



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Public Works



Date: December 20, 2016
Board Meeting Date: January 10, 2017
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: James C. Porter, Director of Public Works

Subject: Introduction of Section 7.88.20 "Yield Here to Pedestrians" to the San Mateo County Ordinance Code

RECOMMENDATION:

Introduction of an ordinance establishing Section 7.88.20 "Yield Here to Pedestrians" signs and legends, authorizing the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to establish and maintain "Yield Here to Pedestrians" signs and legends, on County-maintained roads, as needed, and waive of the reading of the ordinance in its entirety.

BACKGROUND:

Section 21949, of the California Vehicle Code, declares that it is the policy of the State of California that safe and convenient pedestrian travel and access, whether by foot, wheelchair, walker, or stroller, be provided to the residents of the state; and that it is the intent of the Legislature that all levels of government in the state work to provide convenient and safe passage for pedestrians on and across all streets and highways, increase levels of walking and pedestrian travel, and reduce pedestrian fatalities and injuries.

Section 2B.11 of the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD) requires "Yield Here to Pedestrians" signs must be used in conjunction with yield lines on uncontrolled multi-lane crosswalks and parking should be prohibited in the area between the yield line and the crosswalk.

DISCUSSION:

The County of San Mateo has numerous marked and unmarked pedestrian crosswalks. Yield signs and markings established at a distance of 20 to 50 feet in advance of crosswalks can, under certain circumstances, improve pedestrian safety, by giving motorists better sight distance to identify pedestrians in crosswalks. See Exhibit A for an example of typical yield signs and markings at uncontrolled crosswalks. The proposed

ordinance will allow the Director of Public Works to evaluate crosswalks and install yield signs and markings as needed.

The Department intends to evaluate select existing crosswalk locations based on volume and speed of traffic to determine if “Yield Here to Pedestrians” signs and markings will improve pedestrian safety. Property owners in the immediate vicinity of restricted parking proposals will be notified of any associated parking restrictions warranted as a result of such signage. If authorized by your Board, the Department will establish these restrictions for no parking via a parking resolution.

The locations of “Yield Here to Pedestrians” and traffic restrictions on County-maintained streets are currently shown on maps in the Department of Public Works, and will be made available on the Department’s traffic signs website. The map will be updated to reflect the recommended changes if your Board approves the proposed ordinance.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the ordinance as to form.

Approval of these actions contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Livable Community by allowing residents, business owners, and schools to help shape the neighborhood traffic controls in a way that best fits their collective needs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

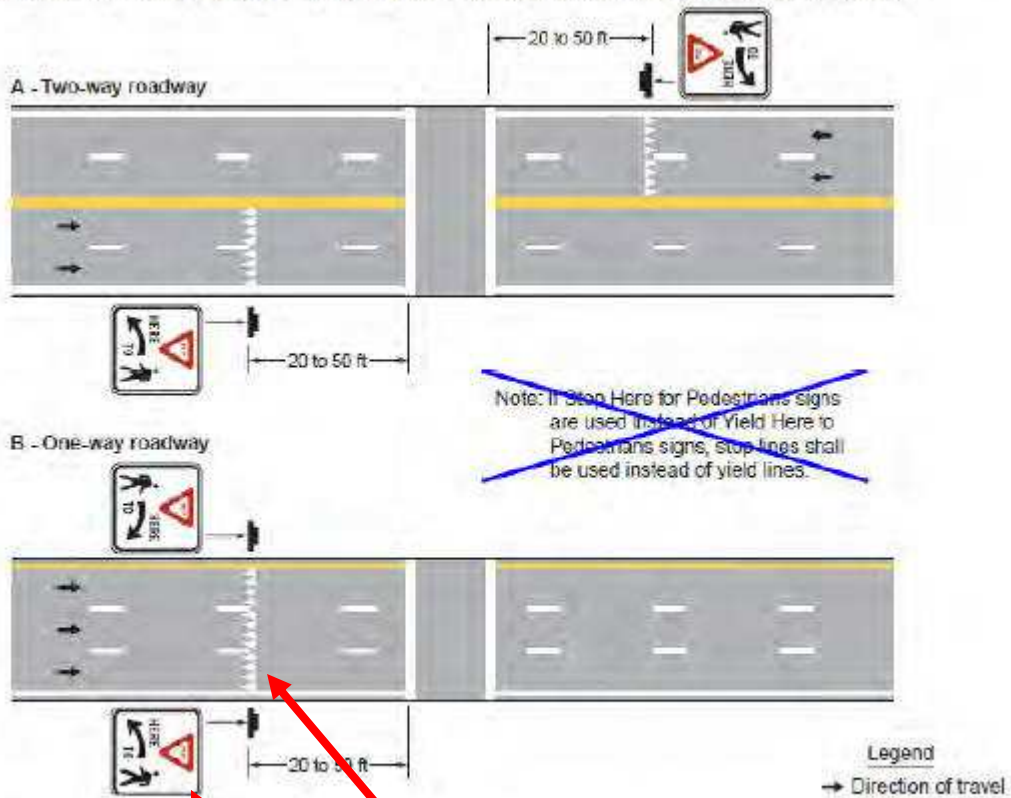
The cost for staff time involved in evaluating and processing requests for traffic regulations is part of the administrative cost associated with evaluating traffic-related requests involving the County-maintained road system; and is financed with Road Funds. The cost of installing signs and painting parking zone markings varies, but averages to approximately \$3,000 per location. The cost of these signs and markings will be financed with Road Funds. Overall, we anticipate nominal programmatic savings to the Road Fund through the establishment of a more streamlined process.

There will be no impact to the General Fund.

Attachment A: Examples of Yield Lines at Unsignalized Midblock Crosswalks

Attachment A

Figure 3B-17. Examples of Yield Lines at Unsignalized Midblock Crosswalks



Yield Here to Pedestrian Signs

Yield Here to Pedestrian Legend