



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: September 2, 2014
Placement: Set Hearing
Estimated Tme: 15 Minutes
September 16, 2014;
Second Reading
October 7, 2014
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; Second, Third, Fourth & Fifth Supervisorial 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 September 16, 2014, to consider the introduction (first reading) of an Ordinance amending Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 23, Sections 23-15.4, 23-15.5, 23-15.6, 23-15.7 and 23-15.8, pertaining to speed limits on Las Palmas Drive and Roble Drive in the Hope Ranch area, and Hope Avenue in the Santa Barbara area of the Second Supervisorial District; Santa Barbara Avenue in the Los Olivos area of the Third Supervisorial District; Union Valley Parkway, Orcutt Road, Foster Road, Patterson Road, and Blosser Road in the Orcutt Area of the Fourth Supervisorial District; and Foxen Canyon Road in the Sisquoc area of the Fifth Supervisorial District. (15 minutes);
- B. Set a hearing for October 7, 2014 on the Administrative Agenda to consider recommendations, as follows:
 - i.) Consider the adoption (second reading) of an Ordinance, amending Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 23 Sections 23-15.4, 23-15.5, 23-15.6, 23-15.7 and 23-15.8, pertaining to speed limits on the subject roads described herein, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts;
 - ii.) Read the title of the Ordinance and waive the reading of the Ordinance in full;
 - iii.) 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; and
 - iv.) Approve the filing of a Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

In accordance with the California Vehicle Code (CVC), the Public Works Department prepared Engineering and Traffic Surveys (E&TS) for Las Palmas Drive and Roble Drive in the Hope Ranch area; Hope Avenue in the Santa Barbara area; Santa Barbara Avenue in the Los Olivos area; Foxen Canyon Road in the Sisquoc area; and Union Valley Parkway, Orcutt Road, Blosser Road, Foster Road and Patterson Road in the Orcutt area.

The current E&TS on Orcutt Road between Goodwin Road/State Route 135 and Lakeview Road in the Orcutt area was reevaluated by staff because most of it (*Winter Road to 100 feet north of Lakeview Road*) is now a privately maintained road leaving a 500 feet segment north of Winter Road and a 100 feet segment north of Lakeview Road. These two short segments of Orcutt Road are not long enough to perform an E&TS upon which to establish a speed limit; staff recommends the following:

- Remove the existing speed limit of 35 mph from the County Code and allow the application of the basic speed law on the County maintained portions of Orcutt Road, from Goodwin Road/State Route 135 to Lakeview Road (Fourth District).

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)

The Traffic Engineering Committee (TEC) reviewed the speed zones requiring an E&TS at their meeting on June 3, 2014; the following are their recommendations:

- Maintain the existing speed limit of 40 mph on Las Palmas Drive, from Via Senda to Paloma Drive (Second District).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 35 mph on Las Palmas Drive, from Paloma Drive to Via Bendita (Second District).
- Lower the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph on Las Palmas Drive, from Via Bendita to Las Olas Drive (Second District).
- Lower the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph on Roble Drive, from Las Olas Drive to Marina Drive (Second District).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 30 mph on Hope Avenue, from Pueblo Avenue to Sterrett Avenue (Second District).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 45 mph on Santa Barbara Avenue, from Alamo Pintado Road to Alamo Pintado Avenue (Third District).
- Establish a speed limit of 50 mph on the new portion and maintain the existing speed limit of 50 mph on Union Valley Parkway from State Route 135 to Bradley Road (Fourth District).
- Raise the speed limit from 45 mph to 50 mph and establish a speed limit of 50 mph on the new portion of Union Valley Parkway from Bradley Road to U.S. 101 northbound ramps (Fourth District).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 30 mph on Orcutt Road, from Waller Lane to Goodwin Road (Fourth District).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 45 mph on Orcutt Road, from Lakeview Road to Foster Road (Fourth District).
- Raise the speed limit from 40 mph to 45 mph on the widened portion and maintain the existing speed limit of 45 mph on Orcutt Road, from Foster Road to Clark Avenue (Fourth District).

- Maintain the existing speed limit of 40 mph on Orcutt Road, from Clark Avenue to Rice Ranch Road (Fourth District).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 40 mph on Foster Road, from Orcutt Road to Bradley Road (Fourth District).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 35 mph on Patterson Road, from Orcutt Road to Bradley Road (Fourth District).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 45 mph on Blosser Road, from Clark Avenue to the Santa Maria city limits (Fourth District).
- Maintain the existing speed limit of 40 mph on Foxen Canyon Road, from 1320' north of Depot Avenue to 100' east of Brooks Street (Fifth District).

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 California Assembly Bill 2767 (AB2767), 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 of the 85th percentile speed of the free-flowing traffic. However, in cases in which the speed limit needs to be rounded up, it may instead be rounded down, but shall not be reduced any further for any reason.

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.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	Total One-Time Project Cost
State Gas Tax	\$2,100
Total	\$2,100

Narrative:

Approximately \$2,100 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

1. Vicinity Maps (9 count)
2. Ordinance
3. Summary of Engineering and Traffic Survey

4. Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

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

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