



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Report on Mills Avenue North of Kettleman Lane

MEETING DATE: July 7, 1999

PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council receive the following report on Mills Avenue and provide staff with direction as necessary.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On Wednesday, June 16, 1999, the extension of Mills Avenue between Royal Crest Drive and Kettleman Lane was quietly opened to traffic. The roadway and WID Canal crossing was constructed by the developer of the adjacent Millsbridge Subdivision and paid for by the City as part of the Local Streets Development Impact Fee Program. Since the opening, there have been a number of calls and questions about the impact of the opening and what the City will do to mitigate any adverse impacts. This report presents very preliminary data—normally we would wait a number of months to allow traffic to stabilize. This report discusses volumes, speeds, and truck traffic.

Volumes

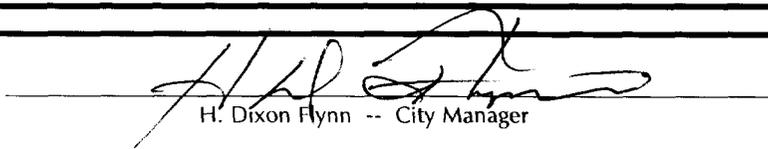
Projected daily traffic volumes for Mills Avenue between Kettleman Lane and Vine Street range from 8,910 in the 1968 Street Master Plan to 11,000 in the 1991 General Plan. Given the planned growth in the southwest area, this increase is understandable. Longer-range projections done for the 1991 General Plan Environmental Impact Report show the volume peaking at 13,000 even with significant growth south of Harney Lane.

The projected volumes are above those one would expect on a typical residential street which only serves adjacent homes; however, not all residential streets enjoy such low traffic volumes. Traffic volumes throughout Lodi are shown in the map in Exhibit A. Some two-lane streets in residential areas with relatively high volumes are:

Hutchins Street south of Vine Street	12,000
Ham Lane north of Lodi Avenue	15,000
Lockeford Street west of California Street	8,400
Church Street north of Tokay Street	8,000
Mills Avenue north of Lodi Avenue	6,500

Volume counts taken on Monday, June 28, at Mills Avenue north of Royal Crest Drive show a total daily volume of 3,820 vehicles. We would expect this to climb as more people become familiar with the new route and the area south of the WID Canal develops. However, the volume will still be in line with the northern portions of Mills Avenue.

APPROVED:


H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

Given the volumes as we presently see them, staff does not recommend any additional stop signs on Mills Avenue. (One was added on Mills Avenue at Tienda Drive as part of the Millsbridge Project.) As shown on Exhibit B, the number of signals and four-way stops on Mills Avenue is consistent with other north-south collector and arterial streets. In fact, it is the highest except for Church Street, which has a high number of signals in the Downtown.

Speeds

Speed limits on Mills Avenue are 30 mph south of Lodi Avenue and 35 mph north of Lodi Avenue. Prevailing speeds (85th percentile) between Vine Street and Elm Street are 36 to 37 mph and 33 to 34 mph south of Kettleman Lane. These are only slightly higher than the 30 to 35 mph prevailing speeds on typical residential streets even though they are subject to the 25 mph prima facie speed limit. Citywide speed limits are shown on Exhibit C

Speed counts taken north of Royal Crest Drive before and after the opening show a very slight increase in the speeds; however, with higher volumes, it is likely residents perceive much higher speeds.

	Tuesday October 13, 1998	Monday June 28, 1999
Percentage over 35 mph	16 %	22 %
Number over 35 mph	72	847
Percentage over 45 mph	1 %	< 1 %
Number over 45 mph	1	18
50 th Percentile speed	30.2 mph	32.9
85 th Percentile speed	36.6 mph	37.8

A full engineering and traffic study to establish the speed limit for this segment of Mills Avenue would likely result in a speed limit of 30 or 35 mph.

Truck Traffic

We have received some complaints that large trucks are using this segment of Mills Avenue. Our traffic counters, which can classify traffic as to both speed and type of vehicle as well as count, have shown a few three-axle trucks, nothing larger. However, we need to do more checking on this. Certainly, if we see a pattern or more than a small number of larger trucks, we would recommend a restriction.

FUNDING: None needed at this time.



