

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

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 ARLETA AVENUE BETWEEN DEVONSHIRE
STREET AND ROSCOE BOULEVARD

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

BA...
CITY CLERK
OCT 30 AM 8:30
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED

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

Item #18

06 – East Valley #09-3532
Arleta Av bet. Devonshire St
& Roscoe Bl.

DATE: *August 13,*
July 24, 2009

TO: Board of Transportation Commissioners

**SUBJECT: ORDINANCE APPROVAL - RECOMMENDED SPEED LIMIT REVISION FOR
ARLETA AVENUE BETWEEN DEVONSHIRE STREET AND ROSCOE
BOULEVARD**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That your Board approve revising the speed limit on Arleta Avenue between Devonshire Street 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 Arleta Avenue between Devonshire Street 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.

The average critical speed for Arleta Avenue between Devonshire Street and Roscoe Boulevard is 40 miles per hour. If the current 35 miles per hour speed limit were to be retained, then 56 percent of the motorists would be considered as speed violators. There were no significant

AUGUST 13,
July 21, 2009

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 1.38 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 16, 2009 response to a Department of Transportation memo dated February 17, 2009. The Department of Transportation sent a letter to Councilmember Cardenas, 6th District, on November 18, 2008, notifying him of the proposed speed limit revision and the reasons for the change.

On November 18, 2008, the Department sent a letter to the Arleta Neighborhood Council, notifying them of the proposed speed limit revision and the reasons for the change. On May 15, 2009, the Department sent an e-mail follow up to that letter to the Arleta Neighborhood Council. On May 18, 2009, the Department of Transportation left a voice message for the Arleta Neighborhood Council advising them of the opportunity to discuss the findings, and to advise them that this matter is to be heard by the Board of Transportation Commissioners. On May 19, 2009, Robert Rouge, a Board Member with the Arleta Neighborhood Council, left a message with the Department of Transportation that the Arleta Neighborhood Council was having organizational problems and has not been able to manage a quorum since June 2008, and that they were not able to further discuss the proposed speed limits. The Department of Transportation has been unsuccessful in attempts to contact Jim Kallas, President, Arleta Neighborhood Council, on the telephone, as calls to his phone number listed on the directory for the Arleta Neighborhood Council go unanswered and he does not have any voice mail.

Approved by:

John E. 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, Sixth District
- City Clerk (2)
- City Attorney
- Board of Transportation Commissioners (7)
- Captain Phillip Trotter, LAPD
- Survey Section, LADOT
- Carolyn Jackson, LADOT

Attachments

Approved: August 13, 2009
 Board of Transportation Commissioners
Patricia...
Commissioner...



OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO
CITY ATTORNEY

May 18, 2009

6/4/09

c: Alan Willis

PS

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

Note: Received 6//3/09

Re: A Draft Ordinance Amending Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles
Municipal Code to Change the Speed Limit on Arleta Avenue 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 Arleta Avenue 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 Arleta Ave Ltr

ORDINANCE NO. _____

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

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

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

On Arleta Avenue between Fox Street and Roscoe Boulevard.

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

Arleta Avenue between Fox Street and Devonshire Street.

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

Arleta Avenue between Devonshire Street and Roscoe Boulevard.

Sec. 4. 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 A. LAGMAY, City Clerk

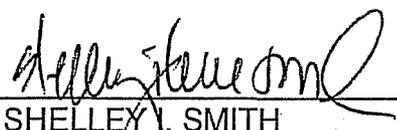
By _____ Deputy

Approved _____

Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legality

ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO, City Attorney

By  _____
SHELLEY J. SMITH
Assistant City Attorney

Date 5/18/09 _____

File No. _____

ENGINEERING REPORT

Engineering and Traffic Survey for Arleta Avenue between Devonshire Street and Roscoe Boulevard

Arleta Avenue between Devonshire Street and Roscoe Boulevard is designated as a "Secondary Highway" between Roscoe Boulevard and Van Nuys Boulevard, and as a "Major Highway" between Van Nuys Boulevard and Devonshire Street. The entire 3.34-mile street segment is currently posted with a 35 miles per hour speed limit.

Arleta Avenue between Devonshire Street and Roscoe Boulevard has a roadway width varying from 58 to 82-feet with striping as follows:

- two lanes each direction with two-way left-turn channelization between Devonshire Street and the alley south of Terra Bella Street, the alley north of Osborne Street and approximately 100 feet south of Montague Street, and approximately 300 feet north of Bracken Street and Roscoe Boulevard,
- two lanes each direction between the alley south of Terra Bella Street and the alley north of Osborne Street, and approximately 100 feet south of Montague Street and approximately 300 feet north of Bracken Street.

Single-family, multi-family residential and business are the main land uses on this portion of Arleta Avenue.

