



Legislation Text

File #: 21-0808, Version: 1

Recommendation to request City Attorney to prepare an ordinance amending Long Beach Municipal Code Sections 10.12.010 to 10.12.030, relating to Speed Limits on City Streets, on the street segments listed in Attachment A. (Citywide)

On July 14, 2020, City Council adopted the Safe Streets Long Beach plan (Plan), which aims to reduce fatal and serious injury collisions to zero by 2026. The Plan identifies driving “too fast for conditions” as the leading cause of fatal and injury collisions. Keystone Action #2 of the Plan directs staff to reduce vehicle speed limits, where consistent with the Vehicle Code requirements, to reduce the likelihood of fatal and injury collisions by targeting “identified high-injury corridors and intersections for lane reductions and other speed management strategies.” After a review of vehicle speeds on high-injury corridors and other arterial roadways citywide, the Public Works Department is recommending the strategy of reducing posted speed limits where permitted by the California Vehicle Code.

Under the provisions of Section 40802 of the California Vehicle Code, engineering and traffic surveys are a necessary prerequisite to radar enforcement of speed limits. Any posted limit, other than the maximum limit of 65 miles per hour (mph) or the prima facie 25 mph limit on local streets in a business or residential district, must be justified by such a survey to employ radar enforcement. The City updates the engineering and traffic surveys for each speed zone approximately every five years to validate speed limits and to facilitate enforcement within Long Beach.

Based upon the results of engineering and traffic surveys recently conducted and approved by the City Traffic Engineer on arterial streets, 12 arterial street segments warrant a decrease of their existing speed limits. Other segment limits must be adjusted to account for changes in right-of-way and adjacent uses. Those segments warranted no change in existing limits and will remain enforceable based upon their updated surveys. The following street segments, as highlighted on the attached vicinity map (Attachment B), are recommended for change in speed limit:

Street	From	To	Current Limit	Proposed Limit
Second Street	Naples Plaza	Marina Drive	40	35
Second Street	Marina Drive	Studebaker Road	50	40
Sixth Street	Atlantic Avenue	Alamitos Avenue	30	25
Atherton Street	Bellflower Boulevard	Palo Verde Avenue	40	35

Bellflower Boulevard	Abbeyfield Street	Atherton Street	40	35
Bellflower Boulevard	Pacific Coast Highway	Loynes Drive	35	30
Magnolia Avenue	Seventh Street	Anaheim Street	30	25
Magnolia Avenue	Willow Street	Wardlow Road	35	30
Marina Drive	Second Street	Studebaker Road	35	30
Ocean Boulevard	Bennett Avenue	54 th Place	30	25
Shoreline Drive	Chestnut Place	Shoreline Village Drive	40	35
Wardlow Road	Golden Avenue	Long Beach Boulevard	40	35
Belmont Shore Residence District			25	15

Action 2.2 of the Plan calls on staff to take action to “Lower speed limits on neighborhood streets to 15-20 mph based on radar surveys.” In accordance with CVC [<http://javascript:submitCodesValues\('22358.3.','15.7.1','1972','1095','','%20'id_ofad3760-2921-11d9-a1bb-e0ce1cd664b1'\)>](http://javascript:submitCodesValues('22358.3.','15.7.1','1972','1095','','%20'id_ofad3760-2921-11d9-a1bb-e0ce1cd664b1')>), a traffic study has determined that on the parking-impacted narrow roadways in the Belmont Shore Residence District (defined as all avenues south of Livingston Drive and The Toledo, North of Ocean Boulevard, and west of Bayshore Avenue, except Granada Avenue) justifies a speed limit of less than 25 mph (Attachment C). A posted speed limit of 15 mph in this district is warranted.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Amy R. Webber on July 23, 2021 and by Budget Management Officer Rhutu Amin Gharib on July 27, 2021.

Council action on this matter is not time critical.

The cost of materials and installation of the proposed "Speed Limit" signs is estimated at \$30,000. Sufficient funding is budgeted in the General Fund Group in the Public Works Department. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities. There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

Approve recommendation.

ERIC LOPEZ
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

APPROVED:

THOMAS B. MODICA
CITY MANAGER