



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
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director: Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010
Contact Info: Chris Sneddon, Deputy Director, Transportation, 568-3064
SUBJECT: Adoption of Design Criteria for Low Volume Roads, All Supervisorial Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence

Risk Management: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works to adopt and incorporate Design Criteria for Low Volume Roads in the County of Santa Barbara, Department of Public Works, Transportation Division, Engineering Design Standards; and
- b) Determine the proposed action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 14 CCR 15378 (b)(2) (Organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to adopt and incorporate design standards for low volume roads. Public Works is charged with using sound civil engineering standards and practices in the design of public construction projects, and monitoring their use in the case of private construction projects. Your Board last adopted updated the Engineering Design Standards on September 20, 2011. The attached Design Criteria for Low Volume Roads will allow for design and construction of facilities commensurate with site characteristics surrounding projects, and facilitate building more resilient infrastructure.

Background:

Many design standards that dictate geometrics and materials for new and replacement infrastructure do not fully consider the context of the project site. For instance, most bridges are currently designed to accommodate the 100-year flood. However, some bridges may be surrounded by topography that makes the road impassible under a much smaller flood. Similarly, other bridges in areas subject to debris flows

or high flows may benefit from flows going over the top of the bridge, so that the bridge can be cleared off and reopened quickly. Other roads have tight curves, slopes, or other roadway geometry features that limit speeds. In these locations, building a small section of road to accommodate higher speeds at great expense provides little, if any, benefit. Adopting and incorporating these low volume design standards will allow the County to build infrastructure matching the surrounding area and roadway geometry better, leading to more cost-effective, context-sensitive projects.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: N/A

Special Instructions:

Please forward a certified, stamped Minute Order approving this item to Public Works, Transportation Engineering, 123 E. Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, Attention: Gail Ocheltree, ext. 3094.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Design Criteria for Low Volume Roads

Authored by:

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