limits below 20 mph. Kitsap County will only consider a 20 mph speed limit in designated school or park zones.

5. Do speed limit signs slow down traffic?

Contrary to common belief, speed limit signs do not significantly slow traffic. Studies show that most drivers adjust their speed based on roadway and traffic conditions, not necessarily on posted speed limits.

6. Where are speed limit signs typically located?

Speed limit signs are placed at the entrances to neighborhoods and along established speed zones. If a zone extends longer than two miles, additional signs may be installed to remind drivers of the maximum speed allowed.

7. How do I report excessive speed limit violations?

Speeding is a concern to both residents and officials. Excessive speed limit violations that are in progress can be reported by calling 911. To report ongoing speed concerns, contact Kitsap1 at help@kitsap1.com, by phone at 360.337.5777, or through the SeeClickFix app at kitsap1.com. We can all make a difference by driving 25 mph or less in residential areas and encourage others to do the same.

