

**North Morrow Loop and Highway 277  
(looking North)**



**South Morrow Loop and Highway 277  
(looking South)**



**Dangerous Intersections!** *There are several dangerous intersections north of Bronte on US Highway 277. However, they are not the only dangerous intersections in Coke County.*

**... Dangerous Highway**  
*(Continued from page 1)*  
highway ranged between just under 3,000 to over 3,600, with 5,166 vehicles going through the US Highway 277/State Highway 158 intersection in downtown Bronte on a daily basis. City officials and law enforcement agree that 2014's numbers will be considerably higher.

Accidents at the curve near Old Highway Road are most likely a combination of a higher speed limit and more traffic. In tests, a vehicle traveling south can make that curve with their cruise set on 75. Unfortunately with a speed limit of 75, many drivers have their cruise set a little (or a lot) higher than that. These drivers may cross the center line coming out of the curve and, because of the increased traffic, have a better chance of running into an oncoming vehicle.

The curve at the north edge of Bronte has more issues. Locals know they're coming into town. Drivers unfamiliar with this area may not. I have lived in Bronte most of my life and have lived north of Bronte for twenty years. Because I drive that stretch of road every day, I don't really see it. In preparation for this article, I drove it with "new eyes" – both during the day and then at night.

During the day, you can see the Bronte water tower from a couple of miles out of town. Unfortunately, you lose sight of it about a mile and half before you get to the city limits. The same thing happens with the lights from town at night. Because of the curve you are not looking at a town as you get closer.

Drivers have another clue .9 of a mile out with a sign giving the distance to Bronte and San Angelo. Most drivers who are traveling through, probably only notice the distance to San Angelo.

The next sign says "No Engine Brake" and is located one half mile from the city limits. If you're not a trucker, you probably don't pay attention to that one.

Finally, four tenths of a mile from the city limits, is a sign saying "Reduced Speed Ahead". It is followed by a "65 MPH"

sign two tenths of mile later – only two tenths of a mile from the city limit sign located next to a "50 MPH" sign. If you are traveling at 75 MPH, it takes less than 10 seconds to go 2/10 of a mile.

The Welcome to Bronte sign is located near the "Reduced Speed Ahead" sign and is a good indicator to daytime travelers that they are entering a community. However, the sign is set off the highway across the fence and is not readily visible at night.

The December accident was located between the Reduced Speed Ahead sign and the 65 MPH sign. Last weekend's accident was located within 50 yards of the city limit sign where the speed limit drops to 50 MPH. In this accident, the southbound driver's cruise locked in at 82 MPH when he struck the northbound vehicle.

Coke County Sheriff Wayne McCutchen would like to see the speed limit drop to at least 70 mph on US Highway 277 within the Coke County border and has increased traffic patrols on this highway.

Possible solutions to avoid accidents near the city limits could be as simple as more visible signage and lighting. Until changes are made, citizens are urged to be extremely cautious.

**Local leaders discuss, pass policy at annual meeting**

Texas Farm Bureau voting delegates passed policy regarding agricultural issues facing the Lone Star State and the nation during the organization's 81st annual meeting in Corpus Christi.

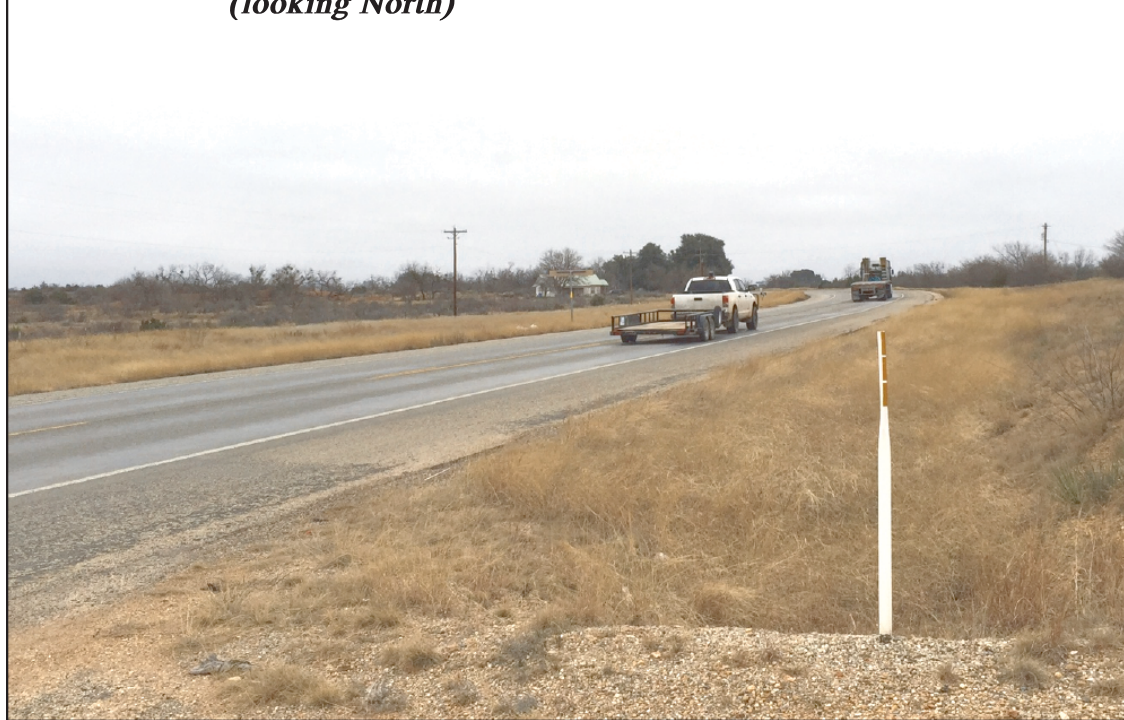
"Brackish water, private property rights and fertilizer storage regulations were the top

concerns during the policy session of the largest farm and ranch organization in the state," said John Ross Copeland, Coke  
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**Old Highway Road and Highway 277  
(looking North)**



**Coalson Road and Highway 277  
(looking North)**



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