



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Traffic Resolution Amendment - Establish Speed Limit on Elm Street between Evergreen Drive and Lower Sacramento Road

MEETING DATE: September 16, 1998

PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council adopt the attached resolution amending Traffic Resolution 97-148 establishing a 35-mile-per-hour (mph) speed limit on Elm Street between Evergreen Drive and Lower Sacramento Road.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Public Works Department has recently performed an Engineering and Traffic Survey on the portion of Elm Street between Evergreen Drive and Lower Sacramento Road (**Exhibit A**). Based on the State of California Vehicle Code, Elm Street is currently not radar enforced.

In order for the Police Department to use radar on this roadway, an Engineering and Traffic Survey was performed following State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) guidelines. The survey includes a map of the street showing the physical characteristics of the roadway, such as roadway width, number of through lanes, and traffic controls. Traffic volumes, prevailing speeds and accidents rates are analyzed and the results are shown in a written narrative for each street. Accident rates are determined by the number of accidents occurring within a segment of roadway, and the traffic volume within that segment, and are shown in accidents per million vehicle miles (ACC/MVM). As there were no accidents occurring along this segment within the study period, the accident rate is 0.0 ACC/MVM. The average citywide accident rate is 4.5 ACC/MVM.

Three factors should be considered when determining the speed limit most appropriate to facilitate the orderly and reasonably safe movement of traffic: prevailing speeds, unexpected conditions to drivers, and accident records. Reasonable speed limits conform to the actual behavior of the majority of motorists and, by measuring motorists' speeds, one can select a speed limit that is both reasonable and effective. Speed limits should normally be established at the first 5-mph increment below the 85th percentile speed.

DISCUSSION: This is the first time an Engineering and Traffic Survey has been performed on this portion of Elm Street. Although Elm Street has been in use for some time now, only recently have homes been constructed along the north side of the street, and residents have become concerned with the speed of vehicles in front of their homes. This speed survey allows the City to post and enforce a reasonable speed limit. For reference, the posted speed limit on Elm Street between Lower Sacramento Road and Hutchins Street is also 35 mph.

STUDY RESULTS/RECOMMENDATION: Based on existing vehicle speeds and absence of accidents or unexpected conditions on the segment of Elm Street between Evergreen Drive and Lower Sacramento Road, staff recommends that Council approve the proposed 35-mph speed limit.

FUNDING: Funding for costs to install two speed limit signs and legends from the Street Maintenance Account at an approximate cost of \$450.

Richard C. Prima

Richard C. Prima
Richard C. Prima,
Public Works Director

Prepared by Rick S. Kiriu, Senior Engineering Technician
Attachments

cc: City Attorney
Police Chief
Street Superintendent
Associate Traffic Engineer
Rich Ozminkowski

APPROVED: _____

H. Dixon Flynn
H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

SPEED ZONE REPORT - Elm Street, Evergreen Drive to Lower Sacramento Road

- REFERENCE - Speed zone surveys are performed in the City of Lodi following State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) guidelines in accordance with Section 40802 (b) of the California Vehicle Code. These guidelines are outlined in Chapter 8 of the Caltrans Traffic Manual.

- STUDY

Elm Street is identified as a collector on the Federal Aid System map.

Important factors to consider in determining the speed limit which is most appropriate to facilitate the orderly movement of traffic and that is reasonably safe are prevailing speeds, unexpected conditions to drivers, and accident records.

Prevailing Speeds (85th Percentile Speeds)

Reasonable speed limits conform to the actual behavior of the majority of motorists, and by measuring motorists' speeds, one will be able to select a speed limit that is both reasonable and effective. Speed limits should normally be established at the first five-mile-per-hour increment below the 85th percentile speed. However, in matching existing conditions with the traffic safety needs of the community, engineering judgment may indicate the need for a further reduction of five miles per hour.

The 85th percentile speeds are shown below:

<u>Street Segment</u>	<u>Westbound</u>	<u>Eastbound</u>
Evergreen Drive to Lower Sacramento Road	36 mph	37 mph

Unexpected Conditions

When roadside development results in traffic conflicts and unusual conditions which are not readily apparent to drivers, speed limits below the 85th percentile are warranted. The following factors were considered: roadway design speed, safe stopping sight distance, superelevation, shoulder conditions, profile condition, intersection spacing and offsets, commercial driveway characteristics, and pedestrian traffic in the roadway without sidewalks. No unexpected condition were observed on this segment of Elm Street.

