March 26, 2019

Board of Supervisors
Marin County Civic Center
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Ordinance Amending Marin County Code Sections 15.36.080 and 15.36.085 to Add Automobile Definition

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION: 1) Read ordinance by title only; and 2) schedule a Merit Hearing for April 9, 2019, at 10:30 a.m..

SUMMARY: Marin County has received complaints regarding the increasing number of oversized vehicles that park overnight on the unincorporated County roads. Concerns have been expressed regarding some people storing large vehicles and/or trailers in the roadway for long periods of time. Complaints have included trash being dumped in the roadway, persons loitering adjacent to and sometimes within the travel lanes, visual impacts, noise, and perception of reduced overall neighborhood safety.

Vehicle Code Section 21101(c) allows the Board of Supervisors to adopt parking restrictions for specified vehicles for all or designated periods of the day. On January 24, 2017, and June 29, 2017, your Board adopted Ordinances No. 3662 and No. 3673 respectively that established six parking restriction options that can be applied to specific County-maintained roads to address the above concerns. Included in these six options were two options that restricted the parking of any vehicles except for automobiles, motorcycles, and pickups — one prohibiting overnight parking of these vehicles (between 11:00 pm and 5:00 am) and the other prohibiting parking of these vehicles at any time.

Although the vehicle code provides specific definitions for motorcycles and pickups, the vehicle code does not include a definition of an automobile. County staff has conducted a review of the length dimensions for automobiles and found that private automobiles serving up to six passengers typically do not exceed 22 feet in length. The provision of an automobile definition that limits the length of the vehicle will assist the Sheriff with enforcement and provide consistent expectations for the public. The Sheriff has reviewed the proposed wording of the ordinance and supports adoption of the ordinance.
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FISCAL IMPACT: There is no impact to the General Fund by this action.

REVIEWED BY:  [ ] County Administrator  [ X ] N/A
[ ] Department of Finance  [ X ] N/A
[ X ] County Counsel  [ ] N/A
[ ] Human Resources  [ X ] N/A

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Bob Goralka
Principal Civil Engineer, P.E, T.E.

Attachment: Ordinance

c: Robert Mota, Lieutenant, CHP
    Jamie Scardina, Undersheriff
    David Augustus, Captain, Marin County Sheriff's Office
    Nora Snyder, Lieutenant, Marin County Sheriff's Office