



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: July 7, 2015
Placement: Departmental
Second Hearing:
July 21, 2015
Estimated Time: 20 Minutes
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. Consider the introduction (first reading) of an Ordinance amending Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 9, Section 9-5.2 (Attachment A) prohibiting the use of skateboards on certain County Streets; All Supervisorial District.
- B. Read the title of the Ordinance and waive reading of the Ordinance in full; and
- C. Continue the hearing to July 21, 2015(Administrative Agenda):
 - a) Consider and approve 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;
 - b) 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
 - c) Approve and direct staff to file the attached Notice of Exemption on that basis.

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 the attached letter, the 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; another incident occurred just a few weeks ago when a skateboarder struck a vehicle head-on while traveling down Gibraltar near East Camino Cielo. 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. Similar ordinances have been adopted by various local agencies across Southern California.

Public Works has studied the issue and determined that skateboarding on open roadways with steep grades is not an intended 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 9-5.2 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 miles 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 wrong side of the roadway into oncoming traffic.

Public Works recommends that 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 [600 feet north of Via Parva (north of bridge) to State Route 154]
- B) Painted Cave Road
- C) Gibraltar Road [unincorporated portion]

Two signs will be posted on each street at the limits of the restricted sections of each 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 attached 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:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
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 attached Ordinance. Ongoing maintenance and operations funding would be used to pay for this work and additional sign maintenance.

Special Instructions:

Please provide two certified stamped minute orders and copies of the executed Ordinance - one copy to Gena Valentine Felix, Public Works Transportation Administration, ext. 3064; and one copy to Gary Smart, Public Works Transportation Engineering Section, 123 E. Anapamu Street x 3308

Attachments:

- A. Ordinance (1)
- B. Vicinity Map (1)
- C. Letter from CHP requesting County to implement restrictions, dated November 20, 2014
- D. Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

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

cc:

PW Accounting
PW Traffic