

Speed Feedback Trailers Overview Guidance  
For Use with the Mitigation Matrix  
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Speed feedback trailer signs are changeable message signs that are activated by radar and then display, to approaching drivers, the speed at which they are traveling. They are installed in conjunction with a Work Zone Speed Limit sign. These signs are sometimes referred to as "speed display signs", "driver feedback signs" or "your speed is" signs.

These devices are effective at reducing vehicle speeds by 5 to 10 mph. More notably, these devices reduce speed variance by reducing the percentage of drivers exceeding the speed limit by 20 to 40 percent.

Even though the speed feedback trailers reduce speeds and speed variance, the greatest speed reductions occur 1000 feet beyond the sign. At about ½ mile from the sign these reductions are less than half of the reductions experienced at 1000 feet. Therefore, to be most effective these signs should be within ½ to 1 mile of the activity or area where speed reductions are desired.

As with any traffic control device, overuse of these devices will diminish their effectiveness.