



Agenda Date: 12/18/2007
Agenda Placement: 60

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Don Ridenhour for Peterson, Robert - Director
Roads Department
REPORT BY: Don Ridenhour, Asst Director, Public Works/Asst District Engineer, 259-8321
SUBJECT: Modifications to Speed Limit and Intersection Controls on Kirkland Ranch Road

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Public Works requests adoption of a resolution establishing a speed limit of 40 miles per hour on Kirkland Ranch Road and restricting left hand turn movement at the easterly intersection of Kirkland Ranch Road and State Highway 12 (Jamieson Canyon Road) from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

California Vehicle Code 22358 and 22101 authorizes local authorities to decrease speed limits and regulate turns at intersections on roadways within their jurisdiction. Public Works has conducted speed surveys, collected traffic counts, and conducted engineering studies on Kirkland Ranch Road and recommends setting the speed limit of 40 miles per hour (mph) on Kirkland Ranch Road and restricting left turn movements onto State Route 12 (Jamieson Canyon Road) from the easterly intersection of Kirkland Ranch Road and Highway 12 from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm Monday through Friday. California Highway Patrol and Caltrans have reviewed and concur in these recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	The Roads Department budgets funds each year for modifications and maintenance to regulatory signs. The recommendations will require posting of new speed limit signs and signs at intersections and are routine in nature and covered by the current budget.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary

Discretionary Justification: The proposed reduction of the speed limit and restriction of left turns on Kirkland Ranch Road will improve safety for the traveling public on this County road as well as State Highway 12.

Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: None.

Consequences if not approved: California Highway Patrol and Napa County Sheriff will be limited in their ability to ticket and maintain safe traveling speeds on these two roadways.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed project is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15301, Class 1 (c) of the CEQA Guidelines. Installation of regulatory traffic signs are minor alterations to existing facilities and are exempt from CEQA.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Public Works is recommending the reduction in the speed limit from 55 mph to 40 mph on Kirkland Ranch Road and is recommending the restriction of left turns from Kirkland Ranch Road onto eastbound Highway 12 at the easterly intersection from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm Monday through Friday. These recommendations will provide for improved safety along the County and State roadways.

At the request of property owners living along Kirkland Ranch Road and Polson Road, the Public Works Department reviewed traffic conditions and regulatory controls on Kirkland Ranch Road. Residents, Public Works staff, and CHP officers have witnessed a significant number of vehicles on eastbound Highway 12 (Jamieson Canyon Road) turn left onto Kirkland Ranch Road at the traffic signal and proceed eastbound on Kirkland Ranch Road to then turn left again back onto eastbound Highway 12. Traffic is doing this in the afternoon hours during peak traffic conditions to avoid sitting in stop and go traffic on eastbound Highway 12. These motorists are causing additional cycles at the signal with Kirkland Ranch Road, are on occasion driving at unsafe speeds on Kirkland Ranch Road, and are creating unsafe turning movements crossing Highway 12 to proceed easterly on the highway. Public Works has conducted speed surveys and traffic counts on Kirkland Ranch Road and findings warrant the recommended speed and turn restrictions. Caltrans traffic engineering staff and CHP staff have been consulted and are in agreement with the recommendations.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Resolution

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi