



**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: August 28, 2018
Placement: Administrative – Set
Hearing (August 28,
2018); Departmental
(September 18, 2018:
First Reading);
Administrative (October
2, 2018: Second
Reading)
Estimated Tme: 20 Minutes on
September 18, 2018
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director: Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Department, 568-3010
Contact Info: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director, Transportation, 568-3064
SUBJECT: **Amendment of Speed Limits Specified in County Code Sections 23-15.1, 23-15.4, 23-15.5 and 23-15.6; First, Second, Third & Fourth Supervisorial Districts**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

On August 28, 2018 set a hearing for September 18, 2018 to consider the introduction (First Reading) of an Ordinance amending speed limits on various roads, effective 30 days after adoption by the Board of Supervisors.

On September 18, 2018:

- a) Approve the introduction (First Reading) of an Ordinance amending Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 23, Sections 23-15.1, 23-15.4, 23-15.5 and 23-15.6, pertaining to speed limits on Rincon Hill Road and Shepard Mesa Road in the unincorporated Carpinteria area of the First Supervisorial District; Puente Drive, Vieja Drive and Walnut Lane in the unincorporated Goleta area of the Second Supervisorial District; Vereda Del Ciervo, Vereda Del Padre and Vereda Leyenda in the unincorporated Goleta area and Refugio Road in the Santa Ynez area of the Third Supervisorial District; and Hummel Drive in the Orcutt area of the Fourth Supervisorial District;
- b) Read the title of the Ordinance and waive further reading of the Ordinance in full; and

- c) Continue the item to the Administrative Agenda of October 2, 2018 to consider the adoption (Second Reading) of an Ordinance amending speed limits on various roads.
- d) On October 2, 2018:
- i) Adopt the attached Ordinance (Second Reading) amending Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 23, Sections 23-15.1, 23-15.4, 23-15.5 and 23-15.6, pertaining to speed limits on Rincon Hill Road and Shepard Mesa Road in the unincorporated Carpinteria area of the First Supervisorial District; Puente Drive, Vieja Drive and Walnut Lane in the unincorporated Goleta area of the Second Supervisorial District; Vereda Del Ciervo, Vereda Del Padre and Vereda Leyenda in the unincorporated Goleta area and Refugio Road in the Santa Ynez area of the Third Supervisorial District; and Hummel Drive in the Orcutt area of the Fourth Supervisorial District; and
 - ii) Determine that amending Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 23, Sections 23-15.1, 23-15.4, 23-15.5 and 23-15.6, pertaining to speed limits, is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to 14 CCR § 15378(b)(2), since the recommended actions are administrative activities of the County that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and is general policy and procedure making.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to update the speed limits on several roads within the County. In accordance with the California Vehicle Code (CVC), the Public Works Department reviewed and prepared, where necessary, Engineering and Traffic Surveys (E&TS) for Rincon Hill Road and Shepard Mesa Road in the unincorporated Carpinteria area; Puente Drive, Vieja Drive and Walnut Lane in the unincorporated Goleta area; Vereda Del Ciervo, Vereda Del Padre and Vereda Leyenda in the unincorporated Goleta area; Refugio Road in the Santa Ynez area; and Hummel Drive in the Orcutt area.

The Santa Barbara County Traffic Engineering Committee (TEC) reviewed the speed zones requiring an E&TS update at their meeting on May 23, 2018. Attachment C is the summary of that meeting and the following are the Committee's recommendations:

FIRST DISTRICT

- Remove the existing speed limit of 30 mph and allow for the application of the Basic Speed Law on Rincon Hill Road from the Ventura County Line to State Route 150.
- Remove the existing speed limit of 35 mph and allow for the application of the Basic Speed Law on Shepard Mesa Road, from State Route 192 to Shepard Mesa Lane.
- Remove the existing speed limit of 20 mph and allow for the application of the Basic Speed Law on Shepard Mesa Road, from Shepard Mesa Lane northwesterly to its intersection with Shepard Mesa Road.

SECOND DISTRICT

- Lower the speed limit from 40 mph to 35 mph on Puente Drive from Hollister Avenue to More Mesa Drive.
- Lower the speed limit from 40 mph to 35 mph on Puente Drive / Vieja Drive from More Mesa Drive to its southerly terminus.

