

8-21-02
JH

DRAFT LETTER TO CITY OF GAHANNA

RE: Proposed Speed Limit Change on US62 (Granville Street)

The purpose of this letter is to document the city of Gahanna request to ODOT to establish a reasonable speed zone transition area on US62 (Granville Street) in the City of Gahanna between I-270 and the Gahanna business district.

Referring to Fig. 1, the existing 25 MPH business district, beginning at Mill Street is approximately 1¼ miles east of the center of the interchange of I-270 with I-670 and US 62. US 62 (Granville Street) was constructed and is currently operated as a limited access highway with only two signalized intersections between I-270 and Mill Street. A physical median separates the directions of flow between I-270 and Ridenour Road.

Because of the close proximity of freeway ramps and the design of the roadway, vehicular speeds are higher than they should be approaching the 25 MPH business district. In 1999 E, M, H & T Consultants conducted a standard speed zone warrant study to see if a reasonable speed limit could be justified between the 55 MPH/65 MPH speed limits approaching I-270 and the 25 MPH business district zone at Mill Street.

eliminate
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The results of the study indicate the warranted speed to be 50 MPH. A review of the Ohio Revised Code Section 4511.21, Speed Limits, just reinforces a speed zone of 50 to 55 MPH in this whole roadway area. Section 4511.21 (B) (4), "Fifty miles per hour on controlled access highways and expressways within municipal corporations", and Section 4511.21 (B) (6), "Fifty miles per hour on state routes within municipal corporations outside urban districts unless a lower prima-facie speed is established as further provided in this section", and Section 4511.21 (B) (8), "Fifty-five miles per hour at all times on freeways with paved shoulders inside municipal corporations, other than freeways as provided in division (B) (12) of this section" does not provide a safe or reasonable speed zone adjacent to the existing 25 MPH business district speed zone.

The unique character of this section of US 62 leads, both in the Ohio Revised Code and actual vehicle performance, to higher speeds which are not compatible with the business district at Mill Street. This problem has manifested itself in recent years by an increasing number of public complaints about eastbound speeding vehicles and near-miss pedestrian accidents at the US 62/Mill Street intersection.

Since 1999, the City of Gahanna has completed a landscaping project within the subject section of Granville Street which includes concrete barrier walls in the median between Stygler Road and Ridenour Road. This project, while beautifying this entrance to Gahanna, has also contributed to the "limited access" or "freeway" appearance of the roadway. This may result in drivers maintaining their higher freeway speeds through this area.

Because of the unique character of this section of US 62 (Granville Street), performing another speed zone warrant study will almost certainly not change the results of the 1999 study. It is recommended that a reasonable speed zone transition area be created in this approximate one mile section of US 62 (Granville Street) between the freeway ramps and Mill Street.

