

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Serious Drought
Help Save Water!*

June 22, 2015

MEN-001-PM 77.0/77.7
Radar Feedback Sign Request

Thad Van Bueren, Chairman
Westport Municipal Advisory Council
P.O. Box 307
Westport, CA 95488

Dear Mr. Van Bueren:

Thank you for your letter dated June 12, 2015 requesting speed radar feedback (RFB) signs at the north and south approaches to the community of Westport. The District 1 Traffic Safety Office has completed an investigation on State Route 1 through Westport, which evaluated signing, striping, pavement markings, collision history, vehicle speeds, roadway geometry and sight distance.

The last reported collision within the Westport community occurred in May 2003. The southern end of the speed zone includes two 20 MPH curves which limit speeding vehicles, and the Engineering and Traffic Survey (E&TS) for this roadway section indicates that speed is appropriately set based on current California Vehicle Code requirements.

Caltrans Management supports the installation of vehicle RFB signs as an enhanced traffic calming measure when no safety nexus for installation is realized. The manual which governs sign specifications does not support installation of RFB on Speed Ahead signs as your request suggested. We are aware that Albion has one with this configuration but the RFB sign was already in place when the speed zone was changed to bring the E&TS into compliance. Therefore, our office will install a RFB sign below the 35 MPH speed limit sign for southbound traffic. For northbound traffic, the 35 MPH speed limit sign is located within a grove of eucalyptus trees which will prevent usage of a solar panel for power; consequently, we will instead install a RFB sign below the northbound curve warning sign across from Pacific Avenue.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact me at the number listed above or Darron Hill, Assistance Traffic Safety Engineer, at 707-964-0974.

Sincerely,

DAVID A MORGAN
Traffic Safety Chief

bc: 1) MBrady
2) DMorgan
3) DHill
4) file