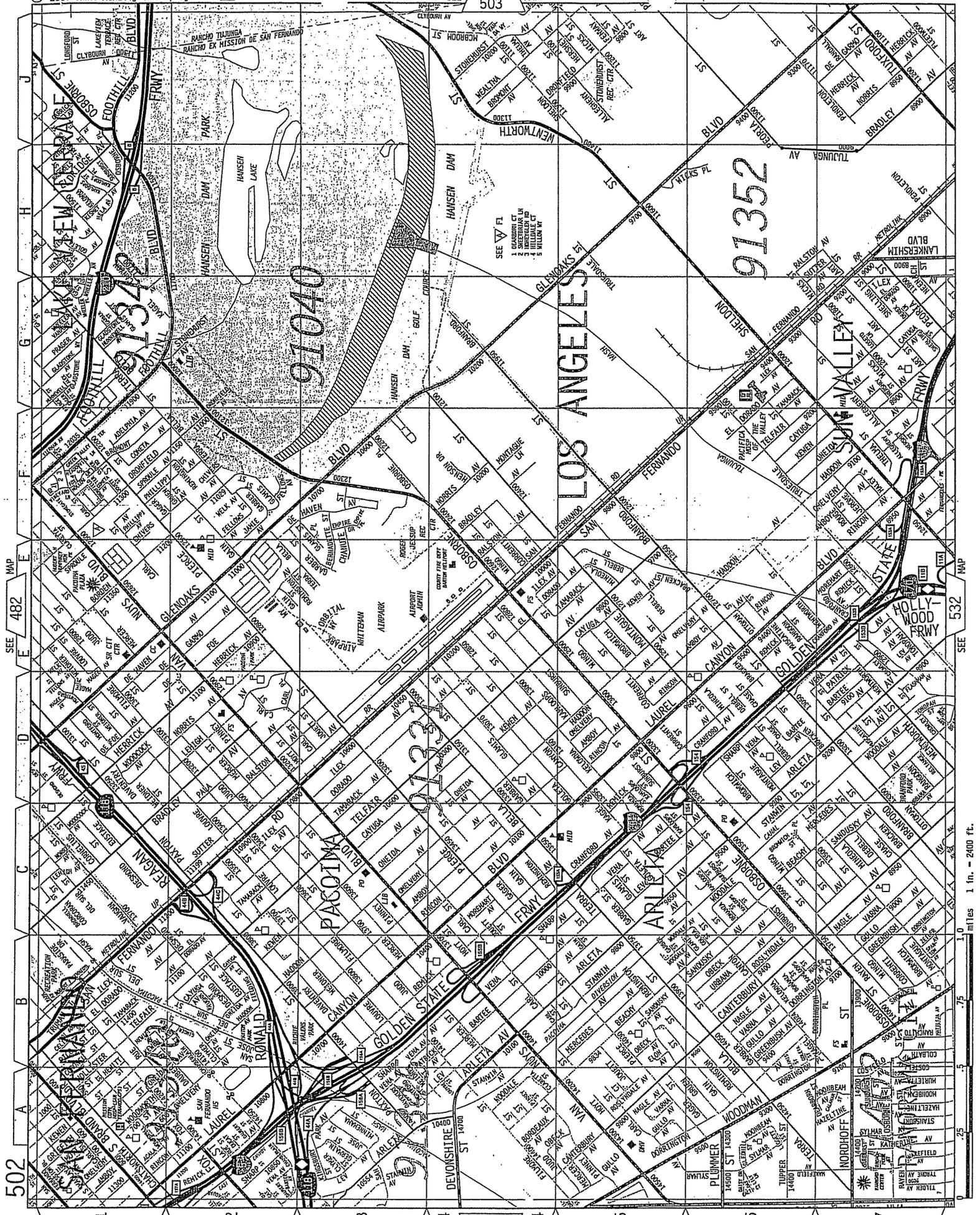
Between Devonshire Street and Roscoe Boulevard, the current speed limit is 35 miles per hour. However, the observed critical speeds are between 37 and 42 miles per hour with an average critical speed of 40 miles per hour. The average lower limit of pace is 32 miles per hour, and the average median speed is 35.2 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 in this segment of Arleta Avenue should be set at 40 miles per hour. The injury accident rate of 1.38 accidents per million-vehicle-miles is within the normal range, and there are no observed conditions that objectively could be considered as not readily apparent to motorist. 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 56 percent of the motorists would be considered as speed violators. 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 Arleta Avenue between Devonshire Street and Roscoe Boulevard be increased to 40 miles per hour.

