



MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

May 6, 2035

Subject: Amending Tucson Code Sections 20- 140 to 20-143 to Reduce Speed Limits on Various Roadways Within the City Limits (City Wide)

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Issue – Mayor and Council approval is requested to amend Tucson Code §§ 20-140 – 20-143 to reduce the speed limit on various roadways that require adjustment after traffic assessments were conducted.

City Manager's Office Recommendation – It is recommended that the Mayor and Council adopt the attached ordinances, amending Tucson Code §§ 20-140 – 20-143 to reduce speed limits on Bilby Road, Calle Santa Cruz, First Avenue, Ft. Lowell Road, Roger Rd, Shannon Road, Silverbell Road, Sixth Avenue and Tucson Boulevard.

Background – Arizona Revised Statutes §§ 28-627 and 28-703 authorize local governments to establish speed limits on roadways within their jurisdiction. Tucson Code §§ 20-140 – 20-143 establish speed limits for roadways with posted speed limits other than 25 miles per hour (mph). After traffic studies were conducted certain roadways require speed limit reductions to optimize roadway operations and public safety. Accordingly, amendments to the City Code will ensure alignment with current transportation needs.

Present Consideration(s) – The Department of Transportation and Mobility staff conducted assessments of existing posted speed limits for a variety of roads. Based on several factors, including speed limit studies, surrounding land uses and roadway conditions, it was determined that the following roadways require speed limit adjustments:

- Bilby Road from 12th Avenue to Nogales Highway; reduce the posted speed limit from 30 miles per hour (mph) to 25 mph.
- Calle Santa Cruz from Irvington Road to Valencia Road; reduce the posted speed limit from 40 mph to 35 mph.
- First Avenue from north City Limits to Wetmore Road; reduce posted speed limit from 45 mph to 35 mph.
- First Avenue from Wetmore Road to Grant Road; reduce the posted speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph.
- Ft. Lowell Road from Oracle Road to First Avenue; reduce the posted speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph.
- Roger Road from First Avenue to Campbell Avenue; reduce the posted speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph.
- Shannon Road from Starr Pass Boulevard to the south end of road; reduce the posted speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph.
- Silverbell Road from Goret Road to Grant Road; reduce the posted speed limit from 45 mph to 40 mph.

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- Silverbell Road from Grant Road to Speedway Boulevard; reduce posted speed limit from 40 mph to 35 mph. As a result of this change, Silverbell Road from Grant to St. Mary's Road will not be 35 mph along its entire length.
- Sixth Avenue from Speedway Boulevard to Sixth Street; reduce the posted speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph.
- Tucson Boulevard from Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street; reduce posted speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph. As a result of this change Tucson Boulevard from Grant Road to 22nd Street will not be 30 mph along its entire length.

See Attachment "A" to this communication for a map illustrating the location proposed for speed limit adjustments.

Plan Tucson Consideration(s) – The strategies embedded in the 5-Year Safety Plan are related to various goals and policies of Plan Tucson, including Goal 3, "a safe community and secure neighborhoods;" Policy LT22, "participate in efforts to develop a coordinated regional, multi-modal transportation system that improves the efficiency, safety, and reliability of transporting people and goods within the region and to destinations outside of the region," and Chapter 3, Public Safety, "keeping the public safe is a fundamental responsibility of government."

Financial Considerations – New speed limit signs will be fabricated and installed by the Department. This cost can be absorbed by the Department's Operating budget.

Operating Cost and Maintenance Input – New speed limit signs will be fabricated and installed by the Department. This cost can be absorbed by the Department's Operating budget.

Legal Considerations –The City Attorney's Office has prepared the four attached Ordinances amending Tucson Code §§ 20-140 – 20-143, respectively.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristina Swallow
Assistant City Manager

KS/SC/JD/BO/hw
TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY

Attachment(s): Map of Proposed Speed Limit Adjustments
Ordinance 30 mph
Ordinance 35 mph
Ordinance 40 mph
Ordinance 45 mph