- Raise the speed limit from 25 mph to 30 mph on Walnut Lane from Hollister Avenue to its southerly terminus.

THIRD DISTRICT

- Extend the existing 35 mph speed limit on Refugio Road 450' to the south establishing the speed limit of 35 mph on Refugio Road from a point 450' south of Redondo Court to Deer Trail Lane (south)
- Remove the existing speed limit of 35 mph and allow for the application of the Basic Speed Law on Vereda Del Ciervo, from Vereda Leyenda to its northerly terminus.
- Remove the existing speed limit of 30 mph and allow for the application of the Basic Speed Law on Vereda Del Padre, from Farren Road to Vereda Leyenda.
- Remove the existing speed limit of 30 mph and allow for the application of the Basic Speed Law on Vereda Leyenda, from Calle Real to its northerly terminus.

FOURTH DISTRICT

- Lower the speed limit from 40 mph to 35 mph on Hummel Drive from Union Valley Parkway to Mooncrest Lane.

Background:

The California Vehicle Code (CVC) requires that non-statutory speed limits on roadways be established based on the findings of an Engineering and Traffic Survey (E&TS), and shall include consideration of the prevailing (85th-percentile) speed, collision history, and conditions that are not readily apparent to the driver. Per CVC § 627, local authorities may also consider residential density, pedestrian safety and bicycle safety.

More specifically, the CVC also requires, under Section 21400(b), that speed limits be rounded to the nearest five miles per hour increment of the 85th percentile speed of free-flowing traffic. However, in cases in which the nearest 5 mph increment of the 85th-percentile speed would require a rounding up, then the speed limit may be rounded down to the nearest 5 mph increment below the 85th-percentile speed with no further reductions used.

California law prohibits the use of radar speed enforcement along such roadways where the speed limits have not been set in accordance with the findings of an E&TS within the last five to ten years, or where significant changes in the roadway or traffic conditions have occurred. (CVC § 40802.) Attached is a detailed summary of the E&TS and the TEC recommendations. Approval of the attached changes to the County Code will allow the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to use radar enforcement on these roads, which is preferred as the more efficient, effective, and safest method.

The TEC is a professional advisory committee to the County Board of Supervisors. The TEC was established to investigate and make recommendations to your Board regarding technical transportation issues involving regulations or control of traffic within the unincorporated areas of the County. The voting members of the TEC include a representative from the following agencies; Automobile Club of Southern California, CHP Goleta, CHP Buellton, CHP Santa Maria, Caltrans, Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition, Santa Barbara Education Office, Santa Barbara Sheriff, County Public Works, South Coast Transit Advisory Committee, Vandenberg Air Force Base, and local Public Transit Operator.

Where the TEC recommendations include removing the existing speed limit or leaving a roadway un-posted, then the application of the Basic Speed Law shall prevail.

The Basic Speed Law states: “No person shall drive a vehicle upon a highway at a speed greater than is reasonable or prudent having due regard for weather, visibility, the traffic on, and the surface and width of, the highway, and in no event at a speed which endangers the safety of persons or property. (CVC Sec. 22350.)

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	Total One-Time Project Cost
Road Fund	\$4,500
Total	\$4,500

Narrative:

Approximately \$4,500 will be required for sign installation and pavement marking. These funds are available in Department 054, Program 2340, Org 0200, Account 7121.

Special Instructions:

Original documents to be filed with the Clerk of the Board.

Please provide a certified stamped Minute Order and a copy of the executed document to:

1. Bert Johnson, Public Works Department, Transportation Traffic Section, ext. 8787
2. Gail Ocheltree, Public Works Department, Transportation Engineering Section, ext. 3094

Attachments:

Attachment A: Vicinity Maps (10)

Attachment B: Ordinance

Attachment C: Summary of Engineering and Traffic Survey and Traffic Engineering Committee Recommendations 5-23-2018

Authored by:

Bert Johnson, Traffic Engineer, Public Works Department, ext. 8787

cc:

PW Accounting
PW Traffic