



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

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

Agenda Number:

Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: July 12, 2016
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: 20 Minutes
August 23, 2016
Second Reading
August 30, 2016
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: Speed Limits on Various Roads; First, Second & 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 set a hearing for August 23, 2016 (20 minutes) to:

- a) Approve the introduction (first reading) of an Ordinance amending Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 23, Sections 23-15.4 and 23-15.5, pertaining to speed limits on Picacho Lane in the Montecito area and Las Canoas Road in the Mission Canyon area of the First Supervisorial District; Cieneguitas Road and Veronica Springs Road in the unincorporated Santa Barbara area and San Antonio Creek Road, San Marcos Road and Via Los Santos in the unincorporated Goleta area of the Second Supervisorial District; and Stillwell Road in the Orcutt area of the Fourth Supervisorial District;
- b) Read the title of the Ordinance and waive reading of the Ordinance in full; and
- c) Set a hearing on the Administrative Agenda of August 30, 2016 to consider recommendations, as follows:
 - i) Consider and approve the adoption (second reading) of an Ordinance amending Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 23, Sections 23-15.4 and 23-15.5, pertaining to speed limits on Picacho Lane in the Montecito area and Las Canoas Road in the Mission Canyon area of the First Supervisorial District; Cieneguitas Road and Veronica Springs Road in the unincorporated Santa Barbara area and San Antonio Creek Road, San Marcos Road and Via Los Santos in the unincorporated Goleta area of the Second Supervisorial District; and Stillwell Road in the Orcutt area of the Fourth Supervisorial District;
 - 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 pursuant to 14 CCR 15301; and

iii) Approve and direct staff to file the attached Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order 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 Picacho Lane in the Montecito area; Las Canoas Road in the Mission Canyon area; Cieneguitas Road and Veronica Springs Road in the unincorporated Santa Barbara area; San Antonio Creek Road, San Marcos Road and Via Los Santos in the unincorporated Goleta area; and Stillwell Road in the Orcutt area.

The County's Traffic Engineering Committee (TEC) reviewed the speed zones requiring an E&TS update at their meeting on March 13, 2016. Attachment C is the summary of the meeting and the following are the recommendations of the Committee:

FIRST DISTRICT

- Remove the existing speed limit of 30 mph and allow for the application of the Basic Speed Law on Picacho Lane from East Valley Road (State Route 192) to Mountain Drive.
- Remove the existing speed limit of 30 mph and allow for the application of the Basic Speed Law on Las Canoas Road, from Mission Canyon Road to the Santa Barbara City Limits.

SECOND DISTRICT

- Remove the existing speed limit of 35 mph and allow for the application of the Basic Speed Law on Cieneguitas Road, between Foothill Road (State route 192) and its northerly terminus.
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 35 mph on Veronica Springs Road (those portions only within the unincorporated area of the County) between Modoc Road and just north-west of Las Positas Road (State Route 225).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 40 mph on San Antonio Creek Road from Via Los Santos to State Route 154.
- Raise the speed limit from 30 mph to 35 mph on San Marcos Road from Calle Real to Cathedral Oaks Road.
- Raise the speed limit from 25 mph to 35 mph on San Marcos Road from Cathedral Oaks Road to 2950' north of Cathedral Oaks Road.
- Raise the speed limit from 25 mph to 35 mph on Via Los Santos from San Marcos Road to San Antonio Creek Road.

FOURTH DISTRICT

- Establish a speed limit of 35 mph on Stillwell Road from Clark Avenue to Black Oak Drive.

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 seven to ten years, or where significant changes in the roadway or traffic conditions have occurred. A detailed summary of the E&TS and the Traffic Engineering Committee (TEC) recommendations is attached for your information. Your Board's approval of the attached changes to the County Code would allow the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to use radar enforcement, which is preferred as the more efficient, effective, and safest method.

The Santa Barbara County Traffic Engineering Committee (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 Sheriff, County Public Works, South Coast Transit Advisory Committee, Vandenberg Air Force Base, local School District, 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
State Gas Tax	\$3,000
Total	\$3,000

Narrative:

Approximately \$3,000 will be required for sign installation and pavement marking. These funds are available in Department 054, Program 2340, Org 0200, Account 7121.

Special Instructions:

Please provide a copy of the executed documents and certified stamped Minute Order to Bert Johnson, Public Works Department, Engineering Section, ext. 8787

Attachments:

Attachment A: Vicinity Maps (8)

Attachment B: Ordinance

Attachment C: Summary of Engineering and Traffic Survey and Traffic Engineering Committee
Recommendations 3-13-2016

Attachment D: Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

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

CC:

PW Accounting

PW Traffic