

Town road in the Town of Homer process to lower speed limit from 55mph to 45mph

For a **Town road in the Town of Homer, New York**, the process to reduce the **speed limit from 55 mph to 45 mph** is governed by **New York State Vehicle & Traffic Law (VTL) §1622**.

Towns **cannot simply pass a resolution and change the speed**—the change must be **approved by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT)** after an engineering review.

Below is the **typical process used by NY towns like Homer**.

Process to Lower Speed Limit

From 55 MPH to 45 MPH on a Town Road

1. Town Board Request

The **Town Board adopts a resolution** requesting a speed limit reduction.

The resolution should include:

- Road name and exact limits (ex: from Route 281 to McGraw Road)
- Current speed limit (55 mph)
- Requested speed limit (45 mph)
- Reason for request

Typical reasons include:

- Increased residential development
 - Limited sight distance
 - Pedestrian activity
 - Crash history
 - Road geometry or curves
-

2. Submit Request to NYSDOT

The Town sends the request to:

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2. Submit Request to NYSDOT

The Town sends the request to:

NYSDOT Region 3 Traffic & Safety Office
(Syracuse Region – covers Cortland County)

Submission typically includes:

- Cover letter from the **Town Supervisor**
- **Town Board resolution**
- Road location map
- Any crash or traffic concerns

NYSDOT then opens a **speed limit investigation**.

3. Engineering Study

NYSDOT conducts a **traffic engineering study**, which may include:

- Speed study (85th percentile speed)
- Traffic volume
- Accident history
- Road characteristics
- Driveway density
- Pedestrian activity

They evaluate whether the reduction is justified.

4. NYSDOT Decision

NYSDOT will issue either:

A. Approval

They authorize the Town to establish the new speed limit.

B. Denial

If speeds or conditions do not justify the reduction.

5. Town Board Adoption

If approved, the Town Board adopts a **final resolution establishing the speed limit** under **VTL §1622**.

6. Install Signs

The Town Highway Department installs:

"Speed Limit 45" signs

NY law requires **proper signage** for enforcement.

Important Notes

- The **Town cannot enforce a reduced speed until NYSDOT approves it.**
 - The **Town Highway Superintendent should be consulted** before submitting the request.
 - The process usually takes **3–6 months.**
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Example Resolution (Simplified)

Town of Homer Town Board Resolution

Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Homer requests the **New York State Department of Transportation conduct a speed limit investigation** for the purpose of reducing the speed limit from **55 mph to 45 mph** on **[Road Name]** between **[Point A]** and **[Point B]**, due to increasing residential development and safety concerns.

✓ If you want, I can also prepare:

- **A ready-to-use Town of Homer Board Resolution**
- **The NYSDOT request letter**
- **A one-page “Speed Limit Request Checklist” for Town Hall**

that you can use for future roads in Homer.

town of Homer res

Here is a **clean, ready-to-adopt Town of Homer resolution** to request lowering a speed limit from **55 MPH to 45 MPH:**

TOWN OF HOMER

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

Request for Speed Limit Reduction

Date: _____

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Homer is responsible for the safety and welfare of residents and the traveling public on Town highways; and

WHEREAS, the posted speed limit on [Road Name], between [Starting Point] and [Ending Point], is currently 55 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has received concerns regarding traffic speed and safety conditions on this roadway; and

WHEREAS, the roadway has experienced [increased residential development / limited sight distance / pedestrian activity / accident history / other safety concerns]; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board believes that a reduction in speed to 45 miles per hour would improve public safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Homer hereby formally requests that the New York State Department of Transportation conduct a traffic engineering and speed study for [Road Name], between [Starting Point] and [Ending Point], for the purpose of reducing the speed limit from 55 MPH to 45 MPH; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to submit this request, along with all supporting documentation, to NYSDOT Region 3 for review; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon approval by NYSDOT, the Town Board will take the necessary steps to formally establish the reduced speed limit and direct the Town Highway Department to install appropriate signage in accordance with New York State law.

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

Vote:

- Aye: _____
- Nay: _____
- Abstain: _____

CERTIFICATION

I, _____, Town Clerk of the Town of Homer, do hereby certify that the above resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on _____.

Town Clerk Signature: _____
