

Amendment to County of San Mateo Ordinance Code to Include 15 and 20 Miles Per Hour Speed Limits



Department of Public Works

**Board of Supervisors Meeting
May 7, 2024**

Existing Codes

- San Mateo County Ordinance Code - Section 7.04.010 Prima Facie Speed Limits include vehicle speed limits of 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55 or 60 miles per hour (mph)
- California Vehicle Code (CVC) governs how speed limits are established. Section 22358.4 allows local jurisdictions to determine and declare a prima facie speed limit of 15 and 20 mph, whichever is justified as the appropriate speed limit based on an Engineering and Traffic Survey (E&TS)

School Speed Zones Criteria

CVC allows speed limits near schools:

- 15 mph school zones contiguous to school within 500 feet of school boundary; and
- 25 mph school zones between 500 feet and 1,000 feet from a school boundary

When these criteria are met:

- No more than two through traffic lanes
- A posted speed limit of 30 mph or lower
- Within a residence district (per CVC)
- Contiguous to a school

School Speed Zones Criteria

- Reduced speed limits are in effect only when children are present
- Pursuant to the CVC sections cited, implementation of new speed limits requires a combination of an E&TS, adoption of an ordinance or resolution by this Board, and installation of appropriate signage

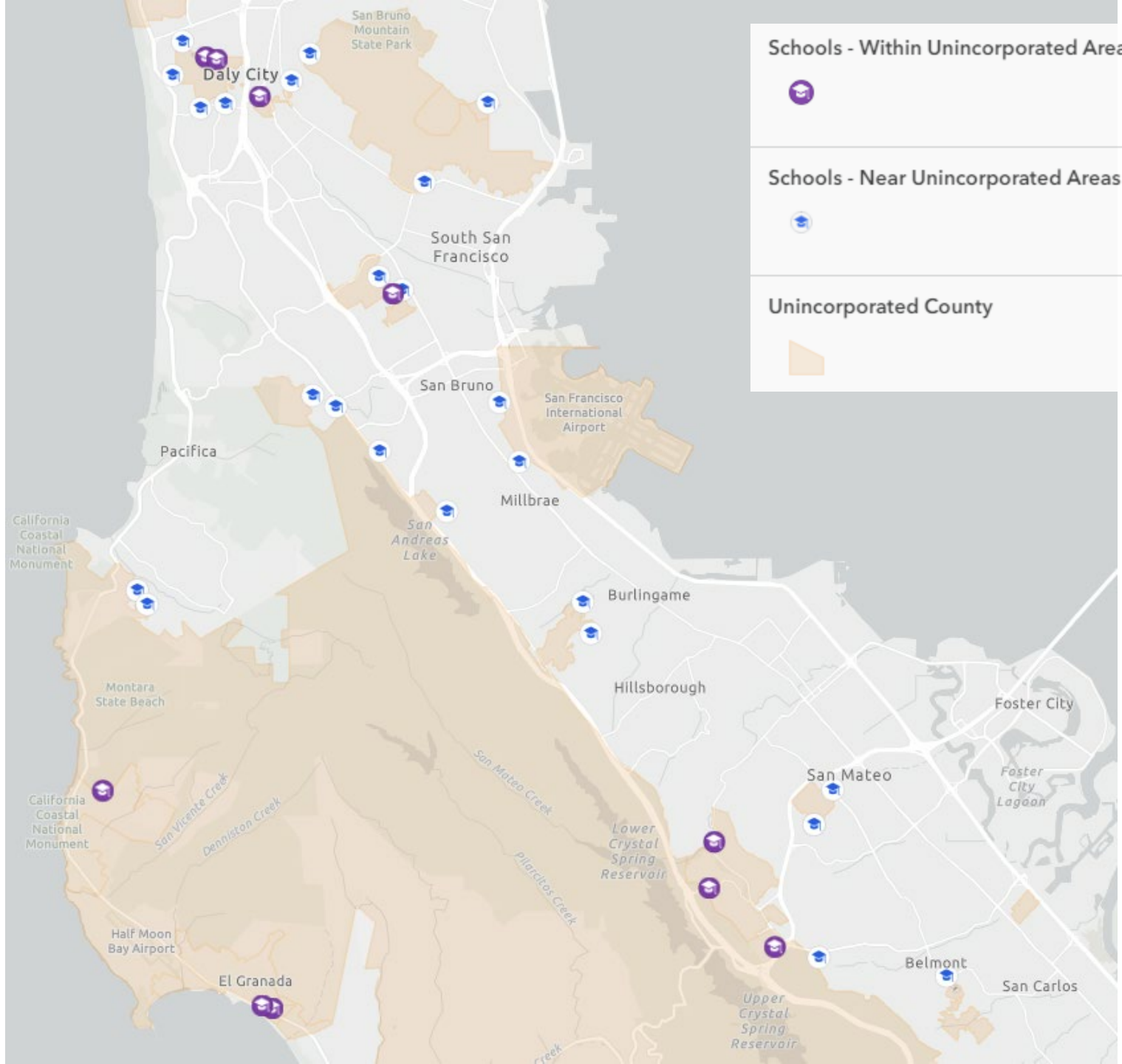


Consultant School Zone Study

If the Ordinance is amended, the Department of Public Works will utilize a consultant to conduct a School Zone Study in the unincorporated areas of the County.

