



CITY OF PALO ALTO OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

November 27, 2017

The Honorable City Council
Palo Alto, California

SECOND READING: Adoption of an Ordinance Establishing Speed Limits for Certain Streets Pursuant to the California Vehicle Code and Amending Palo Alto Municipal Code Chapter 10.56 (Special Speed Zones) to Establish Such Speed Limits, Including Increased Speed Limits of 40 MPH on two Roadway Segments and Reduced Speed Limits of 20 MPH Within School Zones During School Hours When Children are Present (FIRST READING: November 7, 2017 PASSED: 8-0 DuBois absent)

This Ordinance is before you for second reading. It was first heard on November 3, 2017 and passed 8-0 with Council Member Dubois absent.

MOTION: Vice Mayor Kniss moved, seconded by Mayor Scharff to:

- A. Adopt an Ordinance increasing the Posted Speed Limit from 35 miles per hour to 40 miles per hour on Deer Creek Road between western city limits and Arastradero Road and on East Bayshore Road between the Embarcadero Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing and Adobe Creek to enable enforcement by radar pursuant to the California Vehicle Code; reducing the Posted Speed Limit within school zones, consistent with State law; and amending Palo Alto Municipal Code Chapter 10.56 including changes presented in the Staff Memorandum and detailed by Staff; and
- B. Adopt a Resolution establishing Target Speeds for certain Arterials and Residential Arterials where the Operating Speed has been found to exceed the Posted Speed Limit in order to reduce the Operating Speed through roadway design; and
- C. Find the requested actions exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a minor alteration to existing facilities (Guidelines Section 15301, Class One, Existing Facilities); and
- D. Direct Staff to return with an Ordinance addressing Posted Speed Limits near private schools.

MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED: 8-0 DuBois absent

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment A: Draft Ordinance Establishing Speed Limit Certain Streets (DOCX)

Department Head: Beth Minor, City Clerk

Not Yet Approved

Ordinance No. _____

Ordinance of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Establishing Speed Limits for Certain Streets Pursuant to the California Vehicle Code and Amending Palo Alto Municipal Code Chapter 10.56 (Special Speed Zones) to Establish Such Speed Limits, Including Increased Speed Limits of 40 MPH on Two Roadway Segments and Reduced Speed Limits of 20 MPH Within School Zones During School Hours When Children Are Present

The City Council of the City of Palo Alto ORDAINS as follows:

SECTION 1. Findings and Recitals. The Council of the City of Palo Alto finds and declares as follows:

A. California Vehicle Code section 22357 provides that whenever a local authority determines upon the basis of an engineering and traffic survey that a speed greater than 25 miles per hour would facilitate the orderly movement of vehicular traffic and would be reasonable and safe upon any street other than a state highway otherwise subject to a prima facie limit of 25 miles per hour, the local authority may by ordinance determine and declare a prima facie speed limit of 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, or 60 miles per hour or a maximum speed limit of 65 miles per hour, whichever is found most appropriate.

B. California Vehicle Code section 22358.3 provides that whenever a local authority determines upon the basis of an engineering and traffic survey that the prima facie speed limit of 25 miles per hour in a business or residence district or in a public park on any street having a roadway not exceeding 25 feet in width, other than a state highway, is more than is reasonable or safe, the local authority may, by ordinance or resolution, determine and declare a prima facie speed limit of 20 or 15 miles per hour, whichever is found most appropriate.

C. California Vehicle Code section 22358.4 provides that a local authority may, by ordinance or resolution, determine and declare prima facie speed limits of 15 miles per hour, in a residence district, on a highway with a posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour or slower, when approaching, at a distance of less than 500 feet from, or passing, a school building or the grounds of a school building, contiguous to a highway and posted with a school warning sign that indicates a speed limit of 15 miles per hour, while children are going to or leaving the school, either during school hours or during the noon recess period. The prima facie limit shall also apply when approaching, at a distance of less than 500 feet from, or passing, school grounds that are not separated from the highway by a fence, gate, or other physical barrier while the grounds are in use by children and the highway is posted with a school warning sign that indicates a speed limit of 15 miles per hour.

