


**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM**

DATE: May 16, 2023

TO: Honorable City Council
c/o City Clerk, Room 395, City Hall
Attention: Honorable Heather Hutt, Chair, Transportation Committee

FROM: Connie Llanos, Interim General Manager 
Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: **IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE SPEED LIMITS / CITY OF LOS ANGELES
SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) STRATEGIC PLAN**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) seeks authority from the City Council to implement 15 mile per hour speed limits in School Zones on 98 street segments adjacent to 45 schools in the City of Los Angeles (City).

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. ADOPT the attached resolution, establishing “School Safety Zone” speed limits of “15 Miles Per Hour When Children Are Present” at 98 street segments adjacent to 44 schools within the LAUSD boundaries and one private school in accordance with California Vehicle Code, Section 22358.4.
2. DIRECT LADOT to implement the “School Zone” speed limit signs and other signs and markings necessary to provide drivers with notice of the “15 Miles Per Hour When Children Are Present” regulation that allows enforcement of this speed limit by the Police Department for the 98 street segments identified on Exhibit “1.”

BACKGROUND

The California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 22358.4.(b).(1).(A) defines a school zone and allows a local authority, by ordinance or resolution, to set a speed limit within the school zone that is lower than the speed limit in the surrounding neighborhood. The default school zone speed limit is 25 miles per hour (mph), but the CVC allows for 15-mph school zones on streets that meet specific criteria. The reduced speed limit only applies while children are going to or leaving school.

In 2012, LADOT launched its Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Strategic Plan to implement a data-driven process to improve safety around school campuses. To prioritize schools for these investments, LADOT and LAUSD developed a methodology that considered the number of pedestrian and bicycle collisions, the number of students who live within a 1/4 mile of the school, the number of students eligible for free/reduced-price meals, and the lack of other transportation funding. LADOT used this methodology to identify the top 50 LAUSD schools for SRTS treatments.

In 2016, Council adopted a resolution to establish school zone speed limits at 11 of the top 50 schools in the City (CF 14-0348-S1). LADOT implemented reduced speed limits at all 11 schools, and is now requesting authority to reduce speed limits at the remaining 39.

DISCUSSION

The SRTS Strategic Plan was one of several initiatives that helped lay the groundwork for the City's approach to street safety and its Vision Zero efforts. To support Vision Zero, LADOT developed the High Injury Network (HIN) to spotlight the streets with a high concentration of collisions that result in severe injuries and deaths, emphasizing those involving pedestrians and cyclists. This analysis showed that over 65 percent of all severe and fatal traffic collisions involving people walking occurred on just 6 percent of our streets. It also revealed that traffic collisions are the leading cause of death for those between 2 and 14 years old. With nearly 56 percent of all fatal and severe injury collisions occurring within a one-quarter mile of a school, and all Top 50 SRTS Schools located on or within one-quarter mile of the HIN, LADOT proposes using any and all legal tools available to enhance the safety of school children, their families and caregivers, and school staff.

To this end, LADOT is proposing to implement school zones at the remaining top 50 SRTS schools. LADOT staff conducted site inspections for the new 15 miles per hour (mph) speed limits at these locations and developed the attached list of street segments that are eligible for a speed limit reduction under the CVC. LADOT proposes to include three additional schools, which are directly adjacent to other schools included in this project so that the 15 mph speed limits would be consistent from the beginning of the first school on the street to the end of the second school. These schools are included in the attachment.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The initial estimate to authorize, purchase, and install the signs and posts at 45 schools on overtime is \$153,750. The funds are available within LADOT's Fiscal Year 22/23 and 23/24 budgets to absorb this cost.

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Attachments

RESOLUTION

DESIGNATION OF 15 MPH SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT LOCATIONS

WHEREAS, the California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 22358.4.(b).(1).(A) states that a local authority may, by ordinance or resolution, determine and declare prima facie speed limits as follows:

“A 15 miles per hour prima facie limit in a residence district, on a highway with a posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour or slower, when approaching, at a distance of less than 500 feet from, or passing, a school building or the grounds of a school building, contiguous to a highway and posted with a school warning sign that indicates a speed limit of 15 miles per hour, while children are going to or leaving the school, either during school hours or during the noon recess period. The prima facie limit shall also apply when approaching, at a distance of less than 500 feet from, or passing, school grounds that are not separated from the highway by a fence, gate, or other physical barrier while the grounds are in use by children and the highway is posted with a school warning sign that indicates a speed limit of 15 miles per hour;” and

