



ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION AND ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

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*Office of the Minister  
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

October 16, 2023

AR 93900

Her Worship Kim Harris  
Mayor  
Town of Crossfield  
Box 500  
Crossfield, AB T0M 0S0  
[mayorharris@crossfiledalberta.ca](mailto:mayorharris@crossfiledalberta.ca)

Dear Mayor Harris:

Thank you for your letter requesting a speed zone amendment to Highway 2A south of Crossfield. I appreciate the opportunity to provide a response to your suggestion.

Highway safety is a top priority for Transportation and Economic Corridors and ensuring speed limits are set appropriately helps achieve that. At my direction, department staff completed a review to determine if speed limit modifications can be safely made. In the meantime, the results of a preliminary examination is included below.

In Alberta, speed limits are determined by considering several safety features such as the highway geometry, topography, the adjacent land use, intersection spacing, and the classification of highway. Consideration is also given to drivers' perception of road conditions which plays a significant part in drivers' behaviour and driving speed. Traffic research indicates that when speed limits are set lower than what the majority of drivers consider to be reasonable, there is a high level of non-compliance. This leads to driver frustration and a larger disparity in speeds where some drivers would obey the lower speed limit, while others would continue to travel at higher speeds. A speed variation can cause difficulty in motorists judging gaps in traffic when trying to enter or exit the highway, which increases the risks of collisions.

The existing speed limit of 60 kilometres per hour (km/h) going over top of the Highway 2/2A/72 interchange is set appropriately as there is limited stopping sight distance available when travelling over the interchange. Additionally, the 60 km/h zone accommodates traffic exiting Highway 2 to safely make a left turn onto Highway 2A/72. As the speed limit was set as part of the interchange design, it is considered appropriate.

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The existing 80 km/h speed limit on either side of the interchange was put in place as a transition zone between the 100 km/h speed limit on Highway 2A to the west, and Highway 72 to the east. The 80 km/h transition zones go on either side of the 60 km/h speed zone over the interchange. The transition zone of 80 km/h is set appropriately and is not recommended to change.

Transportation and Economic Corridors does have the ability to adjust the existing 100 km/h speed limit between the Town of Crossfield and the interchange. In 2019 as part of the reconfiguration of the interchange, the department attempted to modify the speed limit but the change was not supported by the town nor Rocky View County. As such, the speed limit was not adjusted.

If both the Town of Crossfield and Rocky View County support a speed limit amendment to a continuous 80 km/h zone, the department would be willing to consider combining the existing 70 km/h, 100 km/h, and 80km/h speed zones between Crossfield and the interchange.

If you have any further questions or would like to provide your support for a speed limit amendment, please contact Mr. Darren Davidson, Regional Director. Mr. Davidson can be reached toll-free at 310-0000, then 403-381-5533, or at [darren.davidson@gov.ab.ca](mailto:darren.davidson@gov.ab.ca).

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,



Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA  
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

cc: Honourable Nathan Cooper, MLA for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills  
Darren Davidson, Regional Director, Transportation and Economic Corridors

