

Todd M. Draper  
Police Chief



Tel: (585) 798-5602  
Fax: (585) 798-2426

**Village of Medina Police Department**

600 MAIN ST.  
MEDINA, NY 14103

June 12, 2025

Dear Village of Medina Board & Medina School District Administration,

I would like to recommend an adjustment to the current Village of Medina school zones on West Oak Orchard St. and Gwinn St.

Changes have previously been made to the NYS Department of Transportation Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) which allow for an increased length of school zones. The MUTCD now allows for school zones to be a maximum distance of 1320 feet. Our current Village Code, Section 236-7 "School Speed Limits" outlines a distance of 300 feet.

My recommendation is to have the school zone on West Oak Orchard St. 500 feet West of the Oak Orchard entrance loop and 1,320 feet East of the Oak Orchard exit loop, which would extend the school zone to West Ave. On Gwinn St., 1,320 feet North of the northern Intermediate School Entrance would fall between North and South Ave. 650 feet South of the South Intermediate School entrance would fall between Frank and William St. These changes would overlap the two zones and cover the intersection of W. Oak Orchard St. and Gwinn St. (Map Attached)

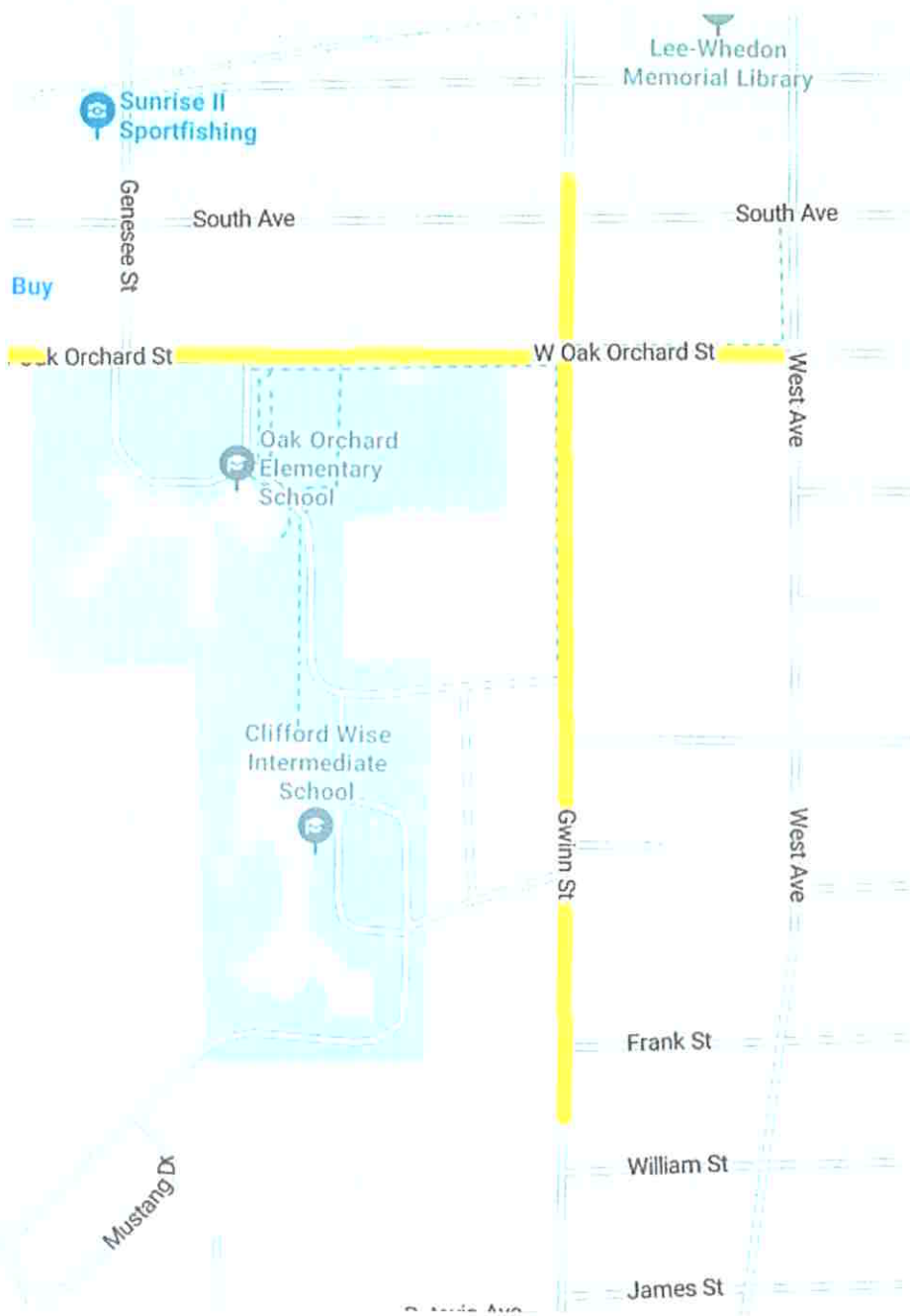
In order for this change to be made, the Village Code would have to be amended to reflect the MUTCD's 1,320 foot distance and a letter of support would have to be provided by Medina School Administration.

