

**From:** [Reichenberger, Wolfgang A](#)  
**To:** [Transportation Commission](#)  
**Subject:** reducing the speed limits  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 5, 2021 12:57:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)

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Hello,

I would like to voice my concern over the reduction of the speed limits in Madison. I think the speed limits should be increased not decreased. No one currently drives the speed limit and I don't think decreasing them will affect the speed people travel at all. I believe the speed limits should be set at the speed that 85% of drivers currently drive at which is higher than they currently are.

I understand your goal is to reduce traffic deaths, however I think you should focus on the flagrant speeders like the people street racing on east Washington Ave. They routinely travel at more than 20 mph over the old speed limit. This is the real problem, not people driving 45 mph on a 6 lane road. If you just enforced the old speed limits there would be a reduction in deaths. There is no need to reduce speed limits. Also cars are significantly safer than they used to be. Most new cars have safety features we couldn't have dreamed of 10 years ago. Things like automatic breaking and the new pedestrian safety feature will have a much bigger impact then reducing the speed limit. Just look at what a Tesla is capable of doing.

Lastly the traffic in Madison has been getting worse and worse. I think the city should be doing everything in its power to improve the flow and speed of traffic. However I believe you are doing the exact opposite. We all have place we need to be and wasting time sitting in traffic is not productive. Please stop trying to slow traffic down. I would also recommend looking at the comments on the Facebook news stories reporting on this change. None of them are positive. I don't believe any of your constituents want this change. The thing they want is to stop the street racing, which I think this will have zero impact on. If street racers were willing to go more than 20mph over the old speed limit they will continue to do so regardless of what the new limit is. Also I would like data on the number of traffic death there are in the city that were a result of someone driving the old speed limit while not breaking any other law. I would bet it's very low. Most of the accident I read about in the news seem to involve someone doing something that's already illegal (IE street racing, driving a stolen car, or drunk driving). Please focus on that instead.

Sincerely,

**Wolfgang Reichenberger, CFP®**

Wealth Management Advisor  
NMLS ID #1460244

The JW Team

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc.  
2 E Mifflin St, Suite 900, Madison, WI 53703  
T 608-283-2735 Toll Free 866-756-4611 Fax 608-467-1364  
[Wolfgang2.Reichenberger@ml.com](mailto:Wolfgang2.Reichenberger@ml.com)

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