City Council Staff Report

DATE: November 6, 2024

AGENDA ITEM NO: New Business - 5A

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Shawn Igoe, Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Consideration and possible action to introduce and waive first reading of an Ordinance setting speed limits based upon certification of the 2017 Engineering and Traffic Survey for speed limits effective through October 2031 and the 2024 Engineering and Traffic Survey of 26 Locations for speed limits through October 2038

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council consider:

1. Introducing and waiving first reading for an Ordinance setting speed limits throughout the City; and
2. Taking such additional, related, action that may be desirable.

CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act):

This Ordinance is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code §§ 21000, *et seq*., "CEQA") and the regulations promulgated thereunder (14 California Code of Regulations §§ 15000, *et seq*., the "CEQA Guidelines") because it consists only of minor revisions and clarifications to an existing code of speed control regulations established in accordance with California law and will not have the effect of deleting or substantially changing any regulatory standards or findings. This Ordinance, therefore, is an action being taken for enhanced protection of the environment and that does not have the potential to cause significant effects on the environment. Consequently, it is categorically exempt in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §§ 15301 as a minor alteration of existing public or private structures involving no expansion of use; 15305 as a minor alteration in land use limitations which do not result in any changes in land use or density; and 15308 as an action taken by a regulatory agency as authorized by California law to assure maintenance or protection of the environment.

BOARD/COMMISSION REVIEW:

The Public Works Director presented a draft engineering and traffic survey evaluating safe and reasonable speed limits 26 segments citywide, including its recommendations, to the Traffic Commission on October 17, 2024. The Traffic Commission was informed that the item would be presented to the City Council for consideration, and it did not express any questions or concerns.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City's consultant, Transtech Engineers, Inc., assessed and certified 45 segments listed in the City's 2017 Engineering and Traffic Survey and determined that no significant changes in roadway or traffic conditions have occurred on these segments, (see Attachment 2) including, without limitation, changes in adjoining property or land use, roadway width, or traffic volume, and therefore the posted speed limits are valid for 14 years from the adopted date of the survey effective between October 2017 through October 2031.

Twenty-six of the original 73 segments from the 2017 City-wide speed survey were separately reviewed and a new Engineering and Traffic Survey ("ETS") was completed for these segments.

Transtech Engineers completed the ETS pursuant to California law including, without limitation, Vehicle Code § 627, for the purpose of establishing safe and reasonable speed limits. These may be enforced using radar at pre-determined locations. The ETS recommends reducing the speed limit on the following 14 of the 26 segments included in the ETS:

- Alhambra Avenue between Garvey Avenue and Graves Avenue
- Atlantic Boulevard between Harding Avenue and El Repetto Drive
- Atlantic Boulevard between El Repetto Drive and Floral Drive
- Avenida Cesar Chavez between West City Limit and Atlantic Boulevard
- Floral Drive between Monterey Pass Road and Atlantic Boulevard
- Garfield Avenue between Graves Avenue and El Repetto Drive
- Garfield Avenue between El Repetto Drive and Riggin Street
- Orange Avenue between Hellman Avenue and Garvey Avenue
- Orange Avenue between Garvey Avenue and Graves Avenue
- Orange Avenue between Graves Avenue and Metro Drive
- Orange Avenue between Metro Drive and Saturn Street
- Pomona Boulevard between Gerhart Avenue and Garfield Avenue
- Pomona Boulevard between Garfield Avenue and Markland Drive
- Potrero Grande Drive between Markland Drive and Arroyo Drive

Accordingly, the Public Works Director ("Director") recommends that the City Council consider introducing and waiving first reading of the attached Ordinance.

BACKGROUND:

On November 1, 2017 City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2144, approving the 2017 Traffic Speed Zone Survey for 73 segments within the City. On September 4, 2024 the City adopted Ordinance No. 2248 establishing speed limits for 2 of the 73 segments along Hellman Ave. As part of the evaluation of the Citywide speed limits, Transtech evaluated 45 segments of the City's 2017 Engineering and Traffic Survey and determined that no significant changes in roadway or traffic conditions have occurred on these segments, indicated on the following list, including but not limited to changes in adjoining property or

land use, roadway width, or traffic volume, and therefore the posted speed limits are valid between October 2017 through October 2031.