I've attached supporting documentation for your reference. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Todd Draper  
Chief of Police

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Prospective language change to Village Code to reflect increased school zone.

### **Current Language**

#### **§ 236-7 School speed limits.**

No person shall operate a motor vehicle or motorcycle on any portion of any highway within the corporate limits of the Village of Medina passing a school building from a point 300 feet away from the point of intersection of the building line of the school building and the center line of said highway to a point measured along the center line of said highway 300 feet away from the point of intersection of the opposite building line of said school building and the center line of said highway at a rate of speed in excess of 15 miles per hour during school days between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. This section shall not apply to ambulances, fire vehicles or police vehicles when on emergency trips.

### **Proposed Language**

#### **§ 236-7 School Speed Limits**

No person shall operate a motor vehicle or motorcycle on any portion of any highway within the corporate limits of the Village of Medina in a posted school zone at a rate of speed in excess of 15 miles per hour. This school zone will be designated Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:00 am and 6:00 pm. In accordance with the NYS Department of Transportation Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, the school zone may extend a maximum of 1320 feet along a highway passing a school building entrance or exit of a school abutting on the highway. This section shall not apply to ambulances, fire vehicles or police vehicles when on emergency trips

The school zone shall be as follows:

Gwinn St. extending 1320 feet North from the northern Intermediate School entrance.

Gwinn St. extending 650 feet South of the southern Intermediate School entrance.

West Oak Orchard St. extending 500 feet West of the Oak Orchard School western loop entrance

West Oak Orchard St. extending 1320 feet East of the Oak Orchard School eastern loop exit.

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In September 2003, the Vehicle & Traffic Law was amended to change the hours of operation as well as the maximum length of a school speed zone. In addition, regulations (MUTCD criteria) regarding the posting of school speed limits within a school speed zone were also modified. The following are the key provisions of the law and regulations:

### Hours of Operation

There are two choices available for the hours of operations:

- Fixed Message School Speed Limit Signs with or without Flashing Beacons:
  - Traditional 7 AM to 6 PM hours on SCHOOL DAYS
    - A supplementary time/day panel is required.
    - There is no precise definition of SCHOOL DAYS.
  - Alternative time within such core hours
    - A supplementary time/day panel is required.
    - Examples:
      - 9 AM to 4 PM
      - 7 AM to 9 AM and 2 PM to 4 PM
      - 8 PM to 10 PM (**NOT ALLOWED** with fixed message signs since time is outside core hours)

*Note: Flashing beacons used in a supplementary manner may only flash during the actual hours stated on the supplemental time/day panel.*

- Flashing beacons accompanied by a AWHEN FLASHING@ panel
  - Beacons shall only flash during student activities at the school: maximum of 30 minutes prior and 30 minutes after the conclusion of the event.

### Length of a School Speed Zone

- Maximum distance is 1320 feet (0.25 miles) along a highway passing a school building entrance or exit of a school abutting on the highway.
  - This provides greater flexibility than the previous law as far as locating the critical crossing points and driveways within the physical limits of the school speed zone.

### MUTCD Considerations

With the change in the law, the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) has also been amended regarding criteria for establishing school speed limits. Section 212.4 of NYCRR 17B (2005 edition) currently contains criteria for establishing a school speed zone (This information will be transferred to the New York State Supplement in September 2007). The criteria provided in this section have been used during the past several years by the Department to evaluate school speed limit requests.

A school speed limit is primarily used to enhance the safety of children who must walk/bicycle to a school/child care facility or cross the street at a school/child care facility. If all or most of the students are provided transportation to the school/child care facility, the need for a school speed limit is diminished. However, this does not preclude the establishment of a school speed limit if there are other safety reasons related to students walking/bicycling along or across the roadway in the immediate vicinity of the school.

1. A school speed limit may be established on a highway at the following facilities under the following conditions:
  - a. School with one or more grades under grade 12
    - i. Some of the students walk or bicycle to or from school; or the school and related facilities (e.g. classrooms, cafeteria, gymnasium, playground, athletic fields, parking lots, etc.) are separated by a highway and require the students to cross the highway on foot to access the facilities; and
    - ii. The school administration and the jurisdiction responsible for the highway provides written documentation of their support for a school speed limit