- Anticipate 9-12 months to complete
- Assess schools in 23 school districts and 1 community college district in San Mateo County
- Develop a plan to identify qualified school zones and assess efforts needed by County to coordinate with neighboring agencies, schools, and school districts
- Determine criteria for prioritizing implementation of proposed changes
- Deliver a final Study Report





Schools - Within Unincorporated Areas

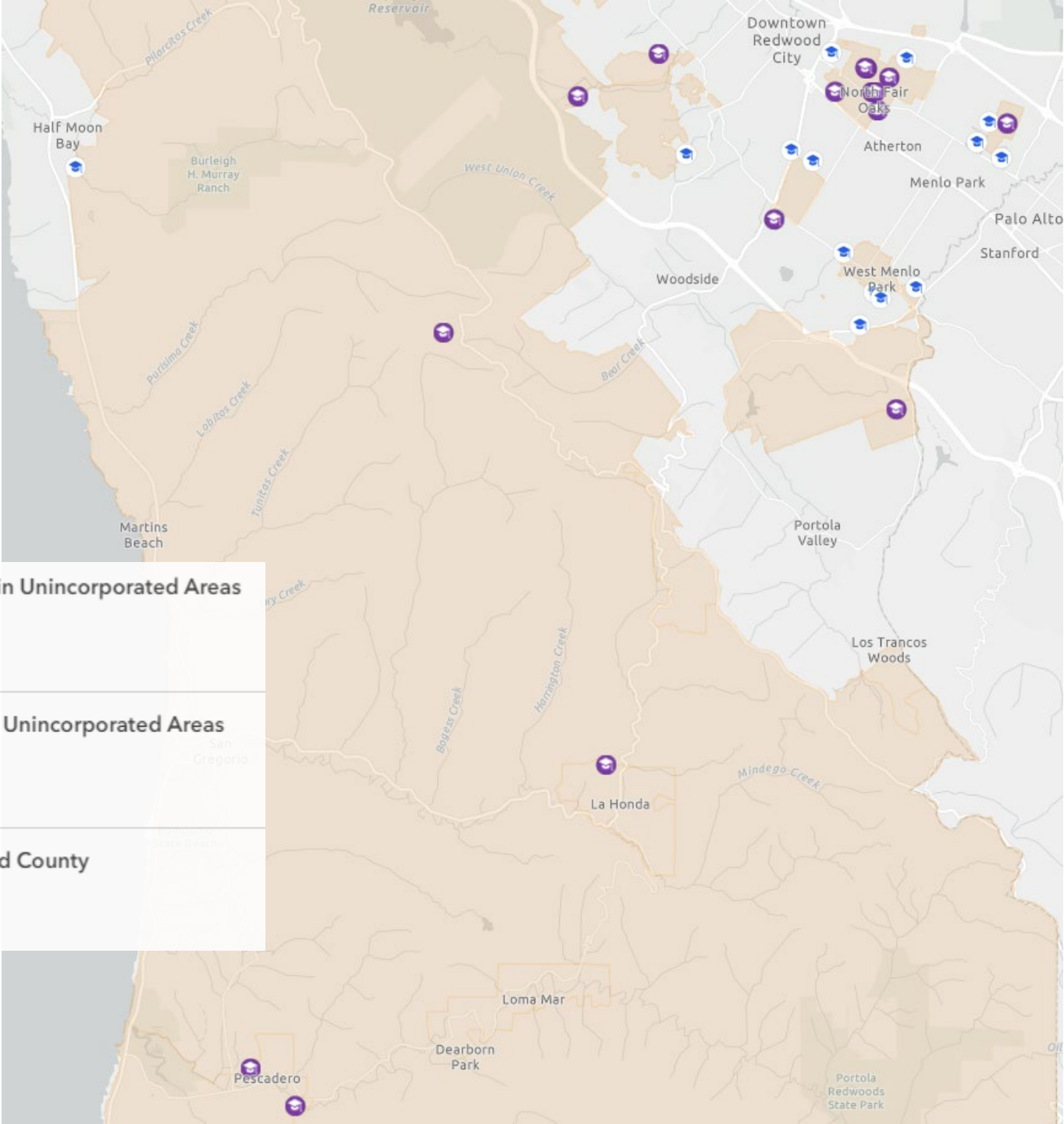


Schools - Near Unincorporated Areas



Unincorporated County





Schools - Within Unincorporated Areas



Schools - Near Unincorporated Areas



Unincorporated County



Ordinance Amendment

- Amend Section 7.04.010 Prima Facie Speed Limits to include vehicle speed limits of **15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55** or 60 miles per hour (mph)
- Future implementation of any 15 or 20 mph speed limits on County maintained roads would require additional action by the Board



Thank You!

