



STAFF REPORT

Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2016

To: Bryan Montgomery, City Manager

From: Kevin Rohani, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer

Subject: Adoption of a Resolution to Establish Special Speed Zones for Specific City Streets

Approved and Forwarded to City Council:


Bryan H. Montgomery, City Manager

Summary and Recommendation

In order to establish a speed limit greater than 25 miles per hour and enforce that speed limit by the use of radar, the City must have certified special speed zone surveys that have been conducted in accordance with procedures adopted by the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans). These special speed zone surveys are required to be updated every seven (7) years to continue the use of radar enforcement by police officers. The speed limits established for Carpenter Road from Empire Avenue to the east end, Neroly Road from Empire Avenue to O'Hara Avenue, Brown Road from Neroly Road to Carpenter Road, and Rose Avenue from Main Street to Laurel Road were based on speed studies that were approved by the City Council in 2009, and which will expire in 2016. In addition, the posted speed limit on E. Cypress Road between Sellers Avenue and Frank Hengel Way was based on speed studies that were conducted in 2013 before the road was widened for the new Emerson Ranch Subdivision. Staff is recommending that the City Council adopt a resolution to approve the special speed zones recommended by the City Engineer as a result of the most recent speed studies.

Fiscal Impact

Adoption of the Resolution will retain the existing signed speed limits on Carpenter Road from Empire Avenue to O'Hara Avenue, and on Rose Avenue from Main Street to Laurel Road, and establish new speed limits on Carpenter Road from O'Hara Avenue to the east end, on Neroly Road from Empire Avenue to O'Hara Avenue, and on E. Cypress Road from Sellers Avenue to Frank Hengel Way. Existing speed limit signs will be replaced for the new speed limits, and additional signs will be installed as needed. The cost of the additional signs is included in the current Public Works and Engineering operations budget.

Background and Analysis

The California Vehicle Code (CVC) requires that all speed limits in excess of 25 miles per hour be established on the basis of an engineering and traffic survey conducted in accordance with procedures adopted by Caltrans, if they are to be enforceable by the use of radar. These special speed zone surveys are required to be updated every seven (7) years to continue the use of radar enforcement. The Engineering and Traffic Surveys used to establish the speed limits on Carpenter Road from Empire Avenue to the east end, on Rose Avenue from Main Street to Laurel Road, and on Neroly Road from Empire Avenue to O'Hara Avenue were prepared from speed survey data collected in 2008, and are about to expire.

The posted speed limit of 50 miles per hour on E. Cypress Road between Sellers Avenue and Frank Hengel Way was based on speed studies conducted in 2013 before the road was widened for the new Emerson Ranch Subdivision. The speed limit on this segment of roadway is recommended to be reduced to 45 miles per hour, consistent with the current road conditions.

Speed survey data was collected in February 2016 for preparation of the Engineering and Traffic Surveys used to establish the speed limits recommended in the attached resolution. In general, the speed limit of a roadway is set at the nearest five mile per hour interval where eighty-five percent of the vehicles travel at or below the speed, known as the 85th percentile or critical speed. Based on the engineering survey, the speed limit can be adjusted downward depending on the physical characteristics of the road, such as abrupt changes in horizontal and/or vertical alignment, and pavement width so as to enhance its safety. In order for speeding violations to be enforceable in court the City must have current speed zone certifications on file at the county courthouse.

The recommended speed limits contained in the attached resolution reflect the current traffic conditions on Carpenter Road from Empire Avenue to the east end, on Rose Avenue from Main Street to Laurel Road, on Neroly Road from Empire Avenue to O'Hara Avenue, and on E. Cypress Road from Sellers Avenue to Frank Hengel Way.

The recommended speed limits include retaining the existing speed limits on:

1. Carpenter Road from Empire Avenue to Brown Road, 40 mph,
2. Carpenter Road from Brown Road to O'Hara Avenue, 40 mph,
3. Rose Avenue from Main Street to W. Cypress Road, 35 mph,
4. Rose Avenue from W. Cypress Road to Laurel Road, 40 mph.

The recommended speed limits include reducing the speed limit on:

1. Neroly Road from Empire Avenue to Brown Road from 45 mph to 35 mph,
2. Neroly Road from Brown Road to O'Hara Avenue from 35 mph to 30 mph,
3. Brown Road from Neroly Road to Carpenter Road from 35 mph to 25 mph,
4. E. Cypress Rd. from Sellers Ave. to Frank Hengel Way from 50 mph to 45 mph.

The recommended speed limits include increasing the speed limit on Carpenter Road from O'Hara Avenue to the East end from 30 mph to 35 mph.

The recommended speed limits shown in the attached resolution are based on an analysis of the traffic survey data and engineering and traffic studies. Adoption of the attached resolution will approve the recommendations and traffic order of the City Engineer establishing the speed limits on the listed streets consistent with the California Vehicle Code and The City's Municipal Code. Adoption of these speed limits will allow enforcement by the use of radar.

All traffic surveys used for development of the traffic order were prepared in accordance with the standards adopted by Caltrans. A copy of the Engineering and Traffic Surveys, with a copy of the approving Resolution, will be maintained in the Public Works and Engineering files, with a copy in the Police Department and a copy delivered to the Contra Costa County Traffic Court.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution adopting a Traffic Order of the City Engineer establishing the prima facie speed limit on certain city streets.

Attachment

- A. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. __-16

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAKLEY
ADOPTING A TRAFFIC ORDER OF THE CITY ENGINEER
ESTABLISHING SPEED LIMITS**

WHEREAS, in February of 2016 the City Engineer had engineering and traffic surveys conducted for purposes of establishing prima facie speed limits on specific City streets; and

WHEREAS, the following listed streets and speed limits were recommended by the City Engineer.

<u>Street</u>	<u>Limits</u>	<u>Speed Limit (mph)</u>	<u>Study Date</u>
Carpenter Rd.	Empire Ave. to Brown Rd.	40	2/1/2016
Carpenter Rd.	Brown Rd. to O'Hara Ave.	40	2/1/2016
Carpenter Rd.	O'Hara Ave. to East end.	35	2/1/2016
Neroly Rd.	Empire Ave. to Brown Rd.	35	2/1/2016
Neroly Rd.	Brown Rd. to O'Hara Ave.	30	2/5/2016
Brown Rd.	Neroly Rd. to Carpenter Rd.	25	2/5/2016
Rose Ave.	Main St. to W. Cypress Rd.	35	2/1/2016
Rose Ave.	W. Cypress Rd. to Laurel Rd.	40	2/5/2016
E. Cypress Rd.	Sellers Ave. to Frank Hengel Way	45	2/5/2016

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Oakley hereby resolves to approve the recommendations and Traffic Order of the City Engineer as listed above.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Oakley at a meeting held on the 26th of April, 2016 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTENTIONS:

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Kevin Romick, Mayor

Libby Vreonis, City Clerk

Date