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D. The declared prima facie limit shall only be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected upon the street and the limits shall not be revised except upon the basis of an engineering and traffic study.

E. An engineering and traffic study survey was conducted for the City by Stantec Consulting Services Inc. in 2016.

F. The City Council desires to establish an increased speed of 40 mph for two roadway segments – East Bayshore from Embarcadero Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing to Adobe Creek, and Deer Creek Road from Page Mill Road to Arastradero Road -- to allow for radar enforcement of speed limits consistent with the 2016 survey.

G. In 2008, California Assembly Bill (AB) 321 went into effect which allows local jurisdictions, by adoption of an ordinance or resolution, to extend the 25 mph prima facie speed limit in school zones from 500 feet to 1,000 feet from the school grounds and to reduce the speed limit to 15 or 20 mph up to 500 feet from the school grounds, under certain conditions.

H. The City Council desires to establish a reduced speed limit of 20 mph within 500 feet of public schools within the City during school hours when children are present, as allowed by law.

I. The City Council has determined and declares that on the basis of the California Vehicle Code and the relevant engineering and traffic survey(s) that the speed limits set forth herein are the most reasonable, safe and appropriate to facilitate the orderly movement of traffic on the applicable portions of such streets within the City.

SECTION 2: Section 10.56.010 (State twenty-five miles per hour prima facie speed limit justified) is hereby amended as follows:

10.56.010 Twenty-five (25) miles per hour prima facie speed limit justified

It is determined that the state twenty-five miles per hour prima facie speed limit for business or residence districts is justified, as required by state law, with respect to the following streets or portions of streets by engineering and traffic surveys conducted by the city and completed on the dates shown below:

Street or Portion Thereof Affected	Engineering and Traffic Survey Completion Date
Churchill Avenue from Embarcadero Road to El Camino Real	March 21, 1994
Colorado Avenue from Middlefield Road to Louis Road	September 26, 1995
University Avenue from Middlefield Road to easterly city limit	September 26, 1995
Embarcadero Road from Alma Street Underpass to El Camino Real	September 26, 1995
Welch Road from Quarry Road to Pasteur Drive	September 26, 1995

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<u>Road Segment Name</u>	<u>Survey Completion Date</u>
<u>Alma St from El Camino Real to University Ave</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Amaranta Ave from Los Robles Ave to Maybell Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Arboretum Rd from Sand Hill Rd to Quarry Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Birch St from California Ave to Page Mill Exp</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>California Ave from Park Blvd to El Camino Real</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>California Ave from El Camino Real to Hanover St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Charleston Rd from Fabian Way to South City Limit</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Channing Ave from W Bayshore Rd to Newell Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Channing Ave from Newell Rd to Guinda Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Channing Ave from Guinda Ave to Alma St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Charleston Rd from Alma St to Middlefield Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Churchill Ave from Embarcadero Rd to Alma St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Churchill Ave from Alma St to El Camino Real</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Colorado Ave from W Bayshore Rd to Middlefield Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>E Meadow Dr from W Bayshore Rd to Louis Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>E Meadow Dr from Louis Rd to Alma St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>El Camino Way from Los Robles Ave to Maybell Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Embarcadero Rd from El Camino Real to Alma St</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Guinda Ave from Lytton Ave to Channing Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Hamilton Ave from Middlefield Rd to Alma St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>High St from Lytton Ave to Channing Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Homer Ave from Guinda Ave to Alma St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Laguna Ave from Matadero Ave to Los Robles Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Lambert Ave from Park Blvd to El Camino Real</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Loma Verde Ave from W Bayshore Rd to Middlefield Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Loma Verde Ave from Middlefield Rd to Alma St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Los Robles Ave from Laguna Ave to El Camino Real</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Louis Rd from Embarcadero Rd to Oregon Exp</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Louis Rd from Oregon Exp to Loma Verde Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Louis Rd from Loma Verde Rd to Charleston Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Lytton Ave from Alma St to Middlefield Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Matadero Ave from El Camino Real to Laguna Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Middlefield Rd from University Ave to Embarcadero Rd</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Middlefield Rd from Embarcadero Rd to Oregon Exp</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Newell Rd from East City Limit to Channing Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Newell Rd from Channing Ave to Embarcadero Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>N California Ave from Embarcadero Rd to Middlefield Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>

