



County of San Mateo

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: PUBLIC WORKS

File #: 16-695

Board Meeting Date: 10/31/2017

Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: James C. Porter, Director of Public Works
Subject: Amend Ordinance to Establish a Speed Limit of 25 Miles per Hour on Sections of Santa Cruz Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas in Menlo Park

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 7.04 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code to establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour on sections of Santa Cruz Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas in Menlo Park, previously introduced on October 17, 2017, and waive the reading of the ordinance in its entirety.

BACKGROUND:

Your Board has adopted similar Ordinances designating Prima Facie speeds limits in the County.

Section 22352 of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) provides that a Prima Facie speed of 25 miles per hour exists when passing a senior center or other facility primarily used by senior citizens, contiguous to a street other than a state highway and posted with a standard "Senior" warning sign.

DISCUSSION:

The Menlo Commons is a senior residential housing complex located on Santa Cruz Avenue, midblock between Alameda de las Pulgas and Sand Hill Road. Traffic data along this segment of road indicates vehicle speeds that exceed the proposed 25 miles per hour speed limit and do not fully support accessibility and mobility for seniors and the orderly movement of traffic. A separate study is being conducted to evaluate pedestrian and bicycle mobility along this corridor. The Department believes that reducing vehicle speeds from 35 to 25 miles per hour through this section of road can positively improve bicyclist and pedestrian mobility and traffic conditions.

The Department recommends amending Chapter 7.04.025 of the San Mateo County Ordinance regarding locations with a speed limit of 25 miles per hour, to include the following locations:

1. "Along Santa Cruz Avenue between Alameda de las Pulgas and Sand Hill Road"; and

2. "Along Alameda de las Pulgas between Harkins Avenue and Santa Cruz Avenue".

Your Board approved the recommended changes to Chapter 7.04, including the inclusion of the two locations listed above at the October 17, 2017 Board meeting.

Property owners within 300 feet of the proposed speed limit reduction locations have been notified of the date and time of your Board's meeting when these items will be considered. The California Highway Patrol has reviewed and concurs with the Department's recommendations.

The amended Ordinance has been approved as to form by County Counsel.

Approval of this Ordinance contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Livable Community by allowing the County to provide for the orderly movement of traffic on public right-of-ways.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The estimated cost of changing speed limit signs is \$500 per location. Funding for the installation of traffic signage is included in the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Adopted Budget.

There is no impact to the General Fund.