



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Public Works  
**Department No.:** 054  
**For Agenda Of:** June 16, 2015  
**Placement:** Set Hearing  
**Estimated Time:** 20 Minutes on  
July 7, 2015  
Second Hearing  
July 21, 2015  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director: Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works, 568-3010  
Contact Info: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director, Transportation, 568-3064  
**SUBJECT:** Amending County Code to Prohibit Skateboarding on Certain Roads; All  
Supervisory Districts

---

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Set a hearing for July 7, 2015 to consider the introduction (first reading) of an Ordinance amending Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 9, Section 9-5.2 prohibiting the use of skateboards on certain County Streets; All Supervisorial District.
- B. Set a hearing for July 21, 2015 on the Administrative Agenda to consider recommendations, as follows:
  - i.) Consider the adoption (second reading) of an Ordinance, amending Santa Barbara County Codes, Chapter 9 Section 9-5.2 , prohibiting the use of skateboards on certain County Streets; All Supervisorial District; and
  - ii.) Find that the proposed action is for the operation and maintenance of existing public facilities, involving negligible, or no expansion of use beyond that which presently exists, that the proposed action is therefore exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to 14 CCR 15301.

**Summary Text:**

**Skateboarding Restriction on Certain Streets in the County**

The Board of Supervisors is being requested by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to address their concern regarding the use of skateboards on County streets with steep grades. In a letter to the County, CHP states that there has been an increase in incidents and reports of skateboarders using steep roadways to travel at excessive speeds without due regard for life and property. Recently two skateboarders struck a vehicle on Old San Marcos Road resulting in injury. Footage of this risky behavior on Santa Barbara County roads can be found online.

Section 21967 of the California Vehicle Codes permits local agencies to adopt rules and regulations by ordinance or resolution prohibiting or restricting persons from riding or propelling skateboards on highways, sidewalks, or roadways.

Public Works has studied the issue and determined that skateboarding on open roadways with steep grades is not an intend use of the roadway and can be hazardous to public health and the safety of its users. Public Works recommends the restriction of skateboards as defined in County Code section 9-5.1 on certain public streets in the unincorporated areas of the County.

**Background:**

The use of skateboards on steep grades at excessive speeds on open public streets is an inherently hazardous activity. Skateboards do not have brakes and motorists are not expecting skateboarders to be traveling down roadways at 30 mile per hour or more. Many skateboarders ride in a low or prone position making them difficult for motorist to see. Skateboarders will cut the curves in the roadway to maximize their speed causing them to travel on the left side of the roadway into oncoming traffic.

Public Works has studied the issue and the proposed skateboarding restrictions described in this Board Letter, and working with the CHP has determined the proposed skateboarding restrictions would be in the best interest of the safety of the communities and the traveling public on the following County streets:

- A. San Marcos Road (north of the bridge)
- B. Painted Cave Road
- C. Gibraltar Road

Two signs will be posted on each street at the limits of the restricted sections of streets notifying the public skateboarding is prohibited.

The proposed skateboarding restrictions would involve negligible or no expansion of use of existing facilities. Public Works recommends your Board's approval of the Ordinance to implement skateboarding restrictions on certain County streets, and find the approval of these restrictions exempt from CEQA, pursuant to 14 CCR 15301.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
Road Fund	\$1,200	\$1,200

**Narrative:**

Sign installation will require approximately \$1,200. Public Works anticipates installing all signs within 120 days of the Board's approval of the Ordinance. Ongoing maintenance and operations funding would be used to pay for this work and additional sign maintenance.

**Authored by:**

Gary Smart, Public Works – Transportation Engineering, 568-3308

**CC:**

PW Accounting  
PW Traffic