



Office of Operations | District 02
1440 Highway 90 | Bridge City, LA 70094
P.O. Box 9180 | Bridge City, LA 70096-9180
Phone: 504-437-3100 | Fax: 504-437-3260

John Bel Edwards, Governor
Shawn D. Wilson, Ph.D., Secretary

September 26, 2022

Ms. Michelle Impastato
St. Charles Parish Council Secretary
P.O. Box 302
Hahnville, LA 70057



Re: St. Charles Parish Council Resolution No. 6551, Traffic Study for the construction of a Right Turn Acceleration Lane at the Intersection of Airline Highway (US 61) and Evangeline Road in Montz, St. Charles Parish.

Dear Ms. Impastato,

This letter is written in response to St. Charles Parish Council Resolution No. 6551 to perform an Engineering study to determine the feasibility of constructing a right turn acceleration lane at the intersection of US 61 (Airline Highway) and Evangeline Road in Montz, St. Charles Parish.

Please know that our office has reviewed crash records provided by the Louisiana State Police and St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2019. It was determined that there was no pattern of right turn crashes documented during this time period.

In addition, a field observation was performed on May 27, 2021 from 3:30 – 5:00 PM during the afternoon peak time. While there were no operational issues noted at this intersection, it was observed that the right edgeline striping on Evangeline Road was faded. Additionally, the Stop Sign at this location was leaning.

Our office also conducted a spot speed study along Airline Highway between Evangeline Road and LA 628 (CC Road). As you recall, the posted speed limit along this section of Airline Highway is 55 mph. The speed study revealed 85th percentile speeds of 63 mph in the northbound direction and 67 mph in the southbound direction. The 85th percentile speed is that speed at which 85 percent of free-flowing vehicles are travelling at or below. It is also a nationally recognized metric that is based on the theory that the large majority of drivers are reasonable and prudent, do not want to have a crash and desire to reach their destination in the shortest time possible. In light of the general speeding that was observed during our observation, a copy of this letter will be forwarded to Captain Donovan Archote, Louisiana State Police Troop B Commander, for his review and further handling.

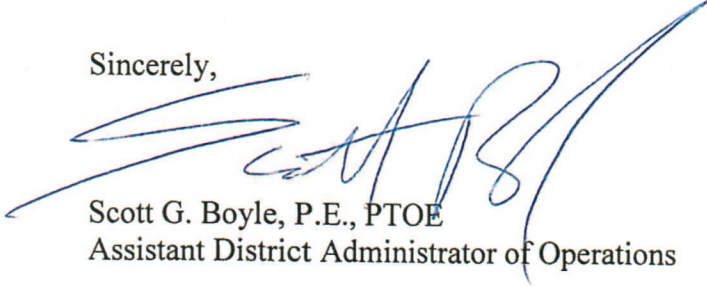
In light of the above, the request to install a right turn acceleration lane at Airline Highway and Evangeline Road is not recommended at this time. However, the intersection striping will be refurbished and the stop line striping will be relocated closer to Airline Highway in an effort to

Ms. Michelle Impastato
Re: St Charles Council Resolution No. 6551
9/16/2022

improve intersection sight distance as soon as scheduling permits. In addition, DOTD District forces will repair the leaning Stop Sign at the intersection.

Please call if you have any questions or need any additional information. We thank you for your interest in the safe operation of Louisiana's highways.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Boyle', is written over the typed name and title.

Scott G. Boyle, P.E., PTOE
Assistant District Administrator of Operations

cc: Senator Gary Smith
Donovan Archote
Joshua McNemar
Reading File

File/St. Charles/007-03/CSRN 4701