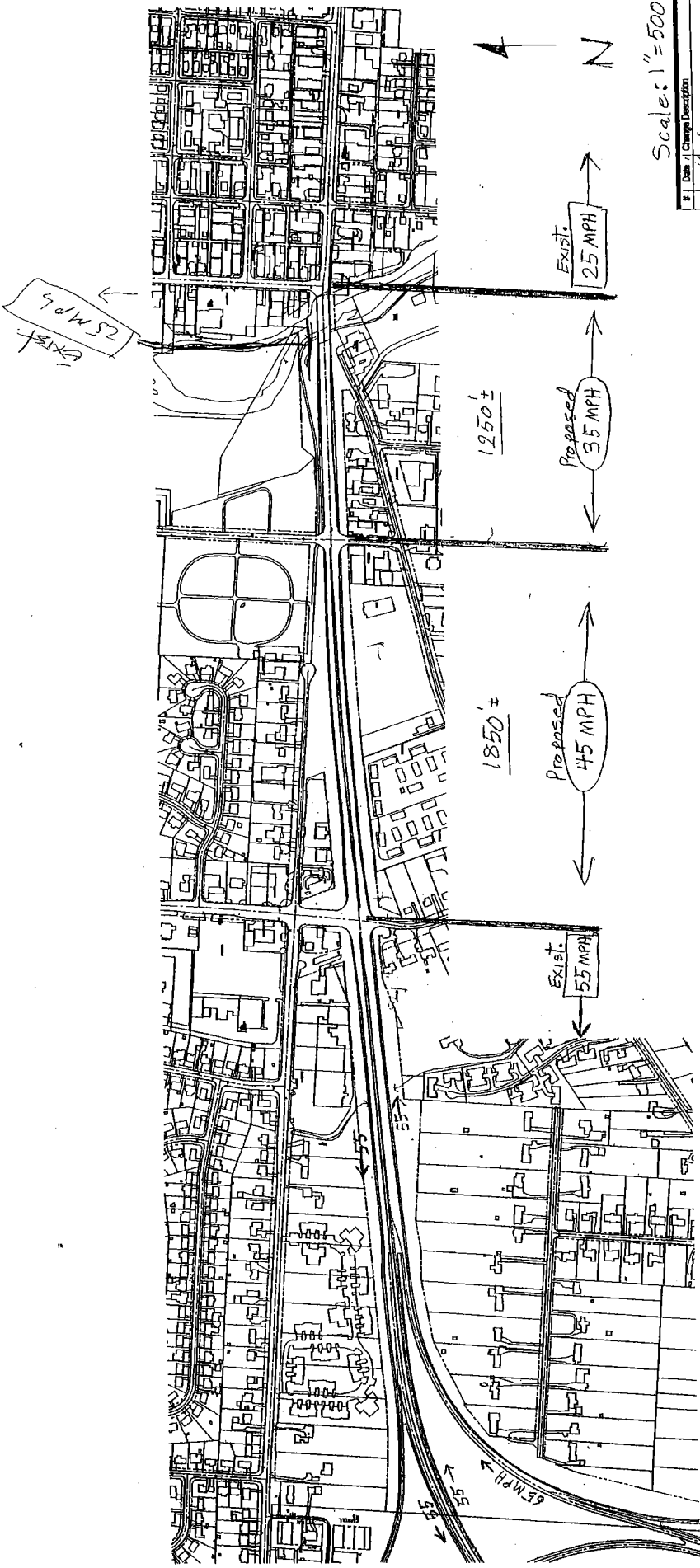
It is our understanding of the Ohio Revised Code that the present speed limits on the various freeway segments and ramps leading to and from US 62 (Granville Street) are 55 MPH on the US 62 segment and ramps and 65 MPH on the I-270 ramps. The segment of US 62 between the ramps and Stygler Road is currently 55 MPH. The present 25MPH business district speed limit begins at the east end of the US 62 bridge, which is the west edge of Mill Street. Currently as per the Ohio Revised Code, section 4511.21 (B) (4) and (6), the legal speed limit on US 62 (Granville Street) between Stygler Road and Mill Street is 50 MPH

It is proposed to create a transitional speed zone to more safely and reasonably vary the speeds between the 55 MPH zone west of Stygler Road and the 25 MPH zone east of Mill Street. This transitional speed zone is proposed to be 45 MPH from Stygler Road to Ridenour Road, a distance of approx. 1850 feet, and 35 MPH from Ridenour Road to Mill Street, a distance of approximate 1250 feet.

This will create a series of three 10 MPH speed limit decreases eastbound on US 62 in approximately 3000 feet, ending with the 25 MPH limit in downtown Gahanna. For westbound traffic, this transition zone will permit a gradual speed increase up to freeway speeds. The three points of change in speed limit will be the signal controlled intersections of Stygler Road, Ridenour Road, and Mill Street. This transition speed zone will provide safe distances for advanced signage of reduced speed ahead.

The Ohio Revised Code, Section 4511.21 (I) (1), provides for local authorities to request a change in the speed limit whenever it can be shown that the existing speed limit is "greater than is reasonable and safe".

(more to come)



Scale: 1" = 500'

Proposed Transitional Speed Zone

# Date / Change Description	
MOODYNOLAN INC.	
PROGRESS DRAWING	
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	
MOODYNOLAN INC.	
1775 East Street, Columbus, Ohio 43206	
Phone: 614.261.1177	
Fax: 614.261.1178	
www.moodynolan.com	
Check: By: [Signature] Date: [Signature]	Project Name: Granville St. to Mill St. Project No: 5140/5540-200-00 Drawing No: 5140/5540-200-00-01
Drawn: By: [Signature]	Scale: 1" = 500'
Checked: By: [Signature]	Sheet: 1 of 1
Approved: By: [Signature]	Client: [Signature]
MOODYNOLAN INC.	PROGRESS DRAWING
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION	
SITE PLAN	C1.1
Quadrant A	February 28, 2012
CONTRACT DOCUMENTS	

Granville St. (US 62) - I-270 to Mill St. in Gahanna Figure 2