

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

CDG

October 30, 2009

To: June Lagmay, City Clerk  
City Clerk's Office

From: Patricia Sanchez, Commission Executive Assistant  
Board of Transportation Commissioners

Subject: ORDINANCE APPROVAL – RECOMMENDED SPEED LIMIT  
REVISION FOR SHELDON STREET BETWEEN GLENOAKS  
BOULEVARD AND ROSCOE BOULEVARD

PS

At its regular meeting of August 13, 2009, the Board of Transportation Commissioners considered the evidence presented at the public hearing and approved the Ordinance referenced above. A copy of the Board's action, along with the Ordinance is attached for your information.

After your office reviews the Board Report, please forward it to City Council for consideration.

If you need further information, please contact Alan Willis, Principal Transportation Engineer, at (213) 972-8430.

PS

Attachments

c: John Fisher  
Alan Willis  
Jasmin San Luis

EX-100-100000  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
OCT 30 2009  
PS # 100 100000  
EX-100-100000

**BOARD REPORT  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Item #21

06 – East Valley #09-3412  
Sheldon St bet. Glenoaks Bl  
& Roscoe Bl

DATE: *August 13,*  
July 22, 2009

TO: Board of Transportation Commissioners

**SUBJECT: ORDINANCE APPROVAL - RECOMMENDED SPEED LIMIT REVISION  
FOR SHELDON STREET BETWEEN GLENOAKS BOULEVARD AND  
ROSCOE BOULEVARD**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That your Board approve revising the speed limit on Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard from 35 to 40 miles per hour, so as to be able to retain radar enforcement.
2. That your Board recommend to the City Council that they approve the attached City Attorney's draft ordinance amending Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (L.A.M.C.) establishing the recommended speed limit.
3. That two copies of this report and the draft ordinance be forwarded to the City Clerk for assignment of a council file number and transmittal to the City Council.

**INITIATED BY:**

A speed study was initiated by a request from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to determine the appropriate speed limit and to permit enforcement by the use of radar.

**DISCUSSION:**

In order for jurisdictions to legally use radar enforcement, the California Vehicle Code requires that the speed limits be re-established every seven years (or ten years following a one-time three year extension) using factual and impartial criteria. These factors include prevailing critical speeds, collision history and the existence of any conditions not readily apparent to motorists. These criteria are intended to provide an objective basis for setting speed limits and precluding speed traps. Speed limits set according to these criteria ensure that the greater majority of reasonable motorists will not be subject to arbitrary citations.

An engineering and traffic survey has been completed for Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard as required by California Vehicle Code Section 40802(b), in order to justify enforcement of the speed limit by radar. The attached Engineering Report summarizes the findings of the engineering and traffic survey and the basis for the recommended speed limit. The survey indicated that a speed limit of 40 miles per hour is consistent with traffic conditions and roadway characteristics and will facilitate the safe and orderly movement of traffic.

August 13  
July 22, 2009

The average critical speed for Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard is 39.75 miles per hour. If the current 35 miles per hour speed limit were to be retained, then 46.3 percent of the motorists would be considered as speed violators. There are no significant roadway conditions that could be considered as not readily apparent to motorists, or that create special problems for bicyclists or pedestrians. The injury accident rate of 1.57 accidents per million vehicle miles is within the normal range, and substantiates the safety level of the roadway operation within 5 miles per hour of the critical speed.

**COORDINATION:**

LAPD has reviewed the information supporting the proposed speed limit revision and has no objections as stated in their March 26, 2009 response to a Department of Transportation memo dated March 23, 2009. The Department of Transportation sent a letter to Councilmember Cardenas, 6<sup>th</sup> District, on April 2, 2009, notifying him of the proposed speed limit revision and the reasons for the change.

On April 2, 2009, the Department sent a letter to the Sun Valley Neighborhood Area Council notifying them of the proposed speed limit revision and the reasons for the change. On May 15, 2009, the Department of Transportation sent an e-mail follow up to that letter to the Sun Valley Neighborhood Area Neighborhood Council. The Department of Transportation discussed the speed limit changes with Mike O'Gara, President, Sun Valley Neighborhood Area Council on June 8, 2009. The Department of Transportation met with the Sun Valley Area Neighborhood Council on July 14, 2009 to discuss the findings, and to advise them that this matter is to be heard by the Board of Transportation Commissioners. At that meeting, several Boardmembers expressed concerns about the 40 miles per hour speed limit by the location that will be the new Sun Valley High School in Fall 2009, but they were told that "25 Miles Per Hour When Children Are Present" regulatory signs, and "25 Miles Per Hour Ahead" warning signs can be posted to address their concerns.

Approved by:

*John S. Fisher*

for RITA L. ROBINSON  
General Manager  
Department of Transportation

Date Signed: July 29, 2009

RLR:brg  
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- c: Councilmember Tony Cardenas, 6<sup>th</sup> Council District
- City Clerk (2)
- City Attorney
- Board of Transportation Commissioners (7)
- Captain Phillip Trotter, LAPD
- Survey Section, LADOT
- Carolyn Jackson, LADOT

Approved: August 13, 2009  
 Board of Transportation Commissioners  
*Rita L. Robinson*  
 Executive Assistant

Attachments



OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO  
CITY ATTORNEY

June 1, 2009

The Honorable Board of  
Transportation Commissioners  
City of Los Angeles  
100 S. Main Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: A Draft Ordinance Amending Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles  
Municipal Code to Change the Speed Limit on Sheldon Street in the City of  
Los Angeles

Honorable Members:

Pursuant to standing instructions from the City Council and the request of the Department of Transportation, this office has prepared and transmits with this letter, approved as to form and legality, a draft of ordinance amending Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 80.81 to establish the speed limit on portions of Sheldon Street in Council District 6, at 40 miles per hour, in order to ensure radar enforcement. This draft ordinance has been approved by the Los Angeles Police Department as well as by the affected Council Office, completing all requirements of City Council Rule 38.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (213) 978-8147.

Sincerely,

ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO, City Attorney

By   
SHELLEY ILENE SMITH  
Assistant City Attorney

Transmittal

M:GC:SS: Speed Limit on Sheldon St Ltr

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

An ordinance amending Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to change the speed limit on Sheldon Street in the City of Los Angeles.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Subdivision S of Subsection (2) of Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended by deleting the following:

Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard.

Sec 2. Subdivision S of Subsection (3) of Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended by adding the following in alphabetical order:

Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard.

Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

I hereby certify that this ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, at its meeting of \_\_\_\_\_.

JUNE LAGMAY, City Clerk

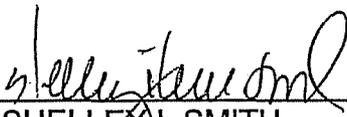
By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legality

ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO, City Attorney

By  \_\_\_\_\_  
SHELLEY I. SMITH  
Assistant City Attorney

Date 6/1/09 \_\_\_\_\_

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

**ENGINEERING REPORT**  
Engineering and Traffic Survey for  
Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard

Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard is designated as a "Secondary Highway". Currently, Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard is posted with a 35 miles per hour speed limit.

Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard has a roadway width varying from 48 to 78 feet, with striping as follows:

- Glenoaks Boulevard to Ilex Avenue has two lanes each direction, with two-way left-turn channelization
- Ilex Avenue to Kewen Avenue has two lanes each direction, with a centerline
- Kewen Avenue to Haddon Avenue has two lanes each direction, with two-way left-turn channelization
- Haddon Avenue to approximately 200 feet north of Rincon Avenue has two lanes each direction, with a centerline
- Approximately 200 feet north of Rincon Avenue to approximately 200 feet south of Laurel Canyon Boulevard has two lanes each direction, with left-turn channelization
- Approximately 200 feet south of Laurel Canyon Boulevard to approximately 300 feet north of Arleta Avenue has two lanes each direction, with a centerline
- Approximately 300 feet north of Arleta Avenue to approximately 300 feet south of Arleta Avenue has two lanes each direction, with raised median and left-turn channelization
- Approximately 300 feet south of Arleta Avenue to Roscoe Boulevard has two lanes each direction, with a centerline

The development along the frontage of this segment of Sheldon Street includes a mixture of residential, commercial, and undeveloped areas. Richard E. Byrd Junior High School is located between Cayuga Avenue and Telfair Avenue.

