



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**      **DATE: APRIL 25, 2017**  
**FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**      **WARDS: 4, 6 AND 7**  
**SUBJECT: SPEED LIMIT ZONE ESTABLISHMENTS ON BARTON STREET AND WELLS AVENUE – ORDINANCE**

## **ISSUES:**

Establish a 45 MPH speed limit zone on Barton Street from Van Buren Boulevard to Mariposa Avenue and a reduced speed limit on Wells Avenue from Tyler Street to Hole Avenue changing the existing speed limit from 40 MPH to 35 MPH.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council introduce and subsequently adopt an ordinance to:

1. Establish a 45 MPH speed limit zone on Barton Street from Van Buren Boulevard to Mariposa Avenue; and
2. Reduce the existing speed limit on Wells Avenue from Tyler Street to Hole Avenue from 40 MPH to 35 MPH.

## **BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:**

On March 1, 2017, the Transportation Board (Board) reviewed this matter; six of six members were present. The Board unanimously recommended establishment of the proposed speed limits on designated segments of Barton Street and Wells Avenue.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Public Works Department performs speed surveys to establish appropriate speed limits on City street segments including those classified as collector or arterial roadways and local roadways which do not meet the California Vehicle Code (CVC) definition of a roadway designated with a prima facie speed limit. These surveys include consideration of prevailing speeds as determined by traffic engineering measurements, accident data, unusual conditions not readily apparent to motorists, residential density, and pedestrian and bicyclist safety. These surveys are performed in accordance with the CVC and Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

and enable both establishment and enforcement of the posted speed limit on many of our City streets.

## **DISCUSSION:**

### **Barton Street**

Barton Street between Van Buren Boulevard and Mariposa Avenue is predominantly a two-lane arterial roadway with no existing posted speed limit. Currently vacant lots front the entire east side of the street segment and a combination of vacant lots, an agricultural property, and the sides and rears of single family residential properties are located along the west side of the roadway. As the street segment does not have an established speed limit, the Public Works Department conducted a Traffic and Engineering Survey on Barton Street from Van Buren Boulevard to Mariposa Avenue to determine the appropriate speed limit. The survey concluded the current 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed to be 52 MPH. As a result of the survey findings and noted unusual conditions including dirt shoulders and variations in road width, the Public Works Department is proposing establishment of a 45 MPH speed limit.

### **Wells Avenue**

Wells Avenue between Tyler Street and Hole Avenue is a two-lane collector roadway. Single and multi-family residential properties predominantly front the street segment along with some commercial properties and vacant lots. The roadway currently has a posted speed limit of 35 MPH, however, the established speed limit shows as 40 MPH. An updated Traffic and Engineering Survey was conducted on Wells Avenue from Tyler Street to Hole Avenue to replace an existing survey due to expire. The survey concluded the current 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed to be 42 MPH. As a result of the survey findings and noted unusual conditions including segments with dirt shoulders and without sidewalk improvements, residential density within portions, multiple closely spaced driveways, and equestrian activity, the Public Works Department is proposing reduction of the existing speed limit from 40 MPH to 35 MPH which supports the posted speed limit, active living, and improves safety.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost of sign fabrication, removal, and installation is estimated at \$725. Funding is available in the existing Public Works Department budget, Signing Supplies account number 4110100-424143, to cover this cost.

Prepared by: Kris Martinez, Public Works Director  
Certified as to  
availability of funds: Scott G. Miller, PhD, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer  
Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager  
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

### **Attachments:**

1. Ordinance
2. Site Map – Barton Street
3. Site Map – Wells Avenue
4. Transportation Board Meeting Minutes – March 1, 2017