Approved: *John E. Fisher* Title: Principal Transportation Engineer

Date: November 24, 2008







OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO
CITY ATTORNEY

May 18, 2009

6/4/09

c: Alan Willis

PS

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Transportation Commissioners
City of Los Angeles
100 S. Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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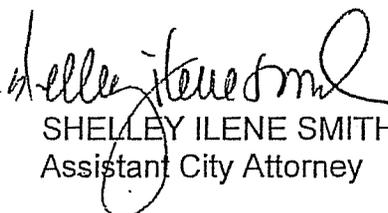
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By 
SHELLEY ILENE SMITH
Assistant City Attorney

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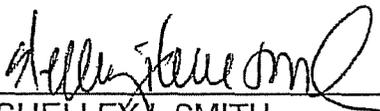
By _____
Deputy

Approved _____

Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legality

ROCKARD J. DELGADILLO, City Attorney

By  _____
SHELLEY J. SMITH
Assistant City Attorney

Date 5/18/09 _____

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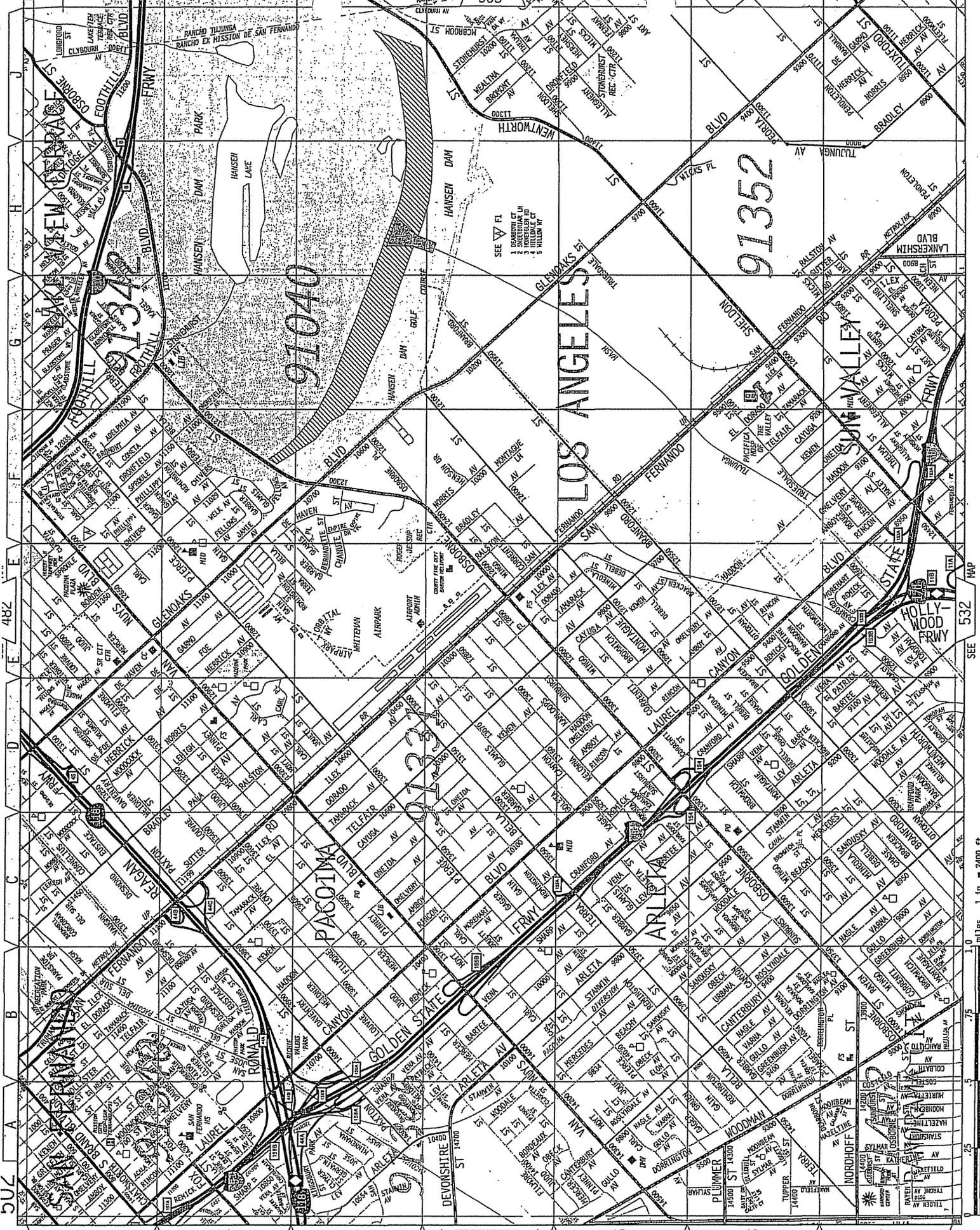
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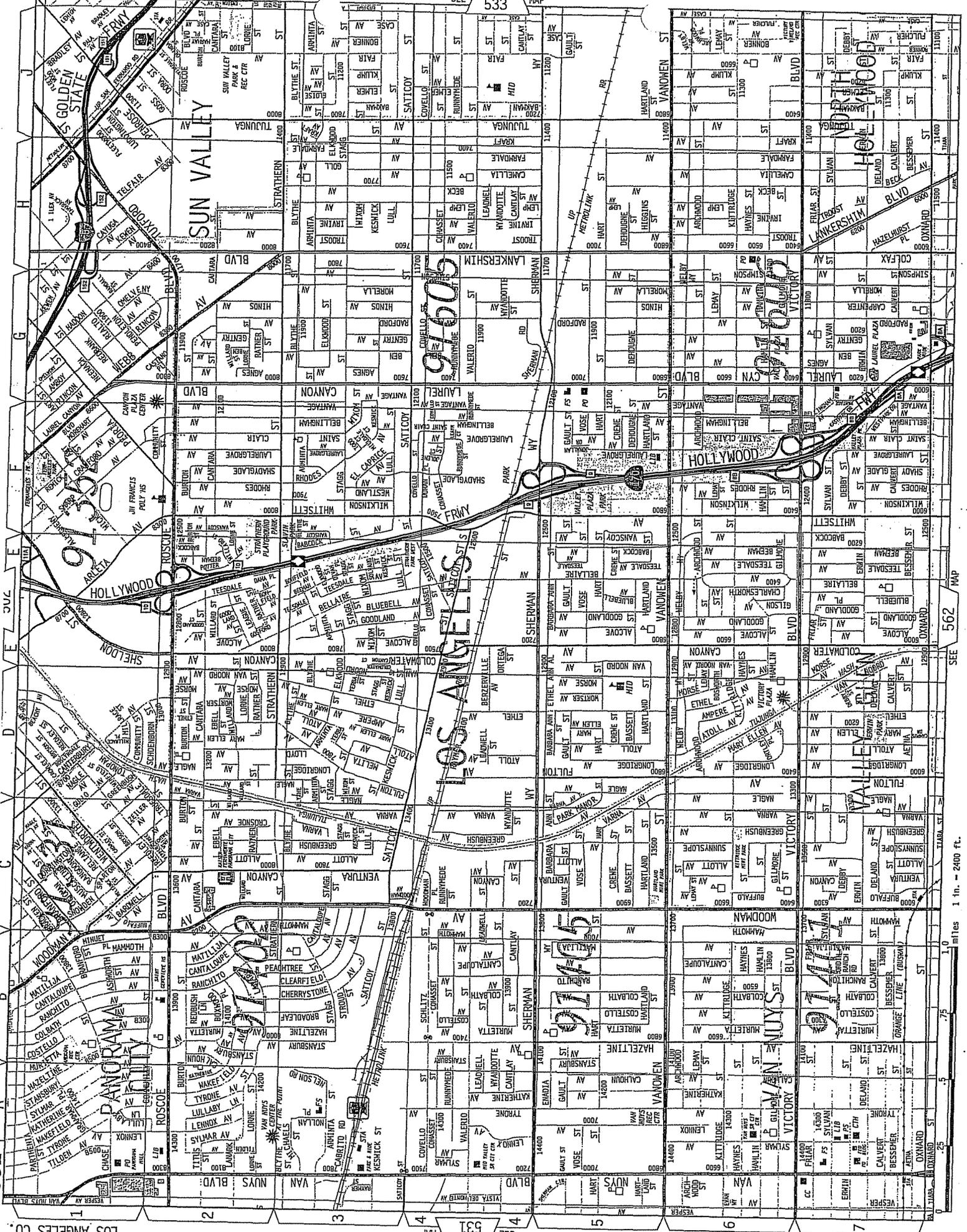
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Therefore, for the reasons described above, the Department recommends that the existing 35 miles per hour speed limit on Arleta Avenue between Devonshire Street and Roscoe Boulevard be increased to 40 miles per hour.

Approved: *John E. Fisher* Title: Principal Transportation Engineer

Date: *November 24, 2008*





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

Agend Item No.	Street (CD #)	Boundaries	Speed change	Neighborhood Council
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 BI 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 BI	+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 BI to Arleta Av	+40 mph	Arleta NC Jim Kallas, Chari Pacoima NC Reuben Garcia, Chair
18	Arleta Av (CD 6)	Devonshire St to Roscoe BI	+40 mph	Arleta NC Jim Kallas, Chair
17	Beverly Glen BI (CD 5)	Ventura BI 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 BI	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 BI	Est 30 mph	4/2/09 Van Nuys NC Lydia Mather, Chair
21	Sheldon St (CD 6)	Glenoaks BI to Roscoe BI	+ 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

*Contacts made by East Valley District