



# Permanent Radar Speed Sign

## DESCRIPTION:

Permanent radar speed signs, also called driver feedback signs, are post-mounted signs installed on the side of the road that use radar to sense an oncoming vehicle's speed and display that speed back to the approaching driver. They are usually installed with a regulatory speed limit sign on the same post. This is intended to give the driver an external visual indication of their speed, which if excessive, may remind them to slow down. The radar speed signs have no cameras and do not take any photos of offending drivers for enforcement purposes.

## APPLICATION:

On neighborhood local or collector streets where a problem of speeding traffic has been documented, radar speed signs may be installed to help reduce traffic speeds. A location must be selected where there is enough room within the City right-of-way to install the radar speed sign so that it is visible for enough distance to be effective.

City of Albuquerque standards are used for the construction of the concrete foundation and pole. The radar speed signs are available from a number of manufacturers. The signs can be hard-wired for electrical power where service is available, or they may include a photovoltaic panel for solar electric power. Some radar speed signs are available with the ability to record traffic-speed data for later download and analysis. Drivers may not understand the difference between the two units, and assume that the radar speed trailers may issue them an automated citation. This misunderstanding may lead to increased effectiveness of the radar speed trailers.



## Advantages

- The visual reminder of drivers' speeds has been shown to be effective in prompting some speeding drivers to slow down.
- Radar speed signs do not slow emergency vehicles.
- Radar speed signs alert violators without affecting normal traffic.
- Can be implemented with metered electric service or solar powered.

## Disadvantages

- Effectiveness may reduce over time as regular drivers become desensitized.
- Some drivers may ignore, knowing that the radar speed signs do not include automated enforcement.
- Some drivers may try to register a high speed.
- Units and solar panels are subject to vandalism and theft.

## Effectiveness Scorecard

	Speed	
	Volume	
	Cut-through	
	Crashes	
	Emergency Vehicle	
	Pedestrian	
	Bicycle	
	Noise	
	Cost	\$\$

Very Good Good Fair

Poor Not Applicable



## Quick Glance