Richard C. Prima, Jr.
Public Works Director

RCP/lm

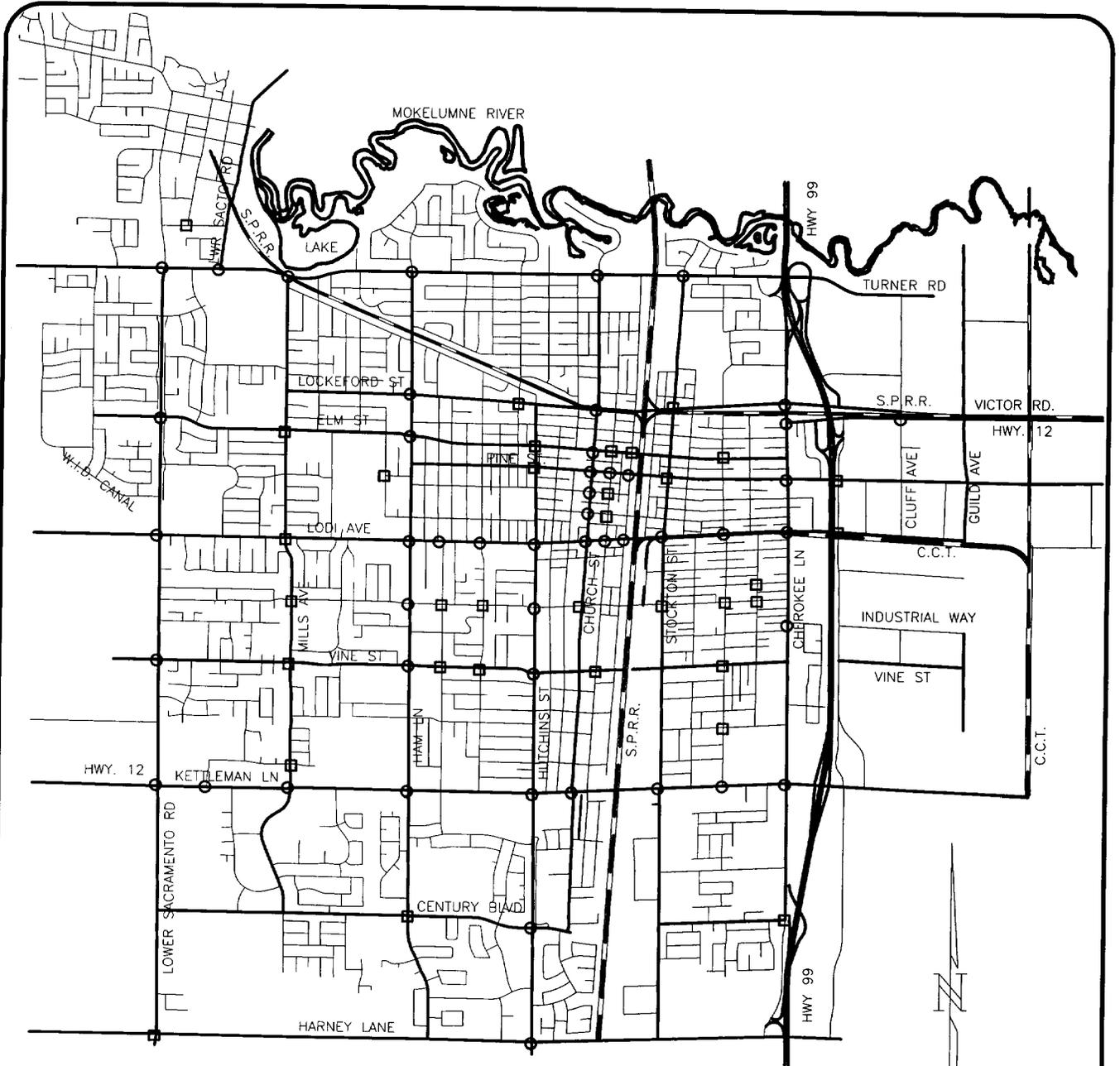
Attachments

cc: Community Development Department Mailing List
Associate Traffic Engineer



CITY OF LODI
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Traffic Signals &
Multi-Way Stop Controls



