

Stop100.ca demands 400-series roads speed limit setting methodology rationale, justification and voluntary driver compliance report from the MTO. Stop100.ca demands fair speed limit setting standards to be utilized in Ontario.

Oshawa-based group stop100.ca demands that the MTO make public the origin of the current speed limit on Ontario's 400-series highway. The people of Ontario and more than 900 members of the group are calling on the government to explain to the public how the current speed limit was established and what methodology was used and is used.

In absence of such explanation and justification from the MTO, stop100.ca is demanding that the government establish the speed limit in accordance with the "85th percentile" methodology which is recommended by the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE, www.ite.org) and is utilized worldwide.



In many countries and states around the world, speed limits are set using the 85th percentile, which ensures a high degree of driver compliance, thus reducing variations in driver speeds and the risk of crash.

The 85th percentile speed limit setting method is based on the assumptions that most drivers are:

- reasonable and prudent,
- do not want to have a crash,
- desire to reach their destination in the shortest possible time.

According to the ITE, "studies have shown crash rates are lowest at around the 85th percentile speed." (http://www.ite.org/standards/speed_zoning.pdf)

Further, "traffic laws that reflect the behaviour of the majority of motorists are found to be successful, while laws that arbitrarily restrict the majority of motorists encourage violations, lack public support and usually fail to bring about desirable changes in driving behaviour."

While the goal should be for voluntary compliance, in Ontario, drivers are presented with an arbitrary number of 100 km/h on speed limit signs and consequently, for the most part, ignore speed limits, instead choosing ironically the safest behaviour which is to "go with the flow" which is generally speeds significantly higher than posted speed limit.

The government's inaction in setting the correct speed limit on our roads leads to widespread speeding violations, undue stress and driver anxiety, unfair traffic citations given to drivers moving at safe speeds and insurance rate hikes. In addition, the present unreasonable speed limit contributes to labeling of Ontario drivers as chronic speeders who will always exceed the limit by 20 km/h or more. Such unjust and baseless accusation consequently leads to the MTO and other opponents of reasonable speed limits on our roads to claim that with the speed limit of

120 km/h, “all drivers will begin to drive at 140 km/h.”

Stop100.ca is determined to protect the rights of Ontario drivers and demands that the government conduct real speed testing in accordance with the 85th percentile methodology to present our drivers with a real, proper and safest speed limit possible.

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