

Turnpike Residents Ask Ban On Speeders

Point Out Several Accidents Occur Daily On Completed Four-Strip Highway

Protection against speeders and reckless drivers was sought this week in an appeal to Governor Lehman by residents along the newly widened Western Turnpike from the Albany Country Club to McCormack's Corners.

In a letter signed by Joseph W. Hunting, Frank J. Coburn, and Jacob F. McChesney, the Governor was informed that the four-lane concrete strip has become a speedway on which there are four or five accidents a day.

Enclosed with the letter, copies of which also went to Motor Vehicle Commissioner Carroll E. Mealey and Police Superintendent John A. Warner, was a petition bearing 30 signatures of residents and property owners.

One accident victim, Willard Adams, who was struck as he stepped from his car, has been unconscious in the hospital 17 days, said the petitioners. There has been one fatality and numerous close escapes for school children, the state officials were told.

Asking full and strict enforcement of state laws governing operation of cars on the road, the petitioners suggested stop-and-go lights be installed at six intersections: Fuller Road, Schoolhouse Road, the Rollatorium crossing, State Farm Road, Altamont Road, and McCormack's Corners.

The lights, it was contended, would help to cut down speed of traffic.

Major Warner was asked especially to establish a safety car patrol in the zone to remind motorists constantly of the driving regulations.

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Speed Zones Patrolled On Western Turnpike

Speed zones were in force today on Western Turnpike, with a state police safety car patrolling the 6-mile stretch to McCormack's Corners. Daily, a highway of hundreds of Schenectady defense industry and Voorheesville regulating Depot workers.

Lieut. Harvey Keator, traffic supervisor of Troop G, said traffic would be limited to 35 miles per hour between Albany city line and Fick's Rollatorium. From the point to McCormack's Corners, he said 40 miles per hour would be permitted.

Trooper George Craig, assigned to patrol the turnpike, issued warnings to motorists and made a few arrests for violations, Lieut. Keator said.

Establishment of the speed limits was decided upon after a survey of traffic passing over the highway by the State Public Works Department and troopers.

Lieut. Keator said a state police substation eventually will be established along the stretch.

Roadside residents petitioned Governor Lehman for relief some time ago when motorists turned the newly constructed road into a veritable speedway and a number of serious accidents occurred.

Fick's Rollatorium was near the Johnston Road
intersection