WHEREAS, CVC Sections 22358.4. (b).(2) and 22358.4.(b).(3) state that the prima facie limits established under CVC Section 22358.4.(b).(1) apply only to highways that meet all of the following conditions, which include a maximum of two traffic lanes, a maximum posted 30 miles per hour prima facie speed limit immediately prior to and after the school zone, and that the prima facie limits established apply to all lanes of an affected highway, in both directions of travel; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Strategic Plan was launched in 2012, with a key element of the Strategic Plan using a data-driven process to bring safety improvements to school neighborhood streets; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) and the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) developed a methodology for prioritizing schools, and after identifying the Top 50 prioritized schools, LADOT implemented “School Safety Zone” speed limits of “15 Miles Per Hour When Children Are Present” at 11 of the “LAUSD Top 50” schools in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the SRTS Strategic Plan has been one of several ongoing initiatives that laid the groundwork for the City’s Vision Zero goal to eliminate all traffic deaths by 2025 and to support Vision Zero, LADOT developed the High Injury Network (HIN) to spotlight the streets with a high concentration of collisions

that result in severe injuries and deaths, with an emphasis on those involving people walking and bicycling; and

WHEREAS, the HIN showed that over 65 percent of all severe and fatal traffic collisions involving people walking occur on just 6 percent of our streets, and specifically that school-age children (under 18 years of age) are among our most vulnerable population, and traffic collisions are the leading cause of death for those between 2 and 14 years old; and

WHEREAS, with nearly 56 percent of all fatal and severe injury collisions occurring within a one-quarter mile of a school, and all Top 50 Schools located on or within one-quarter mile of the HIN, LADOT is proposing to use any legal tools available to protect and enhance the safety of school children.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council, pursuant to CVC Section 22348.4.(b).(1).(A) hereby designates the street segments specified in Exhibit 1 for the implementation of "School Zone" speed limits of "15 Miles Per Hour When Children Are Present" for 99 street segments adjacent to 44 schools within the LAUSD and one private school; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption of this Resolution, LADOT be directed to post signs and install any necessary pavement markings to give notice of a "15 Miles Per Hour When Children Are Present" restriction for the locations identified in Exhibit 1; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LADOT be authorized to make technical corrections or clarifications to the above instructions in order to effectuate this resolution's intent.

EXHIBIT "1"

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	CD	LADOT DISTRICT	STREET	LIMITS	EX. SPEED LIMIT	COMMENTS
Berendo Middle School Monsenor Oscar Romero Charter School	1157 S. Berendo St, LA 90006	1	Central	11th St	Mariposa Ave to Vermont Ave	25	
	2670 W. 11th St, LA 90066			12th St	Mariposa Ave to Vermont Ave	25	
				Berendo St	Olympic Blvd to Pico Blvd	25	
				Kenmore Ave	11th St to Pico Blvd	25	
Esperanza Elementary School	680 Little St, LA 90017	1	Central	Little St	Wilshire Blvd to 7th St	25	
Gratts Learning Academy	309 Lucas Ave, LA 90017	1	Central	Witmer St	Miramar St to 5th St	25	
				4th St	Hartford Ave to Lucas Ave	25	
				Hartford Ave	4th St to 5th St	25	
Hoover St Elementary School	2726 Francis Ave, LA 90005	1	Central	Francis Ave	Hoover St to Westmoreland Ave	25	
				James M. Wood B Ave	Hoover St to Westmoreland Ave	25	
Lafayette Park Primary Center	310 S. Lafayette Park Pl, LA 90006	1	Central	Benton Way	3rd St to 6th St	25	
John H. Liechty Middle School	650 S. Union Ave, LA 90017	1	Central	Valencia St	Ingraham St to 8th St	25	NOT ELIGIBLE FOR 15 MPH (NON-RESIDENTIAL)
				Ingraham St	Witmer St to Valencia St	25	
MacArthur Park Visual & Performing Arts Elementary	2300 W. 7th St, LA 90057	1	Central	Grand View St	7th St to James M. Wood Blvd	25	NOT ELIGIBLE FOR 15 MPH (NON-RESIDENTIAL)
				Park View St	7th St to 8th St	25	
Magnolia Ave Elementary School	1626 S. Orchard Ave, LA 90006	1	Central	Magnolia Ave	Pico Blvd to Washington Blvd	25	
				New England St	17th St to Washington Blvd	25	
				Orchard Ave	Venice Blvd to 17th Pl	25	
				17th St	New England St to Westmoreland Ave	25	
Para Los Ninos - Evelyn Thurman Gratts Primary Sch	474 S. Hartford Ave, LA 90017	1	Central	Lucas Ave	4th St to 6th St	25	
				Hartford Ave	4th St to 6th St	25	
Leo Politi Elementary School	2481 W. 11th St, LA 90006	1	Central	11th St	Arapaho St to Westmoreland Ave	25	
				Arapaho St	11th St to 12th St	25	
				Elden Ave	Olympic Blvd to 12th St	25	
Union Ave Elementary School	150 S. Burlington Ave, LA 90057	1	Central	Burlington Ave	Beverly Blvd to 3rd St	25	
				Union Ave	Beverly Blvd to 3rd St	25	
Charles Whitte Elementary School	2401 Wilshire Blvd, LA 90057	1	Central	Carondelet St	6th St to 7th St	25	
				Park View St	6th St to 7th St	25	
10th St Elementary School	1000 Grattan St, LA 90015	1	Central	Valencia St	James M Wood Blvd to 11th Pl	25	NOT ELIGIBLE FOR 15 MPH (MULTIPLE LANES, NON-RESIDENTIAL)
				11th St	Albany St to Union Ave	25	
				Union Ave	Olympic Blvd to 11th St	25	
Panorama City Elementary School	8600 Kester Ave, Panorama City	6	East Valley	Kester Ave	Parthenia St to Chase St	25	
Van Nuys Elementary School	6464 Sylmar Ave, Van Nuys 91411	6	East Valley	Sylmar Ave	Haynes St to Victory Blvd	25	
				Tyrone Ave	Haynes St to Victory Blvd	25	
				Gilmore St	Calhoun Ave to Sylmar Ave	25	
				Hamlin St	Calhoun Ave to Sylmar Ave	25	
Manchester Ave Elementary School	661 W. 87th St, LA 90044	8	Southern	87th St	Denver Ave to Hoover St	25	
				Hoover St	Manchester Ave to 90th St	30	
Vermont Ave Elementary School	1435 W. 27th St, LA 90007	8	Southern	27th St	Vermont Ave to Budlong Ave	25	
				Dana St	Vermont Ave to Catalina St	25	
				Catalina St	Adams Blvd to 27th St	25	
Ascot Ave Elementary School	1447 E. 45th St, LA 90011	9	Central	Ascot Ave	43rd Pl to 47th St	25	
Aurora Elementary School	1050 E. 52nd St, LA 90011	9	Central	52nd Pl	Central Ave to McKinley Ave	25	
				53rd St	Central Ave to McKinley Ave	25	

