



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL** **DATE: JUNE 23, 2015**  
**FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT** **WARD: 3**  
**SUBJECT: SPEED LIMIT ZONE ESTABLISHMENT ON ESSEX STREET – ORDINANCE**

**ISSUE:**

The issue for City Council consideration is establishment of a 35 mile per hour (MPH) speed limit on Essex Street from Mountain View Avenue to Central Avenue.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council introduce and adopt an ordinance to establish a 35 MPH speed limit zone on Essex Street from Mountain View Avenue to Central Avenue.

**BOARD RECOMMENDATION:**

On May 6, 2015, the Transportation Board (Board) reviewed this matter; seven of nine members were present. The Board unanimously recommended establishment of the proposed 35 MPH speed limit zone on Essex Street from Mountain View Avenue to Central Avenue.

**BACKGROUND:**

Residents on Essex Street from Mountain View Avenue to Central Avenue have expressed concerns regarding speeding within their neighborhood. Existing 25 MPH signage is in place on the street; however, this stretch of roadway is classified as a two-lane collector street requiring a speed survey to determine the appropriate maximum speed for this section of Essex Street and allow for establishment of an enforceable speed limit.

The Public Works Department conducted a Traffic and Engineering Survey which concluded the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed to be 41 MPH. As a result of survey findings and roadway conditions including dirt shoulders, variations in road width, and limited sight distance due to curvilinear alignment, the Public Works Department is proposing establishment of a 35 MPH speed limit on Essex Street from Mountain View Avenue to Central Avenue.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost of sign removal and installation is nominal. Funding is available in the existing Public Works Department budget.

Prepared by: Thomas J. Boyd, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer  
Certified as to  
availability of funds: Brent A. Mason, Finance Director/Treasurer  
Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager  
for John A. Russo, City Manager  
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Ordinance
2. Site Map
3. Transportation Board Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2015