The segment of Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard is a distance of approximately 2.6 miles, with observed critical speeds between 38 and 41 miles per hour, and an average critical speed of 39.75 miles per hour. The average lower limit of pace is 31.5 miles per hour, and the average median speed is 34.6 miles per hour. According to the requirements for setting speed limits described in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (California MUTCD), effective September 26, 2006, the speed limit on this segment of Sheldon Street should be set at 40 miles per hour, unless there are roadway characteristics that are unexpected to drivers that can justify a 5

miles per hour reduction. A review of field conditions and accident records indicates that there are no observed conditions that objectively could be considered as not readily apparent to motorists. The accident rate on this segment is 1.57 per million-vehicle-miles; which is relatively low. Accordingly, any speed limit reduction below the proposed 40 miles per hour speed limit would not be justified.

If the current 35 miles per hour speed limit were to be retained, then 46.3 percent of the motorists would be considered as speed violators. In the absence of factors, this high rate of violators would be unreasonable and would not distinguish occasional violators from the majority of reasonable drivers.

Therefore, for the reasons described above, the Department recommends that the existing 35 miles per hour speed limit on Sheldon Street between Glenoaks Boulevard and Roscoe Boulevard, be increased to 40 miles per hour.

Approved: John E. Fisher <sup>for</sup> Title: Principal Transportation Engineer

Date: MARCH 20, 2009

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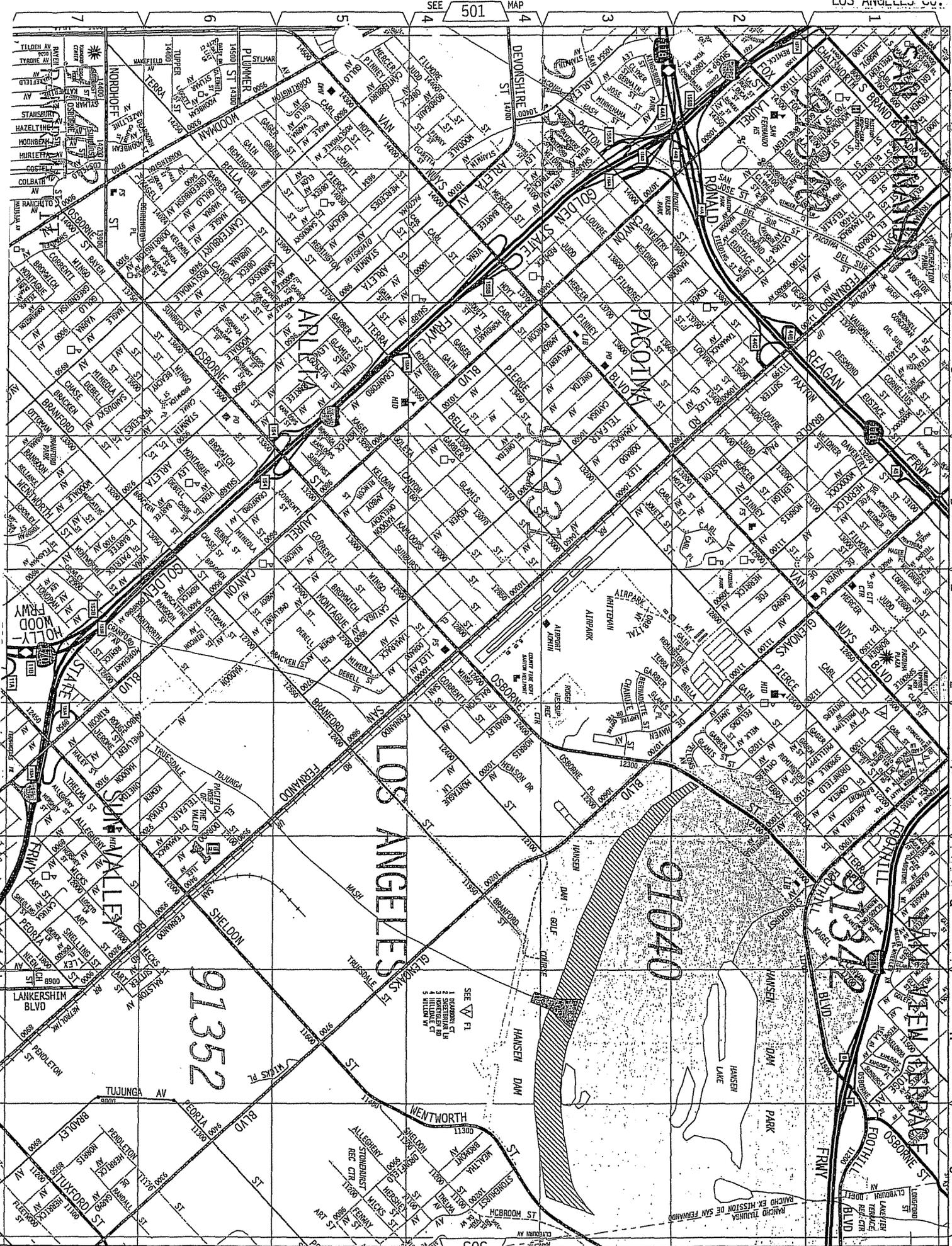
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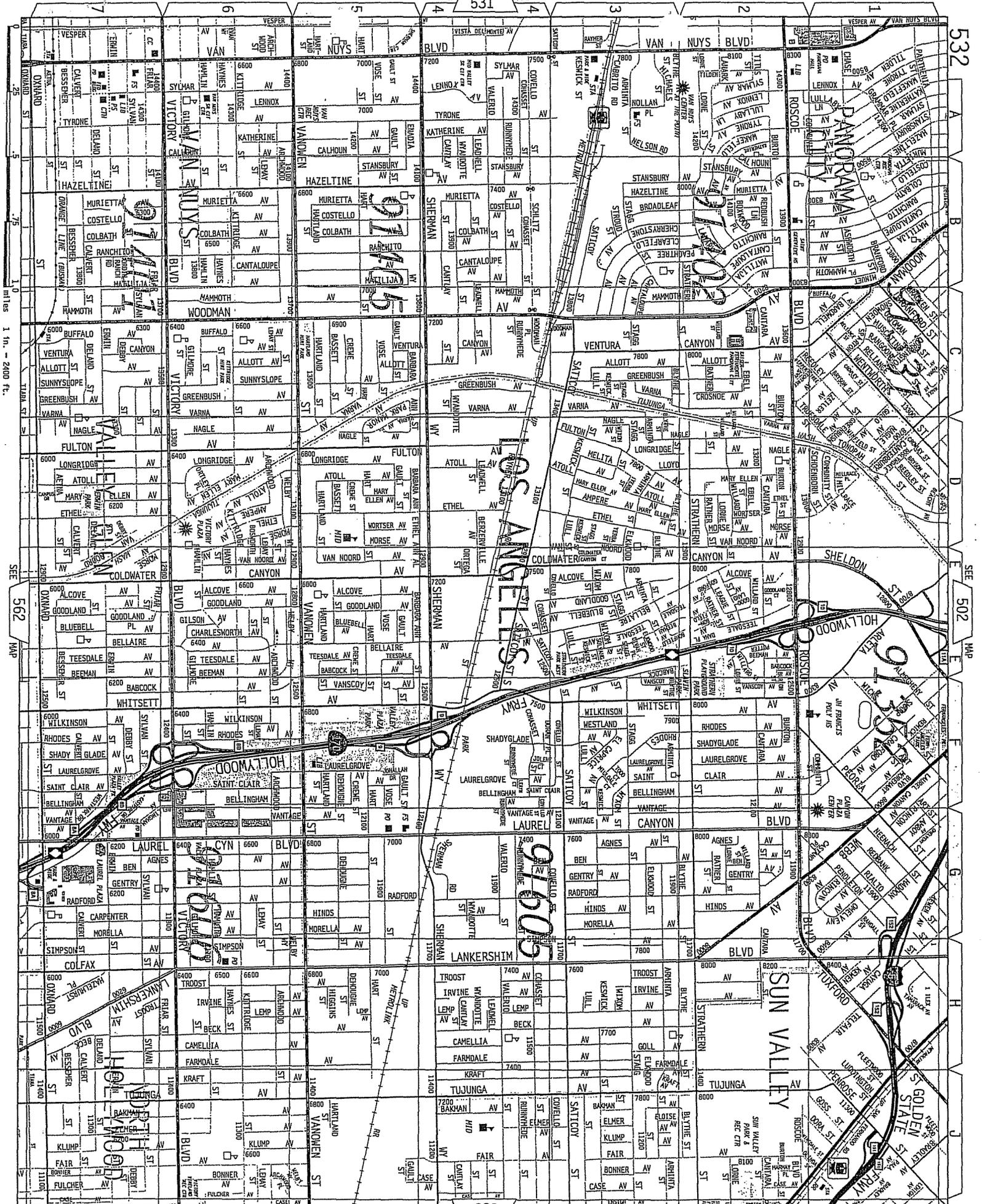
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SEE 482 MAP





0 0.5 1.0 miles  
1 in. = 2400 ft.

