



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Quality, Excellence, Innovation

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DIRECTOR

June 11, 2019

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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 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, Nicasio

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION: Read ordinance by title only and schedule a Merit Hearing for July 16, 2019, at 10:30 AM.

SUMMARY: Residents have expressed concerns regarding speeding on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard in the vicinity of its intersection with Nicasio Valley Road/San Geronimo Valley Drive west. Sir Francis Drake Boulevard is a two-lane, undivided highway in the vicinity of the intersection. This section of Sir Francis Drake Boulevard near Nicasio Valley Road is currently posted 55 mph. The speed limit, however, drops to 35 mph near the town of Forest Knolls, west of the intersection.

The 55 mph speed limit was posted per California Vehicle Code (CVC) section 22349, whereby the prima facie speed limit for a two-lane highway is 55 mile per hour (MPH). The California Vehicle Code (CVC) also 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 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard; and prepared an Engineering and Traffic Survey (E&TS) pursuant to CVC Section 627. Based upon the E&TS, the existing 55 mph speed zone can be bifurcated to establish a 45 mph transition speed zone between the existing 55 mph and 35 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 San Geronimo Valley Planning Group who support the proposed changes, which they believe will enhance safety for school children and users of the Community Center.

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We recommend that the following speed limit zones and speed limits on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard be established as shown in the following table:

Begin Segment Milepost	End Segment Milepost	Existing Speed Limit	Proposed Speed Limit
10.35 (San Geronimo Valley Drive east)	11.97 (Golf Course Entrance)	55	55
11.97 (Golf Course Entrance)	12.64 (San Geronimo Valley Drive west)	55	45
12.64 (San Geronimo Valley Drive west)*	14.31 (Mountain View Ave.)*	35*	35*

*Repeals section 2a of Traffic Resolution 919.

Some residents also expressed a desire for a traffic signal at the Sir Francis Drake Boulevard/Nicasio Valley Drive/San Geronimo Valley Drive west intersection. A traffic signal warrant review indicated that a traffic signal is not warranted at this location. The San Geronimo Valley Planning Group is also opposed to a traffic signal at this location due to the rural nature of the area.

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,

Bob Goralka
 Principal Civil Engineer, P.E., T.E.

Attachment: Ordinance

c: Undersheriff Jamie Scardina
 Nora Snyder, Lieutenant, Marin County Sheriff's Office
 Robert Mota, Lieutenant, California Highway Patrol
 Officer Steven Bautista, Marin CHP Radar Coordinator, California Highway Patrol