



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Quality, Excellence, Innovation

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DIRECTOR

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Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Ordinance Establishing Speed Limits on Portions of Lucas Valley Road

Dear Board Members:

SUMMARY: Lucas Valley Road is a two-lane, undivided highway connecting rural west Marin with the City of San Rafael. The section of Lucas Valley Road from Mount McKinley Road at Milepost 2.71 to Westgate Drive at Milepost 3.54 is currently posted 35-mph but was not certified for radar enforcement.

The California Vehicle Code (CVC) establishes procedures to set radar-enforceable speed limits based upon the prevailing speed (85% of drivers surveyed). Public Works staff conducted speed surveys, reviewed the speed zones and speed limits on Lucas Valley Road; and prepared an Engineering and Traffic Survey (E&TS) pursuant to CVC Section 627. Based upon the E&TS, the existing 35-mph speed zone can be bifurcated to establish a 40-mph transition speed zone between the existing 35-mph and 45-mph speed zones.

The proposed speed limits were reviewed and supported by the California Highway Patrol. The proposed speed limits were also presented to the Lucas Valley Homeowners Association who support the proposed change, which they believe will provide a smoother transition for folks using Lucas Valley Road, and to the Lucas Valley Estates Homeowners Association who had mixed support with concern that raising the speed limit would increase speeding. Information provided that national research indicates the majority of drivers select a reasonable and safe maximum speed based on their perception of the roadway environment and that actual posted speed limits have little influence on the speed drivers choose did not convince the majority of residents in attendance that speeds would not increase. Attached are written comments received.

We recommend that the following speed limit zones and speed limits on Lucas Valley Road be established as shown in the following table:

- Accounting
- Airport
- Building Maintenance
- Capital Projects
- Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA)
- Communications Maintenance
- County Garage
- Disability Access
- Engineering & Survey
- Flood Control & Water Resources
- Land Development
- Purchasing
- Real Estate
- Reprographic Services
- Road Maintenance
- Stormwater Program
- Transportation & Traffic Operations
- Waste Management

| Begin Segment Milepost | End Segment Milepost | Existing Speed Limit | Proposed Speed Limit |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2.71 (Mt. McKinley Road) | 3.54 (Westgate Drive) | 35 | 40 |
| 3.54 (Westgate Drive) | 10.28 (Nicasio Valley Road) | 35 | 35 |

A first reading of the proposed ordinance was conducted on January 14, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT: This action will result in the installation and ongoing maintenance of signs and markings. Existing funds are budgeted and available in Road Org 21625531. There is no impact to the General Fund.

REVIEWED BY:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | County Administrator | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Department of Finance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | County Counsel | <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Human Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A |

Respectfully submitted,

Reuel Brady
 Senior Civil Engineer

Attachment: Ordinance

- c: Larry Lewis, County Roads
- Dennis Lance, County Sign Shop
- Jamie Scardina, Undersheriff, Marin County Sheriff's Office
- Rudy Yamanoha, Lieutenant, Marin County Sheriff's Office
- Robert Mota, Lieutenant, California Highway Patrol
- Officer Steven Bautista, Marin CHP Radar Coordinator, California Highway Patrol