SEE 562 MAP

SEE 502 MAP

**NC Contact Log\***  
**Speed Zones on Transportation Commission Agenda for**  
**August 13, 2009**

<b>Agend Item No.</b>	<b>Street (CD #)</b>	<b>Boundaries</b>	<b>Speed change</b>	<b>Neighborhood Council</b>
25	Polk St (CD 6)	Eldridge Av to San Fernando Rd	+40 mph	Sylmar NC – Quyen Vo-Ramiez, Chair
26	Hollywood Wy (CD 2)	Glenoaks Bl to Cohasset St (BCL)	+40 mph	Sun Valley Area NC – Mike O’Gara, Chair
20	Riverside Dr (CD 2,4,5)	City Limit E/O Clybourn Av to Van Nuys Bl	+40 mph	Sherman Oaks NC Jill Banks-Barad, Chair  Greater Toluca Lake NC, Jerome Williams, Chair  Valley Village NC Tony Braswell, Chair
13	Paxton St (2 zones) (CD 6,7)	Foothill Bl to Arleta Av	+40 mph	Arleta NC Jim Kallas, Chari  Pacoima NC Reuben Garcia, Chair
18	Arleta Av (CD 6)	Devonshire St to Roscoe Bl	+40 mph	Arleta NC Jim Kallas, Chair
17	Beverly Glen Bl (CD 5)	Ventura Bl to Mulholland Dr	+30, 35, - 30 mph	Sherman Oaks NC Jill Banks-Burad, Chair
28	San Fernando Rd (CD 2,6,7)	Fox St to Cohasset St (SF/B/CL)	+40, 45 mph	Pacoima NC Reuben Garcia, Chair  Sun Valley Area NC Mike O’Gara, Chair
23	Apperson St (CD 2)	Haines Canyon Av to Newhome Av	Est 30 mph	Sunland-Tujunga NC Cindy Cleghorn and Dan Manus
16	Day St (CD 2) NEW, to be established in LAMC	City Limit E/O Amanita St to Silverton Av	Est. 25 mph	Sunland-Tujunga NC Cindy Cleghorn and Dan Manus
14	Gladstone St (CD 7)	Maclay St to Polk St	- 30 mph	Sylmar NC – Quyen Vo-Ramiez, Chair
24	McVine Av (CD 2)	Ellenbogen St to Foothill Bl	Est 25 mph	Sunland-Tujunga NC Cindy Cleghorn and Dan Manus
22	Summitrose St (CD 2)	Fairgrove Av to Mt. Gleason Av	Est 30 mph	Sunland-Tujunga NC Cindy Cleghorn and Dan Manus
27	Hatteras St (CD 2) NEW, to be established in LAMC	Hazeltine Av to Sepulveda Bl	Est 30 mph	4/2/09 Van Nuys NC Lydia Mather, Chair
21	Sheldon St (CD 6)	Glenoaks Bl to Roscoe Bl	+ 40 mph	Sun Valley Area NC Mike O’Gara, Chair

Agend Item No.	Street (CD #)	Boundaries	Speed change	Neighborhood Council
17	San Fernando Rd (CD 7)	Sepulveda Bl to City Limit N/O Hubbard St	+ 45,50 mph	Sylmar NC – Quyen Vo-Ramiez, Chair
15	Glenoaks Bl (CD 7)	Foothill Bl to City Limit S/O Hubbard St	+ 40 mph	Sylmar NC – Quyen Vo-Ramiez, Chair
19	Sunland Bl (CD 2,6)	Foothill Bl/Newhome Av to Vineland Av	+ 40 mph, -40 mph	Sunland-Tujunga NC Cindy Cleghorn and Dan Manus  Sun Valley Area NC Mike O'Gara, Chair  Foothill Trails District NC Dale Gibson, Chair