Accidents

Accident records from the two most recent years are considered in determining the speed zones. Accidents on segments of roadways are classified by their accident rate. Accident rates are determined by the number of accidents occurring within a segment of roadway and the traffic volume within that segment. Accident rates are shown in accidents per million vehicle miles (ACC/MVM). Since there have been no accidents reported within the survey period on the segment of Elm Street between Evergreen Drive and Lower Sacramento Road, the accident rate is 0.0 ACC/MVM. The average Citywide accident rate is 4.5 ACC/MVM.

SPEED ZONE REPORT - Elm Street
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◦ CONCLUSION

Evergreen Drive to Lower Sacramento Road

The 85th percentile speeds on this segment are 36 and 37 mph. The 50th percentile speeds are 31 and 32 mph. There were no accidents occurring or unexpected conditions observed along this segment. Based on these factors, we recommend a 35 mph speed limit on this segment.

The recommended speed limit is shown below:

<u>SEGMENT</u>	<u>POSTED SPEED LIMIT</u>
Evergreen Drive to Lower Sacramento Road	35 mph

Richard C. Prima, Jr.
Public Works Director

RESOLUTION NO. 98-134

A RESOLUTION OF THE LODI CITY COUNCIL
APPROVING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SPEED
LIMIT ON ELM STREET BETWEEN EVERGREEN DRIVE
AND LOWER SACRAMENTO ROAD, AND THEREBY
AMENDING TRAFFIC RESOLUTION NO. 97-148

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WHEREAS, speed zone surveys are performed in the City of Lodi following State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) guidelines in accordance with Section 40802(b) of the California Vehicle Code, which are outlined in Chapter 8 of the Caltrans Traffic Manual.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Lodi does hereby approve the establishment of a 35-mile-per-hour speed limit on the portion of Elm Street between Evergreen Drive and Lower Sacramento Road; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that City of Lodi Traffic Resolution No. 97-148, Section 7 "Speed Limits" is hereby amended by designating a 35-mile-per-hour speed limit on Elm Street between Evergreen Drive and Lower Sacramento Road.

Dated: September 16, 1998

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I hereby certify that Resolution No. 98-134 was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Lodi in a regular meeting held September 16, 1998, by the following vote:

- AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – Johnson, Land, Mann, Pennino and Sieglock
(Mayor)
- NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None
- ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None
- ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS – None


ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL

JACK A. SIEGLOCK, Mayor
KEITH LAND
Mayor Pro Tempore
ROBERT J. JOHNSON
STEPHEN J. MANN
PHILLIP A. PENNINO

CITY OF LODI

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H. DIXON FLYNN
City Manager
ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk
RANDALL A. HAYS
City Attorney

September 10, 1998

Mr. Rich Ozminkowski
2707 West Elm Street
Lodi, CA 95242

**SUBJECT: Traffic Resolution Amendment - Establish Speed Limit on Elm Street
between Evergreen Drive and Lower Sacramento Road**

Enclosed is a copy of background information on an item on the City Council agenda of Wednesday, September 16, 1998. The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, Carnegie Forum, 305 West Pine Street.

This item is on the consent calendar and is usually not discussed unless a Council Member requests discussion. The public is given an opportunity to address items on the consent calendar at the appropriate time.

If you wish to write to the City Council, please address your letter to City Council, City of Lodi, P. O. Box 3006, Lodi, California, 95241-1910. Be sure to allow time for the mail. Or, you may hand-deliver the letter to City Hall, 221 West Pine Street.

If you wish to address the Council at the Council Meeting, be sure to fill out a speaker's card (available at the Carnegie Forum immediately prior to the start of the meeting) and give it to the City Clerk. If you have any questions about communicating with the Council, please contact Alice Reimche, City Clerk, at 333-6702.

If you have any questions about the item itself, please call Rick Kiriu at 333-6800, ext. 668.



Richard C. Prima, Jr.
Public Works Director

RCP/lm

Enclosure

cc: City Clerk