The following table lists the 45 segments recertified:

Table 1: City of Monterey Park 14-Year Certification of the 2017 Engineering and Traffic Survey Speed Limits
2017 Adopted Speed Limits are Effective until October of 2031

ID	Primary Location	Limits		Street Classification CRS Maps	Adopted 2017 Speed Limit
		Beginning	Ending		
1	Abajo Road	Garvey Avenue	Vagabond Drive	Local	25
2	Ackley Street	Fulton Avenue	Orange Avenue	Collector	25
3	Ackley Street	Orange Avenue	Arroyo Drive	Secondary	25
4	Brightwood Street	Crest Vista Drive	Atlantic Boulevard	Local	25
5	Cadiz Street/Crest Vista Drive	Ridgecrest Street	Atlantic Boulevard	Collector	25
6	Casuda Canyon Drive	Garvey Avenue	Alzado Street	Collector	25
7	Casuda Canyon Drive	Alzado Street	Corporate Center Drive	Collector	30
8	Coral View Street	Garfield Avenue	Fulton Avenue	Collector	25
9	Corporate Center Drive	Ramona Boulevard	Casuda Canyon Drive	Secondary	40
10	Corporate Center Drive	Casuda Canyon Drive	Floral Drive	Secondary	40
11	Crest Vista Drive	Ridgcrest Street	Floral Drive	Collector	25
12	El Repetto Drive	Atlantic Boulevard	Garfield Avenue	Collector	25
13	Emerson Avenue	Atlantic Boulevard	Garfield Avenue	Secondary	25
14	Emerson Avenue	Garfield Avenue	New Avenue	Secondary	25
15	Findlay Avenue	Riggin Street	Pomona Boulevard	Secondary	25
16	First Street	West City Limit	Atlantic Boulevard	Secondary	35
17	Fulton Avenue	Kempton Avenue	Coral View Street	Local/Collector	25
18	Fulton Avenue	Coral View Street	Floral Drive	Collector	30
19	Fulton Avenue	Floral Drive	Pomona Boulevard	Collector	25
20	Grandridge Avenue	Garfield Avenue	El Repetto Drive	Local	25
21	Graves Avenue	Garfield Avenue	New Avenue	Secondary	30
22	Harding Avenue	Atlantic Boulevard	Ramona Avenue	Secondary	25
23	Hillside Street	Ridge Crest Street	Floral Drive	Local	25
24	Kempton Avenue	Lincoln Avenue	Fulton Avenue (s)	Local	25
25	Markland Drive	Riggin Street	Potrero Grande	Local/Collector	25

			Drive		
26	McPherrin Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Harding Avenue	Local	25
27	Monterey Pass Road	Garvey Avenue	Vagabond Road	Secondary	40
28	Monterey Pass Road	Vagabond Road	Floral Drive	Secondary	40
29	New Avenue	Hellman Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Principal Arterial	35
30	New Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Graves Avenue	Secondary	35
31	Newmark Avenue	Atlantic Boulevard	Garfield Avenue	Collector	30
32	Newmark Avenue	Garfield Avenue	New Avenue	Collector	30
33	Ramona Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Garfield Avenue	Collector	25
34	Ramona Boulevard	West City Limits	North City Limits	Secondary	35
35	Ridgcrest Street	Hillside Street	Floral Avenue	Local	25
36	Riggin Street	Atlantic Boulevard	Findlay Avenue	Secondary	35
37	Riggin Street	Findlay Avenue	Garfield Avenue	Secondary	35
38	Riggin Street	Garfield Avenue	Fulton Avenue	Secondary/Local	30
39	Saturn Street	Atlas Avenue	Potrero Grande Drive	Secondary	40
40	Verde Vista Drive	Casuda Canyon Drive	Abajo Drive	Local	25
41	Wilcox Avenue	Kempton Avenue	Coral View Street	Local	25
42	Wilcox Avenue	Coral View Street	Riggin Street	Local/Secondary	25
43	Wilcox Avenue	Riggin Street	Pomona Boulevard	Secondary	35
44	Ynez Avenue	Hellman Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Collector	30
45	Ynez Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Graves Avenue	Local	25

Twenty-six segments were separately studied. Out of those, 14 segments are proposed to be changed as shown in Table 2 below.

When a speed limit is to be posted, it is established to the nearest 5 mph increment of the 85th percentile speed limit of free-flowing traffic. Allowed exceptions are:

- Option 1: A 5 MPH Reduction in 85th% speed by 5 MPH for Rounding Down to Nearest Posted Limit if no further reduction is used.
- Option 2: A 5 MPH from the 85th% speed due to road conditions, high concentration of pedestrian and bicyclist, senior center and land use.
- Option 3: A 5 MPH lower than 85th% speed based on a higher-than-expected collision rate, land use and roadway conditions.

