



DAVID S. BROWN
SHERIFF

OFFICE OF THE SKAMANIA COUNTY

SHERIFF

PO Box 790
200 Vancouver Ave.
Stevenson WA 98648
Phone (509)427-9490
Fax (509)427-4369
www.skamaniasheriff.com
scso@co.skamania.wa.us

Dave Cox
Undersheriff

Pat Bond
Chief Criminal Deputy

Marlea McKenzie
Chief Civil Deputy

David Waymire
Jail Superintendent

March 12, 2014

City of Stevenson
P.O. Box 371
Stevenson WA 98648
Attn: Nick Hogan, City Administrator

Dear Nick,

Over the past several months I have had a number of conversations with Ben Sciacca, owner of "The Cabin" coffee business located off Lutheran Church Road on the east end of Stevenson. Much of our conversation has centered on traffic flow and safety issues on the east end of Second Street within the city limits. Mr. Sciacca has been actively seeking assistance with issues related to east and westbound speeds in excess of the posted speed limits as well as safety concerns surrounding eastbound traffic turning left off Second Street onto Lutheran Church road. I am aware that there have been conversations with city leadership and the Washington State Department of Transportation.

The Sheriff's Office has attempted to curb westbound traffic speeds with use of a mobile radar reader board. While this has an immediate and noticeable effect, it is temporary. Stationary radar enforcement has been minimal due to location and safety concerns.

I believe the City, in concert with the Stevenson Business Association and the Sheriff's Office has an opportunity to assist not only the Cabin, but also Columbia Hardware and the Bits and Spurs store. Mr. Sciacca has suggested installation of a stationary traffic control speed device in order to impact and hopefully decrease the speed of westbound traffic entering Stevenson. I support this approach for several reasons. First, this type of application has proven to be effective in reducing the speed of the traveling public. Second, utilization of this application can potentially reduce the need for law enforcement resources on a recurring basis and lastly, with the combination of commercial deliveries to Columbia Hardware and the ingress and egress of traffic from Bits and Spurs, a significant reduction in approaching speeds stands to create a safer environment for the motoring public as well as pedestrian traffic.

The safety concerns surrounding eastbound traffic and its access to Lutheran Church Road will require additional discussion and presents as a potentially larger project. I do feel that by taking an active approach to decrease the speed of the westbound traffic, a safer environment is created for eastbound traffic to access Lutheran Church Road.

Again, I support Mr. Sciacca in his efforts to mitigate the speed issues and encourage the City to work with the SBA to find funding for this project. I am committed to working with you to create a safer environment for the motoring public and the business community.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave Brown", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dave Brown
Sheriff