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March 21, 2012

Mr. Greg Hooper, President  
City Council  
City of Rochester Hills  
1000 Rochester Hills Drive  
Rochester Hills, MI 48309

Re: ***Senate Bill No. 52 – Speed Limits On Unpaved Roads***

Dear President Hooper:

At City Council's last meeting, Resident Melinda Hill urged the Mayor and City Council to support Senate Bill No. 52 (copy enclosed), introduced by State Senators Marleau, Kowall and Pappageorge. SB 52 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to reinstate local control over the setting of speed limits on certain unpaved roads, some of which experienced speed limit increases to as high as 55 mph as a result of changes to the Michigan Vehicle Code in 2006. Previous amendatory legislation sponsored by former State Senator Bishop in 2007 was vetoed by former Governor Granholm.

SB 52 would cause the 55 mph prima facie speed limit to apply only to those unpaved roads that do not have a posted speed limit. If the speed limit for an unpaved road was lawfully posted before the 2006 changes to the Michigan Vehicle Code, that prior, posted speed limit would be reinstated unless the municipality where the unpaved road is located asks its county road commission to increase the speed limit and the road commission concurs.

SB 52 was referred to the Senate Committee on Transportation where it has been under consideration for the last 14 months.

Per your direction, I have prepared for City Council's consideration a proposed resolution supporting the proposed legislation.

Very truly yours,

  
John D. Staran

JDS/ijd  
Enclosure

cc: Mayor Bryan K. Barnett