These options were considered as part of the Engineering and Traffic Survey performed.

Table 2: City of Monterey Park 2024 Engineering and Traffic Survey Summary

ID	Primary Location	Limits		Street Class. (A)	Existing Posted Speed	Change in Limit? Yes/No	Proposed 2024 Speed Limit
		Beginning	Ending				
1	Alhambra Avenue	Hellman Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Collector	30	No	30[1]
2	Alhambra Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Graves Avenue	Collector	35	Yes	30[1]
3	Atlantic Boulevard	Hellman Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Primary	30	No	30[1]
4	Atlantic Boulevard	Garvey Avenue	Harding Avenue	Primary	35	No	35
5	Atlantic Boulevard	Harding Avenue	El Repetto Drive	Primary	40	Yes	35[2]
6	Atlantic Boulevard	El Repetto Drive	Floral Drive	Primary	40	Yes	35[2]
7	Atlantic Boulevard	Floral Drive	First Street	Primary	35	No	35[1]
8	Avenida Cesar Chavez	West City Limit	Atlantic Boulevard	Secondary	35	Yes	30[2]
9	Floral Drive	West City Limit	Monterey Pass Road	Secondary	35	No	35
10	Floral Drive	Monterey Pass Road	Atlantic Boulevard	Secondary	40	Yes	35[2]
11	Garfield Avenue	Hellman Avenue	Newmark Avenue	Primary	30	No	30[1]
12	Garfield Avenue	Newmark Avenue	Graves Avenue	Primary	35	No	35[1]
13	Garfield Avenue	Graves Avenue	El Repetto Drive	Primary	40	Yes	35[2]
14	Garfield Avenue	El Repetto Drive	Riggin Street	Primary	40	Yes	35[2]
15	Garfield Avenue	Riggin Street	Pomona Boulevard	Primary	35	No	35[1]
16	Garvey Avenue	Casuda Canyon Drive	Fremont Avenue	Secondary	40	No	40
17	Garvey Avenue	Fremont Avenue	Atlantic Boulevard	Secondary	40	No	40
18	Garvey Avenue	Atlantic Boulevard	Garfield Avenue	Secondary	30	No	30

19	Garvey Avenue	Garfield Avenue	New Avenue	Secondary	30	No	30[1]
20	Orange Avenue	Hellman Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Secondary	30	Yes	25[2]
21	Orange Avenue	Garvey Avenue	Graves Avenue	Secondary	30	Yes	25[2]
22	Orange Avenue	Graves Avenue	Metro Drive	Secondary	30	Yes	25[2]
23	Orange Avenue	Metro Drive	Saturn Street	Secondary	35	Yes	30[2]
24	Pomona Boulevard	Gerhart Avenue	Garfield Avenue	Primary	40	Yes	35[2]
25	Pomona Boulevard	Garfield Avenue	Markland Drive	Primary	40	Yes	35[2]
26	Potrero Grande Drive	Markland Drive	Arroyo Drive	Primary	45	Yes	40[2]

The purpose of the ETS is to establish updated speed limits that can be enforced using radar. Applicable sections of the California Vehicle Code (CVC) and Department of Transportation California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CAMUTCD) were followed so that the posted speed limits can be upheld by the courts and do not constitute a "Speed Trap" as defined by California law.

By preparing the ETS, and after appropriate signage is posted giving notice of the speed limits, the Police Department may use radar and other electronic devices that measure the speed of moving objects to enforce the posted speed limit.

2024-25 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

The proposed Ordinance supports the City's strategic goal to maintain, build and modernize infrastructure and facilities to support the current and future needs of the City and community.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Upon adoption of the proposed resolution, City staff will replace the speed limit signs along the affected 14 segments where speed limits is proposed to be reduced. The cost for sign replacement is included in the City's FY 2024-25 operational budget in Traffic Control account 239-4206-5315

Respectfully submitted by:

Shawn Igoe
Public Works Director

Approved by:

Inez Alvarez
City Manager

Reviewed by:

Karl H. Berger
City Attorney

ATTACHMENT:

1. Ordinance (including Exhibit “A” (ETS))
2. Certification of the 2017 Engineering and Traffic Survey to 14 years
3. 2024 Engineering and Traffic Survey of 26 locations