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<u>N California Ave from Middlefield Rd to Alma St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Park Blvd from California Ave to Lambert Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Peter Coutts Rd from Stanford Ave to Page Mill Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Porter Dr from Hillview Ave to Page Mill Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Quarry Rd from El Camino Real to Campus Dr</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Stanford Ave from El Camino Real to Peter Coutts Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Stanford Ave from Peter Coutts Rd to Junipero Serra Blvd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>University Ave from Middlefield Rd to Alma St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Waverley St from Lytton Ave to Channing Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Waverley St from Channing Ave to Embarcadero Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>W Meadow Dr from Alma St to El Camino Way</u>	<u>November 2017</u>

SECTION 3: Section 10.56.015 (State speed limit decreased (thirty miles per hour)) is hereby amended as follows:

10.56.015 Thirty (30) miles per hour prima facie speed limit

It is determined and justified upon the basis of engineering and traffic surveys, ~~conducted by the city, as required by state law and completed on the date shown in this section, that the maximum speed limit applicable under state law is more than is reasonable or safe upon the following streets or portions of streets, and that the following speed limits which facilitate the orderly movement of vehicular traffic and are reasonable and safe, and it is declared that the prima facie speed shall be as set forth in this section, except for school zones, on those streets or parts of streets designated in this section when signs are erected giving notice thereof:~~ that a speed greater than the twenty-five (25) miles per hour prima facie speed limit set forth in Section 22352 of the Vehicle Code of the state, would facilitate the orderly movement of vehicular traffic and would be reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist upon the streets, or portions thereof, set forth in this section, and it is hereby declared that thirty (30) miles per hour shall be the prima facie speed limit upon these streets, or portions thereof, except for school zones, as shown below:

**~~30 MPH DECLARED
PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMIT~~**

Street or Portion Thereof Affected	Engineering and Traffic Survey Completion Date
Fabian Way from East Charleston Road to West Bayshore Frontage Road	September 26, 1995
Hanover Street from Page Mill Expressway to Hillview Avenue	September 26, 1995
Hillview Avenue from Hanover Street to Foothill Expressway	September 26, 1995
Hansen Way from El Camino Real to Page Mill Expressway	September 26, 1995

<u>Road Segment Name</u>	<u>Survey Completion Date</u>
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<u>Fabian Way from Charleston Rd to W Bayshore Rd</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Hansen Way from El Camino Real to Page Mill Exp</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Hanover St from Page Mill Rd to Hillview Ave</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Hillview Ave from Hanover St to Foothill Exp</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Sand Hill Rd from El Camino Real to Arboretum</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>W Bayshore Rd from Oregon Exp to Colorado Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>

SECTION 4: Section 10.56.020 (State speed limit decreased (thirty-five miles per hour)) is hereby amended ~~by deleting its text and title in entirety and replacing the deleted text with the as follows:~~

Section 10.56.020 Thirty-five (35) miles per hour prima facie speed limit

It is determined and justified upon the basis of engineering and traffic surveys, ~~conducted by the city, as required by state law, and completed on the dates shown below, that the maximum speed limit applicable under state law is more than is reasonable or safe upon the following streets or portions of streets, and that the following speed limits would facilitate the orderly movement of vehicular traffic and are reasonable and safe, and it is declared that the prima facie speed limit shall be as set forth in these sections, except for school zones, on those streets or parts of streets designated in this section when signs are erected giving notice thereof:~~ that a speed greater than the twenty-five (25) miles per hour prima facie speed limit set forth in Section 22352 of the Vehicle Code of the state, would facilitate the orderly movement of vehicular traffic and would be reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist upon the streets, or portions thereof, set forth in this section, and it is hereby declared that thirty-five (35) miles per hour shall be the prima facie speed limit upon these streets, or portions thereof, except for school zones, as shown below:

**35 MPH DECLARED
PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMIT**

Street or Portion Thereof Affected	Engineering and Traffic Survey Completion Date
Arastradero Road from Foothill Expressway to city limit west of Deer Creek Road	March 21, 1994
Oregon Expressway from Middlefield Road to Alma Street	March 21, 1994
Oregon Expressway from Middlefield Road to U.S. 101	September 26, 1995
Sand Hill Road from Arboretum Street to Pasteur Drive	September 26, 1995
Sand Hill Road from Pasteur Drive to westerly city limit	September 26, 1995
Page Mill Expressway from Hanover Street to Foothill Expressway	September 26, 1995
Hillview Avenue from Foothill Expressway to Arastradero Road	September 26, 1995

Road Segment Name	Survey Completion Date
<u>Alma St from Lincoln Ave to Oregon Expy</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Alma St from Oregon Exp to E Meadow Dr</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Alma St from E Meadow Dr to South City Limit</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Arastradero Rd from Purissima Rd to Deer Creek Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>

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<u>Arastradero Rd from Deer Creek Rd to Foothill Exp</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Hillview Ave from Foothill Exp to Arastradero Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Oregon Exp from Middlefield Rd to Highway 101</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Oregon Exp from Middlefield Rd to Alma St</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Page Mill Rd from El Camino Real to Hanover St</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Page Mill Rd from Hanover St to Foothill Exp</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>Sand Hill Rd from Arboretum to West City limit</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>San Antonio Rd from Alma St Overpass to Middlefield Rd</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>San Antonio Rd from Middlefield Rd to Charleston Rd</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>San Antonio Rd from Charleston Rd to East City Limit</u>	<u>June 2014</u>
<u>W Bayshore Rd from Oregon Exp to Loma Verde Ave</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>W Bayshore Rd from Loma Verde to Fabian Way</u>	<u>June 2014</u>

SECTION 5: Section 10.56.025 (State speed limit increased (thirty miles per hour)) is hereby amended as follows:

Section 10.56.025 Forty (40) miles per hour prima facie speed limit

It is determined and justified upon the basis of engineering and traffic surveys, ~~conducted by the city, as required by state law, and completed on the dates shown below, that a speed greater than that provided by state law would facilitate the orderly movement of traffic and would be reasonable and safe upon the following streets or portions of streets, and it is declared that the prima facie speed limit shall be as set forth in this section except for school zones, on the streets or parts of streets designated in this section when signs are erected giving notice thereof:~~ that a speed greater than the twenty-five (25) miles per hour prima facie speed limit set forth in Section 22352 of the Vehicle Code of the state, would facilitate the orderly movement of vehicular traffic and would be reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist upon the streets, or portions thereof, set forth in this section, and it is hereby declared that forty (40) miles per hour shall be the prima facie speed limit upon these streets, or portions thereof, except for school zones, as shown below:

**~~30 MPH DECLARED
PRIMA-FACIE SPEED LIMIT~~**

~~Street or Portion Thereof Affected~~

~~Engineering and Traffic Survey
Completion Date~~

~~West Bayshore Frontage Road from Oregon Expressway to Amarillo Avenue~~

~~September 26, 1995~~

<u>Road Segment Name</u>	<u>Survey Completion Date</u>
<u>E Bayshore from Embarcadero Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Overcrossing to Adobe Creek</u>	<u>November 2017</u>
<u>Deer Creek Rd from western City limits to Arastradero Rd</u>	<u>November 2017</u>

SECTION 6: Section 10.56.30 (State speed limit increased (thirty-five miles per hour)) is hereby amended as follows:

