

To: Yankton City Commission

From: Matt Wendt

Regarding: Speeding on East Highway 50 from Burleigh to Marsh Rd

Commissioners,

As spring arrived I noticed a change for the worse in the way people were driving on my daily commute to work at the WNAX Studios. I felt although this speeding has not caused any accidents yet, that doesn't mean it will not and am asking the commission to take a proactive approach by adding additional awareness/enforcement of the speed limit on E. Highway 50.

I decided to conduct my own non-scientific study about how often people are not obeying the speed limit from the edge of the populated portion of the city to my workplace which borders on the city limits.

To keep an accurate record, I took down the license plate numbers of each vehicle that passed me while driving the above mentioned stretch of road over a 2 week period.\* I also varied the vehicles I drove between 4 different cars/trucks/motorcycles in case the speedometer in my primary vehicle was off. Additionally, due to my work schedule I find myself on that stretch of road at many different times during the day stretching from 5:30am to 8:00pm, and average 16 minutes per day on the road.

The following is the results of my study.

\*Only during the work week, from June 10<sup>th</sup> to June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Recorded License Plate Numbers by State:

South Dakota

7BC685	7BU499	7CS683	34337C	12Y299	AG326
1NE628	7CV977	7BT933	7CS612	1YR249	7CR734
7CM839	7CF294	7CJ878	17AL05	7CS278	7CF836
12006C	7CD776	7CN394	7BV376	7BX164	7CJ690
33589C	0197A	7CN037	7CE839	19BY93	7CS305
7CT551	19EL56				

Nebraska

12A594	12D73	70-171	31-F346
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Iowa

157NCK	435MOQ	2265J
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What the numbers mean:

Someone is speeding in that stretch of road every 4.1 minutes.

If the above is true, 227 vehicles are speeding on that stretch of road during the hours I recorded data.

Over half of the people speeding are from Yankton County; additional enforcement should not have an adverse effect on tourism.

There are numerous customer oriented businesses along the road that may enjoy people driving slower both for new patronage and to the benefit of their current customers.

Possibly providing added safety for the several hundred employees of all the businesses on E. Highway 50.

Additionally:

Because this stretch of road is tri-jurisdictional, the city could possibly partner with the Yankton County Sheriff's Office and the South Dakota Highway Patrol\*\* to divide the extra enforcement as to not strain any one entities budget.

\*\*This data has been or will be provided to the Yankton County Commission at their next regular meeting, and a copy has been sent to the South Dakota Highway Patrol.

# Memo

**To:** City Manager Doug Russell  
**From:** Jerry Hisek  
**Date:** July 11, 2008  
**Re:** East Highway #50 speeding concerns

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Regarding the concern from Mr. Wendt on East Highway #50 speeding the following is information and action that has been taken prior to and since this concern has been voiced.

From January, 1 2007 until July, 1 2008 there have been 169 speeding citations issued for the city portion of this highway. From July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 8<sup>th</sup> there have been 16 speeding citations written and 19 verbal warnings given.

The radar board has been stationed in this area at least 4 times for at least 3 hours each time. The radar board has been located for the east bound traffic near the Chamber office and Vishay. It has also been placed for west bound traffic near Vishay.

We are confident that these past and continuing actions do have a positive effect on the speed in this area of our community. This department takes speeding violations and complaints seriously. Since January 1, 2008 this department has written 434 speeding violations within the city limits of Yankton. We have also given 1622 warnings for various traffic violations including speeding.

If there are any questions please feel free to contact this office.

Submitted,

Jerry Hisek  
Asst. Chief  
Yankton Police Department