



Montana Department of Transportation

CONSTRUCTION MEMO

Date Issued: June 11, 2019

Date Effective: June 11, 2019

Related Specifications: HB 393

Subject: Truck Speed Limit Change

To: Construction Staff
From: Kevin Christensen, P.E., Construction Engineer

Background:

This construction memo provides guidance for the uniform administration of the upcoming truck speed limit change. Recently, HB 393 was signed into law with an effective date of October 1, 2019. This bill modifies truck speed limits on the interstate to 70 mph and 65 mph on all non-interstate routes. This bill also removes the night 55 mph truck speed limits. With this change in law, the department will change the truck speed limits as close as possible to the Oct 1st date. Maintenance has planned a one to two-day change as they did when the interstate speed limit changed to 80mph. The change during this short time period will ensure that the truck speed limit is uniform across the highway system to ensure less confusion for the trucking industry and for more effective enforcement.

How should I handle this in construction?

If your contractor will be installing speed limit signs prior to Oct 1, install the signs called out in your plan-set. If your contractor will be installing speed limit signs within the time frame of Oct 1st and 2nd, then coordinate a change order with your contractor to facilitate the new signage installation (65mph or 70mph depending on route). If your contractor will be installing the new 70 mph or 65 mph signage, please coordinate with your local maintenance forces to ensure they know that you will be handling the sign switch on your project.

copies:

Table with 6 rows: Chief Engineer, Maintenance Administrator, District Construction Engineers, Engineering Project Managers, Construction Engineering Services Bureau