**Background:**

Design Speed is one of the Controlling Criteria for roadway design, and is defined as a selected speed used to determine various design elements of the roadway. Design speed is different from the other controlling criteria in that it is a design control, rather than a specific design element. The selected design speed establishes the range of values for many of the design elements of the roadway.

**Applicability:**

This Engineering Instruction applies to all design projects.

**Engineering Instruction:**

Design Speed for all projects will be the posted speed of the roadway. The posted speed will be determined based on the physical location of the speed limit signs and verified by checking the Speed Zone Report available on the MaineDOT Intranet and/or with the Region Traffic Engineer. If there are discrepancies, the correct design speed will be determined by the Region Traffic Engineer.

If there are no speed limit signs, the posted speed will be verified by checking the Speed Zone Report and with the Region Traffic Engineer.

**Responsibility:**

Program Managers