EXHIBIT "1"

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	CD	LADOT DISTRICT	STREET	LIMITS	EX. SPEED LIMIT	COMMENTS
				Wadsworth Ave	52nd St to 53rd St	25	
George Washington Carver Middle School	4410 McKinley Ave, LA 90011	9	Central	McKinley Ave	43rd Pl to 47th St	25	
Sally Ride Elementary School	1041 E. 46th St, LA 90011			46th St	Central Ave to McKinley Ave	25	
				45th Street	Wadsworth Av to alley w/o Central Av	25	zone ends at alley
				Wadsworth Ave	Vernon Ave to 47th St	25	
Harmony Elementary School	899 E. 42nd Pl, LA 90011	9	Central	42nd Pl	Central Ave to Avalon Blvd	25	
				42nd St	Central Ave to Avalon Blvd	25	
				McKinley Ave	41st Pl to 43rd St	25	
66th St Elementary School	6600 S. San Pedro St, LA 90005	9	Central	San Pedro St	64th St to 68th St	35	NOT ELIGIBLE FOR 15 MPH (NON-RESIDENTIAL, MULTIPLE LANES, 35 MPH SPEED LIMIT)
				66th St	Avalon Blvd to Mettler St	25	
				Mettler St	66th St to 67th St	25	
				67th St	Avalon Blvd to Main St	25	
75th St Elementary School	142 W. 75th St, LA 90003	9	Central	75th St	Main St to Grand Ave	25	
				76th St	Main St to Grand Ave	25	
West Vernon Ave Elementary School	4312 S. Grand Ave, LA 90037	9	Central	Grand Ave	42nd St to 45th St	20	
Alta Loma Elementary School	1745 Vineyard Ave, LA 90019	10	Hollywood	Vineyard Ave	17th St to 18th St	25	
				Saturn St	West Blvd to Rimpau Blvd	25	
				St Elmo Dr	West Blvd to Rimpau Blvd	25	
Hobart Blvd Elementary School	980 S. Hobart Blvd, LA 90006	10	Hollywood	Harvard Blvd	James M Wood Blvd to 11th St	25	
				San Marino St	Ardmore Ave to Serrano Ave	25	
				Serrano Ave	San Marino St to Olympic Blvd	25	
Los Angeles Elementary School	1211 S. Hobart Blvd, LA 90006	10	Hollywood	Hobart Blvd	11th St to 15th St	25	
				12th St	Harvard Blvd to Oxford Ave	25	
				Serrano Ave	11th St to 12th Pl	25	
				12th Pl	Serrano Ave to Western Ave	25	
Mariposa-Nabi Primary Center	987 S. Mariposa Ave, LA 90006	10	Hollywood	Mariposa Ave	San Marino St to 11th St	25	
				Normandie Ave	James M Wood Blvd to Irolo St	25	
Westminster Ave Elementary School	1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice	11	Western	Abbot Kinney Blvd	Main St to Santa Clara Ave	30	NOT ELIGIBLE FOR 15 MPH (NON-RESIDENTIAL)
				Westminster Ave	Electric Ave to Pacific Ave	25	
				Main St	Abbot Kinney Blvd to Horizon Ave	35	NOT ELIGIBLE FOR 15 MPH (NON-RESIDENTIAL, 35 MPH SPEED LIMIT)
Alexandria Ave Elementary School	4211 Oakwood Ave, LA 90004	13	Hollywood	Oakwood Ave	Kenmore Ave to Normandie Ave	25	
				Alexandria Ave	Clinton St to Beverly Blvd	25	
				Rosewood Ave	Kenmore Ave to Normandie Ave	25	
Commonwealth Ave Elementary School	215 S. Commonwealth Ave, LA 90013	13	Hollywood	Commonwealth Ave	Beverly Blvd to Geneva St	25	
Dayton Heights Elementary School	607 N. Westmoreland Ave, LA 90013	13	Hollywood	Westmoreland Ave	Melrose Ave to Middlebury St	25	
				Madison Ave	Melrose Ave to Middlebury St	25	
				Clinton St	Virgil Ave to Juanita Ave	25	
Grant Elementary School	1530 N. Wilton Pl, LA 90028	13	Hollywood	Wilton Pl	Hollywood Blvd to Sunset Blvd	25	NOT ELIGIBLE FOR 15 MPH (NON-RESIDENTIAL, MULTIPLE LANES)
				Harold Wy	Western Ave to Taft Ave	25	
				Carlton Wy	Western Ave to Taft Ave	25	
				St. Andrews Pl	Hollywood Blvd to Sunset Blvd	25	
Lake St Primary School	135 N. Lake St, LA 90026	13	Hollywood	Lake St	Court St to Beverly Blvd	25	