Section 10.56.30 Forty-five (45) miles per hour prima facie speed limit

It is determined and justified upon the basis of engineering and traffic surveys, ~~conducted by the city, as required by state law, and completed on the dates shown below, that a speed greater than that provided by state law would facilitate the orderly movement of traffic and would be reasonable and safe upon the following streets or portions of streets, and it is declared that the prima facie speed limit shall be as set forth in this section, except for school zones, on the streets or parts of streets designated in this section when signs are erected giving notice thereof:~~ that a speed greater than the twenty-five (25) miles per hour prima facie speed limit set forth in Section 22352 of the Vehicle Code of the state, would facilitate the orderly movement of vehicular traffic and would be reasonable and safe under the conditions found to exist upon the streets, or portions thereof, set forth in this section, and it is hereby declared that forty-five (45) miles per hour shall be the prima facie speed limit upon these streets, or portions thereof, except for school zones, as shown below:

~~35 MPH DECLARED PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMIT~~

Street or Portion Thereof Affected	Engineering and Traffic Survey Completion Date
East Bayshore Road from Embarcadero Road to northerly city limit	March 21, 1994
Page Mill Expressway from Alma Street to Hanover Road	March 21, 1994
San Antonio Road from East Bayshore Road to Alma Street	March 21, 1994
Alma Street from Embarcadero Road to Oregon Expressway	September 26, 1995
Alma Street from Oregon Expressway to Meadow Drive	September 26, 1995
Alma Street from Meadow Drive to San Antonio Road	September 26, 1995

<u>Road Segment Name</u>	<u>Survey Completion Date</u>
<u>Foothill Expressway from Page Mill Rd to South City Limit</u>	<u>November 2017</u>

SECTION 7: New Section 10.56.35 (Twenty (20) miles per hour School Zones Speed Limit) is added as follows:

Section 10.56.35 Twenty (20) miles per hour School Zones Speed Limit

It is determined and justified pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 22358.4(b)(1) that twenty (20) miles per hour shall be the prima facie speed limit on the road segments shown below at a distance within 500 feet from or of the school grounds while children are going to or leaving the school, either during school hours or during the noon recess period.

	<u>School name</u>	<u>Road Segment Name</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>Addison Elementary School</u>	<u>Middlefield Rd</u>
		<u>Webster St</u>

Not Yet Approved

		<u>Addison Ave</u>
		<u>Lincoln Ave</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>Palo Alto High School</u>	<u>Churchill Ave</u>
		<u>Embarcadero Rd</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>Walter Hays Elementary School</u>	<u>Embarcadero Rd</u>
		<u>Middlefield Rd</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>Duveneck Elementary School</u>	<u>Channing Ave</u>
		<u>Alester Ave</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>Jordan Middle School</u>	<u>California Ave</u>
		<u>Middlefield Rd</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>Ohlone Elementary School</u>	<u>Amarillo Ave</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>El Carmelo Elementary School</u>	<u>El Carmelo Ave</u>
		<u>Loma Verde Ave</u>
		<u>Bryant St</u>
		<u>Ramona St</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>Palo Verde Elementary School</u>	<u>Louis Rd</u>
		<u>Rorke Way</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>Fairmeadow Elementary School</u>	<u>East Meadow Dr</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>JLS Middle School</u>	<u>East Meadow Dr</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>Herbert Elementary School</u>	<u>Charleston Rd</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>Barron Park Elementary School</u>	<u>Barron Ave</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>Juana Briones Elementary School</u>	<u>Maybell Dr</u>
		<u>Gerogia Ave</u>
		<u>Orme St</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>Terman Elementary School</u>	<u>Terman Ave</u>
		<u>Arastradero Rd</u>
<u>15</u>	<u>Gunn High School</u>	<u>Arastradero Rd</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>Escondido Elementary School</u>	<u>Stanford Ave</u>

Not Yet Approved

SECTION 8. Severability. If any provision, clause, sentence or paragraph of this ordinance, or the application to any person or circumstances, shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

SECTION 9. CEQA. The City Council finds and determines that this Ordinance is not a project within the meaning of section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it has no potential for resulting in physical change in the environment, either directly or ultimately.

SECTION 10. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective upon the thirty-first date after its passage and adoption.

INTRODUCED:

PASSED:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Manager

Assistant City Attorney

Director of Planning and Community
Environment