



COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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File: 600.39 014

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: August 8, 2017

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jessica Hankins, Public Works Project Manager

SUBJECT: **Ordinance Amending Subsection 5 of Nevada County General Code Section G-IV 3.A.3 and Adding Subsection 57 to Nevada County General Code Section G-IV 3.A.5 Pertaining to Speed Limits on Squirrel Creek Road**

RECOMMENDATION: Introduce, waive further reading and adopt the attached Ordinance amending Sections G-IV 3.A.3 and G-IV 3.A.5 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 2017/18 road maintenance budget.

BACKGROUND: In May 2017 the Department of Public Works conducted a routine speed zone study for Squirrel Creek Road, which currently has a prima facie residential speed limit of 25 mph. The study demonstrates that an increase to the speed limit on a portion of Squirrel Creek Road is needed, consistent with the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices which establishes speed limits at the nearest 5 mph increment to the 85th percentile speed. On Squirrel Creek Road from Shockley Road to Toad Lane, the speed zone study found that the prevailing 85th percentile speed is 37 mph. California Vehicle Code Section 22357 authorizes local agencies to increase the prima facie residential speed limit based on an engineering and traffic survey that demonstrates that a higher speed would be reasonable and safe. There are no schools, hospitals, or business districts along this segment of Squirrel Creek that would necessitate a slower speed limit than the 85th percentile prevailing speed, and this portion of Squirrel Creek Road is also of a lower residential density, with fewer driveway encroachments, than the more eastern portions of the road. Staff therefore recommends that the prima facie speed limit be raised from 25 to 35 mph on the segment of Squirrel Creek Road from Shockley Road to Toad Lane.

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

TT:JH:kw

Submittal Date: June 26, 2017