



City of Arts & Innovation

Transportation Board

TO: TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DATE: SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

WARD: 2

SUBJECT: REVISION OF 5-TON WEIGHT LIMIT RESTRICTION – WATKINS DRIVE

ISSUE:

Revision of the adopted 5-ton weight limit restriction on Watkins Drive to correct the southerly boundary of the restricted zone.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Transportation Board recommend that the City Council approve revision of the boundaries of the adopted 5-ton weight limit restriction on Watkins Drive from “Spruce Street to Central Avenue” to “Spruce Street to the southerly City limits.”

BACKGROUND:

The Public Works Department may establish weight limit or axle restrictions to prohibit use of select streets by larger commercial vehicles. These types of restrictions reduce commercial truck traffic on certain local, residential, and/or collector roadways by directing truck traffic onto arterial roadways. Weight limit restrictions assist in preserving the pavement and promoting safe use of streets which may have distinctive roadway conditions, are residential in nature, or experience cut-through truck traffic. Such restrictions do not prevent use for the purpose of delivering or picking up of materials/merchandise or the performance of services in connection with a property within the specific block.

DISCUSSION:

The Public Works Department is proposing a revision of the adopted 5-ton weight limit restriction on Watkins Drive to correct the southerly zone boundary currently designated in the Section 10.56.020 of the Riverside Municipal Code (RMC) as Central Avenue which is located within the County of Riverside and outside of the jurisdiction of the City. The weight limit restriction was approved by City Council on February 5, 2002 to address Watkins Drive and Knox Court resident concerns regarding heavy truck traffic on Watkins Drive. The original City Council Memorandum does not include specified boundary information, however, the map attachment does not reflect the City limit line and appears to show the southerly zone boundary near the I-215 Freeway ramps, and the resolution specifies Central Avenue as the southerly boundary. As our purpose in establishing weight limit restrictions is to control truck traffic on City streets under our authority, and the City Council Memorandum does not specify boundaries for the restriction and discusses mitigation measures to address through truck traffic, these factors suggest that the intent was to adopt the restriction on the portion of

Watkins Drive which is located within the City of Riverside from Spruce Street to the southerly City limits. This also allows trucks utilizing nearby unrestricted streets including Central Avenue and Sycamore Canyon Boulevard, or exiting the I-215 freeway at Central Avenue to enter the I-215 Northbound on-ramp to avoid traveling through the restricted portion of Watkins Drive which is more residential in nature. To clarify the restriction, an “Ahead” plaque was recently added to the existing 5-ton weight limit restriction sign located on northbound Watkins Drive between the I-215 NB off-ramp and on-ramp north of Central Avenue and a missing sign was replaced just north of the City limit and “Begin” plaque was added.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of additional sign installation was estimated to be \$220 and was charged to the Public Works Department Signing Supplies account number 4110100-424143.

Prepared by: Gilbert Hernandez, P.E., T.E., City Traffic Engineer
Approved by: Kris Martinez, Public Works Director

Attachments:

1. Site Map
2. Aerial Map
3. City Council Memorandum and attachments, February 5, 2002