

From: [Barbara Jenny](#)  
To: [Town Comments](#)  
Subject: Speed limit on side roads in the Foreside  
Date: Thursday, May 9, 2024 9:27:31 AM  
Attachments: [image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)

I am writing to request the council please consider taking the appropriate steps to change the speed limit on the unposted side streets in Kittery Foreside. It seems not *too* cumbersome to do so [regarding the State](#).

By default, the unposted speed limit on a residential street in Maine is 25 mph.

The screenshot shows the MaineDOT website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Maine.gov' and 'maine.gov' logos, along with links for Agencies, Services, and Help. Below this is the MaineDOT logo and mission statement: 'OUR MISSION To support economic opportunity and quality of life by responsibly providing our customers the safest and most reliable transportation system possible, given available resources.' There is also a search bar and a 'Search DOT' button. The main navigation menu includes 'Doing Business', 'Government', 'Residents', 'Explore Maine', 'About', and 'Jobs'. The 'Jobs' menu item is highlighted. The main content area is titled 'List of Regional Traffic Engineers' and contains the following text:

If a town creates or changes a speed limit or simply erects speed limit signs without going through the proper process, there is no legal authority to the change and it is unenforceable.

Except when conditions or other regulations require a lower speed, the following are maximum rates of speed:

- 15 m.p.h. in a school zone at specific times of the day.
- 25 m.p.h. in a business or residential area or built up portion, unless otherwise posted.
- 45 m.p.h. on all other public ways, unless otherwise posted.
- However, the noted 25 and 45 mph limits are usually unenforceable if they do not have MaineDOT approval

A "school zone" was also redefined in 2001 through LD 843 which became Public Law 2001, Chapter 145 and became effective on May 14, 2001. A "school zone" means the portion of the public highway abutting improved school property or 300 feet on either side of a school entrance, whichever is greater."

"Improved school property" now is defined as "the developed portion of school property including driveways, parking lots, playgrounds, athletic fields or school buildings."

If there are roads in your town that the municipal officers feel a strong need to create or change a speed limit, a municipal official from the town must request the change in writing to your local MaineDOT regional traffic engineer. Due to a large number of "No Change" speed studies, any request for a study must include a recommendation (from a municipal official or law enforcement) that the existing Speed Limit is unsafe. The Town Official should drive the roadway during off-peak hours, in good health and in free-flowing conditions. The request should communicate clearly that driving the roadway at, or slightly below, the existing Speed Limit feels, or is, unsafe.

It's important to understand that any resultant study may have the current speed limit go up, in addition to maybe going down, or remaining the same. A field study will be made and then a recommended speed will be forwarded to the MaineDOT Commissioner and the State Police. Then the town will be notified of the speed limit and will be responsible for erecting the standard and minimum 24" x 30" black-on-white signs in the proper locations if the change is on a town way. If the change is on a state road, then the MaineDOT will make the signing changes.

**List of Regional Traffic Engineers:**

This is simply and clearly dangerous in the Foreside.

Streets such as Jones Ave (on which I own a home), Otis, Main, Dame, Pleasant, etc. do not have sidewalks, but are frequented by pedestrians. Neighbors walking dogs, children extending their play from their driveway into the street—chickens!— are at great risk from drivers rushing to work and/or avoiding the traffic light at Walker and Wentworth. Simply stepping off of the front steps—our old house is set right on the street—can be a risk taking endeavor. And 25 miles per hour on these small streets with no sidewalks feels terrifying when one is walking even a short-leashed dog who suddenly decides to lunge for one of those delightful chickens.

Please consider creating posted speed limits for these streets of no more than 15 miles per hour. (Telluride CO has 15mph streets in its downtown and side streets which creates not only a safe environment for pedestrians, but also minimizes noise and dust kick-up.)

Thank you for your consideration—

Barbara Jenny  
15 Jones Ave.

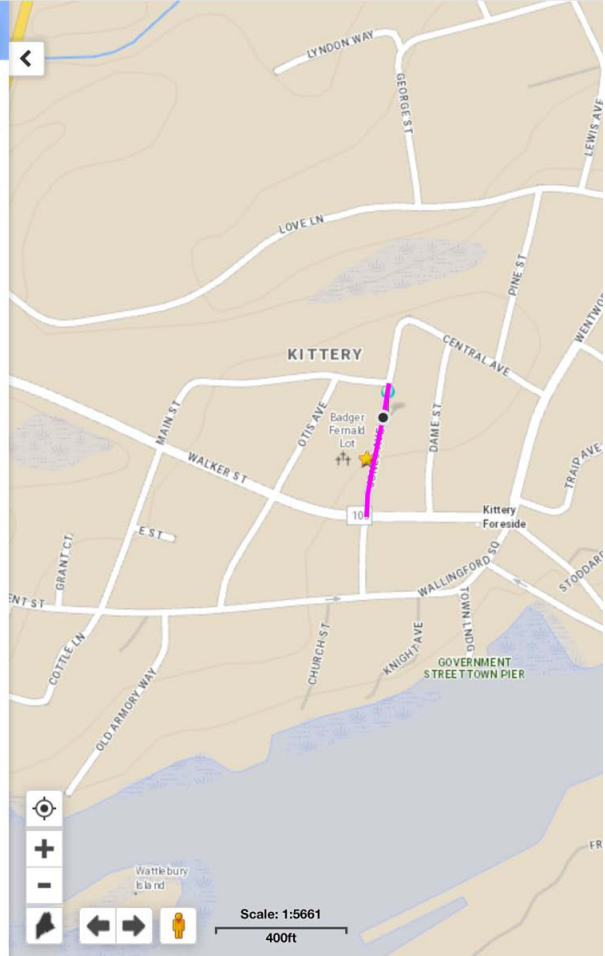
Search...

16 Jones Ave, Kittery  
 43.087081, -70.74440 (Unk ft.)

0 Features Found: [Hide Road Info](#)

**Road Information**

Route	Mile Point
3130044	0.11
Winter Crew	
Factored AADT	108
Link/Element ID	236775
Route Code	3130044
Primary Route Code	3130044
Begin Mile Point	0.05
End Mile Point	0.13
AAADT Type	E
Federal Urban/Rural	Urban
Street Name	JONES AV
Hourly Capacity	1000
NHS Status	Non-fed aid non-NHS
Jurisdiction	Townway
Number of Lanes	2
Official Miles	Y
PCR Value	
Plow Crew	
State Urban/Rural	Urban
Federal Func Class	Local
Segment ID	75984
Speed Limit	
Speed Limit Source	Unposted
Summer Crew	
Corridor Priority	5
Designation	IR-3130044



Sent from my iPad