



COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
950 MAIDU AVENUE, NEVADA CITY, CA 95959-8617
(530) 265-1411 FAX (530) 265-9849 www.mynevadacounty.com

Sean Powers
Community Development Agency Director

Trisha Tillotson
Director of Public Works

File: 600.33 006

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: November 13, 2018

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jessica Hankins, Public Works Project Manager

SUBJECT: **Ordinance Adding Subsection 59 Of Section G-IV 3.A.5 Of Article 3.A Of Chapter IV of the Nevada County General Code Pertaining to Speed Limits on Oak Tree Road Between Tyler Foote Crossing Road and Wampum Way, and Amending Subsection 19 Of Section G-IV 3.A.7 of Article 3.A of Chapter IV of the Nevada County General Code Pertaining to Speed Limits on Oak Tree Road from Wampum Way to State Route 49– District IV**

RECOMMENDATION: Introduce, waive further reading, and adopt the attached Ordinance amending Sections G-IV 3.A.5 and G-IV 3.A.7 of the Nevada County General Code.

FUNDING: There is no impact to the General Fund, and no budget amendment is needed. Installation of new speed limit signs will be done using the 2018/19 road maintenance budget.

BACKGROUND: In response to a request to review speed limits on Oak Tree Road, Public Works staff recently conducted two speed zone studies on Oak Tree Road, which currently has an established speed limit of 45 miles per hour (mph) and is 2.8 miles long. There are two distinct segments of Oak Tree Road characterized by differences in their horizontal and vertical alignments: the eastern 1.2 miles from Tyler Foote Crossing Road to Wampum Way is dominated by frequent curves and steeper terrain with blind hills and corners, while the western 1.6-mile segment from Wampum Way to State Route (SR) 49 is characterized by a straighter alignment and generally more level terrain. The study conducted in the eastern segment demonstrates that the 85th percentile speed between Tyler Foote Crossing Road and Wampum Way is 38 miles per hour. The California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices establishes speed limits at the nearest 5 mph increment to the 85th percentile speed, but allows local jurisdictions to reduce the speed limit by 5 mph based on the findings of an engineering and traffic survey and in compliance with California Vehicle Code Sections 627 and 22358.5. Based on the prevalence of curves and driveways spurring from Oak Tree Road on the 1.2-mile eastern segment, staff therefore recommends that the prima facie speed limit be established at 35 mph between Tyler Foote Crossing Road and Wampum Way. The study conducted in the western segment shows that the prevailing speed from Wampum Way to SR 49 is 45 mph. The existing established speed limit for this segment is therefore recommended to be maintained.

Item Initiated by: Jessica Hankins, Public Works Project Manager
Approved by: Trisha Tillotson, Director of Public Works

TT:JH:kk