LEGEND

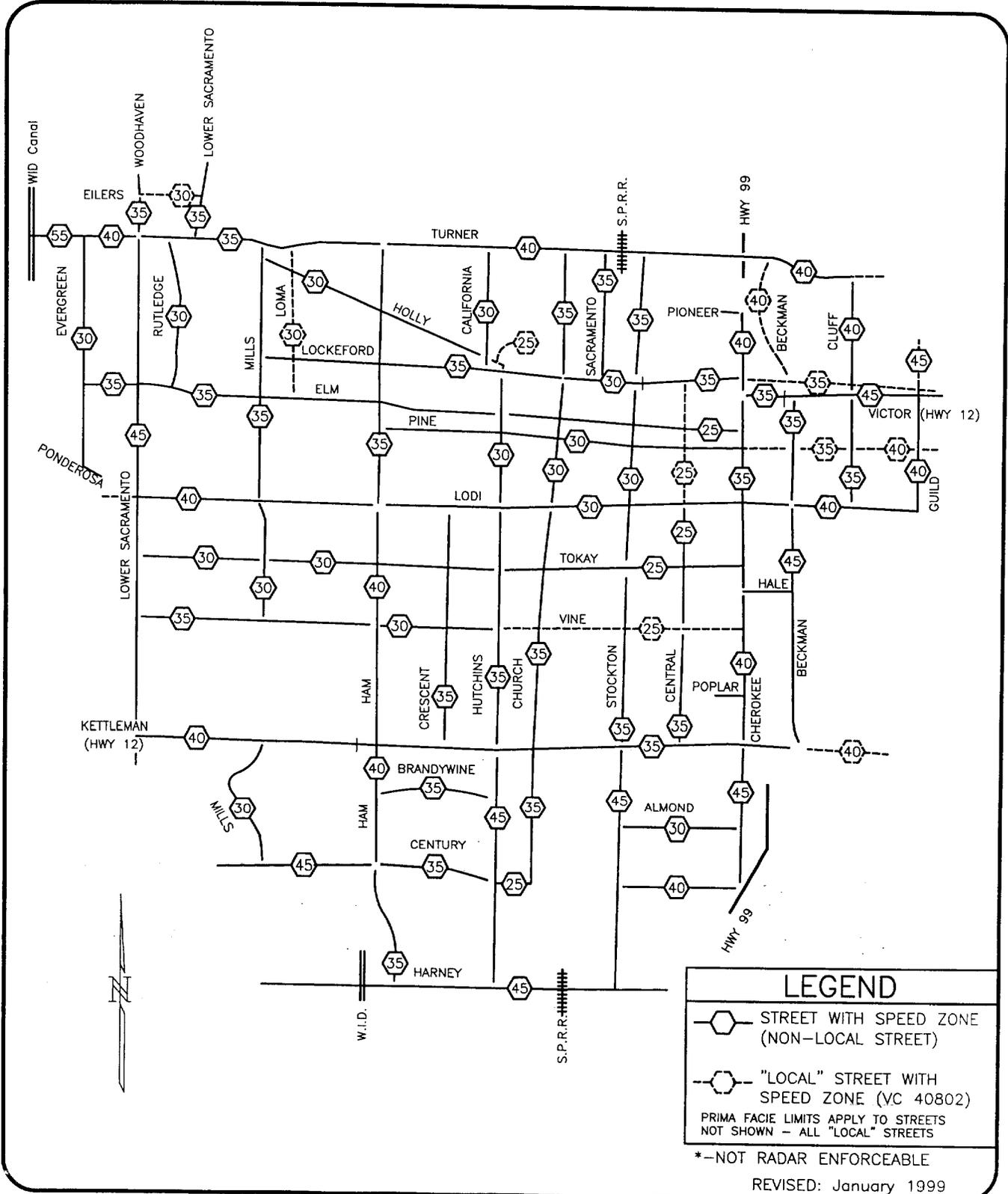
- - existing traffic signals
- - existing multi-way stops

NOT TO SCALE



CITY OF LODI
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

POSTED
SPEED LIMITS



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CITY OF LODI

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July 1, 1999

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

SUBJECT: Report on Mills Avenue North of Kettleman Lane

Enclosed is a copy of background information on an item on the City Council agenda of Wednesday, July 7, 1999. 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 regular calendar for Council discussion. You are welcome to attend.

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 (209) 333-6702.

If you have any questions about the item itself, please call either Rick Kiriu, Senior Engineering Technician – Traffic, at (209) 333-6800, ext. 668, or Paula Fernandez, Associate Traffic Engineer, at (209) 333-6800, ext. 667.

For: Mas Fujitani
Richard C. Prima, Jr.
Public Works Director

RCP/lm

Enclosure

cc: City Clerk
Associate Traffic Engineer
Senior Engineering Technician - Traffic

