

February 2020 Law of the Month
TRAFFIC RULES AND VEHICLE OPERATION

Sec. 32-48. - Zoned and posted speed limits.

Fixed limits; limits on specific streets, roads, and highways. No person shall drive a vehicle within the village boundary at a speed in excess of 25 miles per hour unless different limits are indicated by official traffic signs. The speed limit on the following streets, roads, or highways, within the village, shall be as follows:

- (1) State Highway 92:
 - a. Twenty-five miles per hour from its intersection with Union Road (West Main Street) through Commercial Street;
 - b. Twenty-five miles per hour beginning at Church Street to the village eastern boundary;
 - c. The speed limit on all other portions of State Highway 92 within the corporate limits of the village (west of the intersection with Union Road) shall be 55 miles per hour.
- (2) State Highway 104 (South Rutland Avenue): 25 miles per hour.
- (3) County Highway MM (North Rutland Avenue): 25 miles per hour.
- (4) S First St. (South of St. Hwy. 92) to Legion Park: 15 miles per hour.
- (5) All Village Park roadways: 15 miles per hour.

(Ord. of 2-9-1998, § 32.03; Ord. of 7-13-2015(1), § 32.03; Ord. of 9-11-2017(1))

State Law reference— Speed restrictions, reasonable and prudent limit, Wis. Stats. § 346.57.

Brooklyn Police Department

January 2020 Law of the Month
Are drivers on highways required to make room for merging vehicles?

While merging from a ramp onto a multiple-lane highway, it certainly helps when drivers on the main freeway move over a lane so you can get into the flow of traffic more easily. But, are drivers on the main freeway required by law to change lanes and provide a clear path for merging vehicles?

“As a matter of courtesy and safety, we encourage drivers on multiple lane highways to change lanes if possible or adjust their speed so that merging vehicles can get into the traffic flow quickly. However, drivers merging from a ramp onto a highway should be

aware that vehicles on the main freeway are not legally required to move over for merging vehicles.”

Here are a few suggestions for merging onto highways smoothly:

- Enter the freeway from the ramp at or near the speed of freeway traffic.
- Use your turn signals.
- Do not stop while merging unless absolutely necessary.
- Don't try to squeeze into a gap in traffic that won't provide room to react.
- If you have to cross several lanes of traffic, cross them one at a time.

Merging onto a highway can be stressful when traffic is heavy and moving rapidly. Drivers trying to merge should pay strict attention to the traffic flow and be prepared to adjust their speed. But don't expect that the drivers on the main freeway will necessarily move over for a merging vehicle.

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