EXHIBIT "1"

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	CD	LADOT DISTRICT	STREET	LIMITS	EX. SPEED LIMIT	COMMENTS
				Roselake Ave	Court St to Beverly Blvd	25	
Lexington Ave Primary Center	4564 W. Lexington Ave, LA 90021	13	Hollywood	Lexington Ave	Virgil Ave to Madison Ave	25	
				Westmoreland Ave	Fountain Ave to Santa Monica Blvd	25	
Lockwood Ave Elementary School	4345 Lockwood Ave, LA 90029	13	Hollywood	Lockwood Ave	Hoover St to Vermont Ave	25	
				Virgil Ave	Santa Monica Blvd to Burns Ave	35	NOT ELIGIBLE FOR 15 MPH (NON-RESIDENTIAL, 35 MPH SPEED LIMIT)
				Madison Ave	Santa Monica Blvd to Burns Ave	25	
				Willow Brook Ave	Virgil Ave to Vermont Ave	25	
Ramona Elementary School	1133 N. Mariposa Ave, LA 90021	13	Hollywood	Mariposa Ave	Fountain Ave to Santa Monica Blvd	25	
				Normandie Ave	Fountain Ave to Romaine St	30	
Virgil Middle School	152 N. Vermont Ave, LA 90004	13	Hollywood	1st St	Beverly Blvd to Catalina St	20	
Frank Del Olmo Elementary School	100 N. New Hampshire Ave, LA 90004						
Cabrillo Ave Elementary School	732 S. Cabrillo Ave, San Pedro, CA 90731	15	Southern	Cabrillo Ave	5th St to 10th St	25	
Mary Star of the Sea Elementary School (pvt)	717 S. Cabrillo Ave, San Pedro, CA 90731			7th St	Grand Ave to Alma St	25	
				8th St	Grand Ave to Alma St	25	
Lovelie Flournoy Elementary School	1630 E. 111th St, LA 90059	15	Southern	111th St	Graham Ave to Antwerp St	25	
				112th St	Graham Ave to Compton Ave	25	
				Compton Ave	110th St to 113th St	35	NOT ELIGIBLE FOR 15 MPH (NON-RESIDENTIAL, 35 MPH SPEED LIMIT)
				Maie Ave	111th St to 113th St	25	
112th St Elementary School	1265 E. 112 St, LA 90059	15	Southern	112th St	Parmelee Ave to Central Ave	25	
				111th St	Antwerp St to Slater Ave	25	
				Slater Ave	110th St to 111th St	25	

Note: Shaded rows are ineligible for 15 MPH speed limit