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

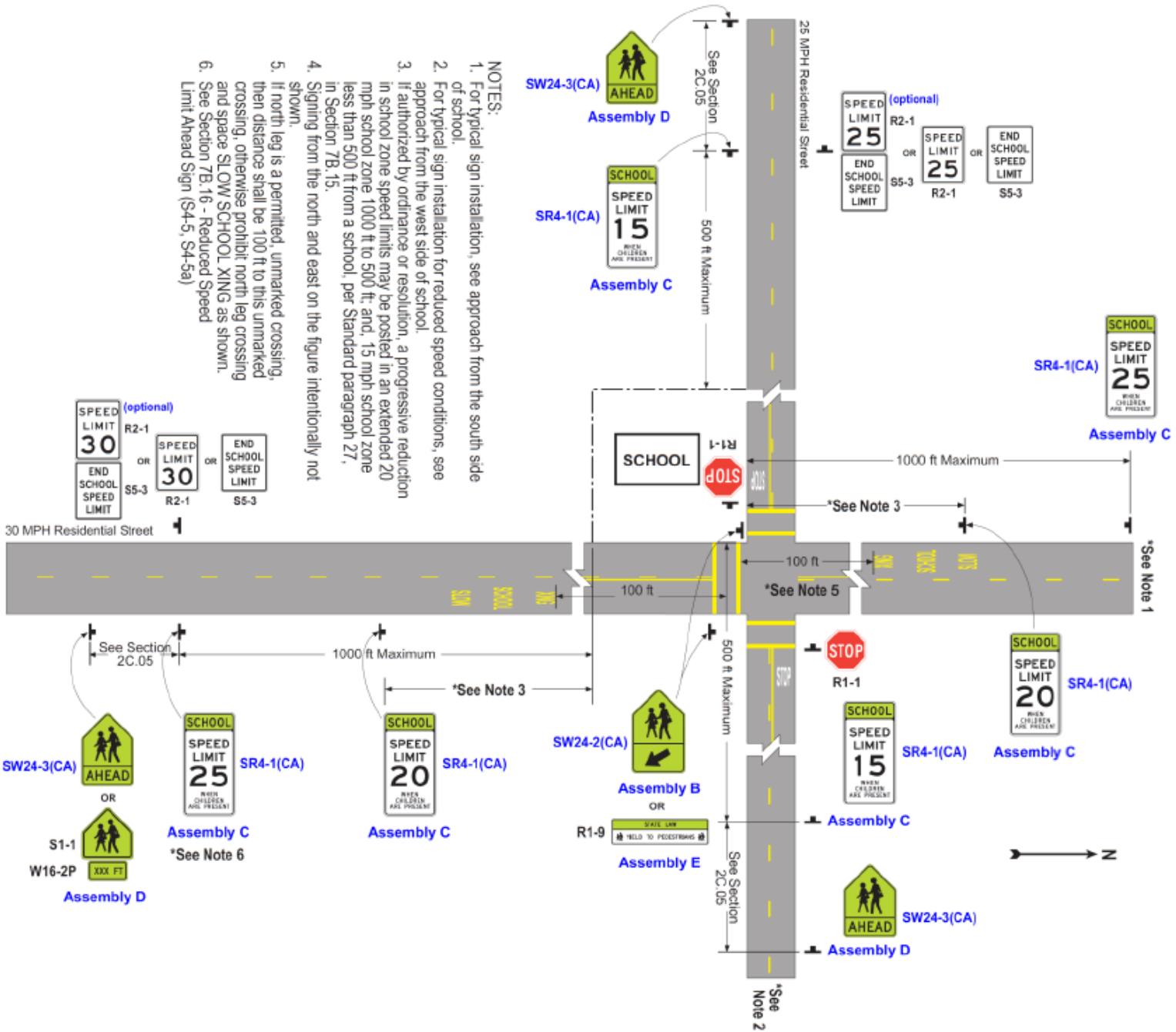


Questions?

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO



Figure 7B-103(CA). Example of Signing for School Area Traffic Control with Extended and/or Reduced School Zone Speed Limits



- NOTES:**
1. For typical sign installation, see approach from the south side of school.
 2. For typical sign installation for reduced speed conditions, see approach from the west side of school.
 3. If authorized by ordinance or resolution, a progressive reduction in school zone speed limits may be posted in an extended 20 mph school zone, 1000 ft to 500 ft, and, 15 mph school zone, less than 500 ft from a school, per Standard paragraph 27, in Section 7B, 15.
 4. Signing from the north and east on the figure intentionally not shown.
 5. If north leg is a permitted, unmarked crossing, then distance shall be 100 ft to this unmarked crossing, otherwise prohibit north leg crossing and space SLOW SCHOOL XING as shown.
 6. See Section 7B, 16 - Reduced Speed Limit Ahead Sign (S4-5, S4-5a)

