Council Meeting of
May 13, 2008

PUBLIC HEARING

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the Torrance City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Community Development Department and Police Department – Amendment of Torrance Municipal Code Setting Speed Limits

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Community Development Director and the Chief of Police that the City Council concur with staff's recommendation to amend Article 10 (Speed Limits) of the Torrance Municipal Code (TMC) Sections 61.10.1, 61.10.2, 61.10.3, 61.10.4 & 61.10.5 modifying speed limits on certain streets in the City of Torrance

FUNDING

No Funding required for this item.

BACKGROUND

On June 12, 2007 Your Honorable Body approved a Consulting Services Agreement with Albert Grover & Associates to conduct the Citywide Engineering & Traffic Survey (Speed Survey). Albert Grover & Associates started the data collection, conducted the analysis and completed the study in accordance with California Vehicle Code (CVC), which requires such a study when the enforcement of a speed law involves the use of electronic equipment, such as lidar or laser.

The Speed Survey was presented to the Traffic Commission at their February 2008 meeting. Based on the discussion and input from those who attended the meeting, the Traffic Commission continued the item to their April 2008 meeting. The Commission also directed staff to reach out to the community via Home Owners Association (HOA) and educate the public on what a Speed Survey is, what it signifies and its benefits, while providing residents with the opportunity to review and comment on the Speed Survey. Staff mailed out a notice in February to Home Owners Association Presidents. The notice served dual purposes of inviting the residents to the April 7th Traffic Commission, as well as offering to meet with individual HOA to further explain the Speed Survey.

The Citywide Engineering & Traffic Survey was re-presented to the Traffic Commission at the April meeting. The Commission concurred with the staff recommendation to forward the study to the City Council for review and approval.

ANALYSIS

Albert Grover & Associates completed the data collection and analysis of the Citywide E&T Survey in January 2008. The analysis encompassed data collection at 147 collector and arterial roadway segment locations. The data collection included spot speed surveys, radar sample collections of approximately 100 vehicles per direction of travel, for each of the 147 locations; traffic volume information and accident data based accident data between January 1, 2005 and December 31, 2006 corresponding to the 147 roadway segments.

The study concluded with a summary supporting the majority of the existing posted speed limits. In the non-majority, there are 12 collector and arterial roadway segments that the study recommends a 5-mph (mile per hour) speed limit increase.

Street	Segment	Current Speed	Recommended Speed
Artesia Boulevard	Crenshaw Boulevard and Western Avenue	40 mph	45 mph
Earl Street	Del Amo Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard	25 mph	30 mph
Van Ness Avenue	Del Amo Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard	35 mph	40 mph
Maple Avenue	Del Amo Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard	25 mph	30 mph
Carson Street	Crenshaw Boulevard and Western Avenue	30 mph	35 mph
Plaza Del Amo	Carson Street and Arlington Avenue	25 mph	30 mph
Cabrillo Avenue	Torrance Boulevard and Plaza Del Amo	25 mph	30 mph
Sepulveda Blvd.	Maple Avenue and Arlington Avenue	40 mph	45 mph
Lomita Boulevard	Anza Avenue and Hawthorne Boulevard	35 mph	40 mph
Skypark Drive	Hawthorne Boulevard and Crenshaw Boulevard	40 mph	45 mph
Madison Street	Lomita Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway	35 mph	40 mph
Hawthorne Blvd.	Pacific Coast Highway and south City limits	40 mph	45 mph

The California Vehicle Code (Sections 40801 and 40803) prohibits the use of "speed traps" for enforcement of speed limits and further prohibits any evidence obtained from them from being admissible in the prosecution of speed violations. One of the purposes of anti-speed trap legislation is to insure that local authorities do not post unreasonably low speed limits. The California Vehicle Code requires that when the enforcement of a speed law involves the use of lidar/laser, it must be justified by an Engineering & Traffic Survey conducted within five years prior to the date of the alleged violation or lidar/laser evidence will be considered as a speed trap and inadmissible (CVC Section 40802).

An Engineering and Traffic Survey is defined in the CVC as a survey of highway and traffic conditions conducted in accordance with methods as determined by the California Department of Transportation for use by state and local authorities. The survey includes prevailing speeds, accident records, and highway traffic, and roadside conditions not readily apparent to the driver (CVC Section 627). The study conducted by the

Community Development Department met all legal requirements. Approval of this item will permit the Police Department to enforce the speed limits using electronic equipment.

Implementation of the Citywide E&T Study will provide the necessary tool for the Torrance Police Department to selectively enforce speed limits along these 147 roadway segments with the use of electronic (lidar/laser) equipment, as required by the law.

The new ordinance reflecting changes of the speed limits for the above-listed street segments will become effective thirty days after its second reading by the City Council. The last step of the implementation process is the appropriate signing of the studied roadway segments. The Community Development Department has been coordinating closely with the Public Works and Police Departments to ensure that new and/or revised speed limit signs are properly placed for compliance. This can be accomplished between the time the City Council adopts the ordinance and the time the ordinance goes into effect.

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFERY W. GIBSON
Community Development Director

By: Ted Semaan, Manager,
Transportation Planning
Development Engineering
& Records Division

CONCUR;

Jeffery W. Gibson
Community Development Director

John J. Neu
Chief of Police

LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments:

A. Ordinance amending Sections of the Torrance Municipal Code
B. Speed Survey Map
C. Proof of Publication
D. Engineering and Traffic Survey (limited distribution)
E. Sections of California Vehicle Code (limited distribution)
F. Traffic Commission item (April 7, 2008) (limited distribution)
G. Mayor's scrip (limited distribution)

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 61.10.1, 61.10.2, 61.10.3, 61.10.4 and 61.10.5 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO POSTED SPEED LIMITS WITHIN THE CITY

The City Council of the City of Torrance ordains as follows:

SECTION 1

Sections 61.10.1, 61.10.2, 61.10.3, 61.10.4 & 61.10.5 of the Torrance Municipal Code are repealed.

SECTION 2

New sections 61.10.1, 61.10.2, 61.10.3, 61.10.4 & 61.10.5 of the Torrance Municipal Code are added, to read in their entirety as follows:

"SECTION 61.10.1. TWENTY-FIVE MILES PER HOUR.

The prima facie speed limit shall be twenty-five (25) miles per hour on the following streets:

a) Paseo de la Playa between Palos Verdes Boulevard and Calle Miramar.
b) Calle Miramar between Paseo de la Playa and Palos Verdes Boulevard.
c) Flagler Lane between west City limits and Beryl Street
d) Victor Street between Del Amo Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard
e) Ocean Avenue between Torrance Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway.
f) Amie Avenue between Spencer Street and Torrance Boulevard
g) Maple Avenue between Torrance Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard
h) Yukon Avenue between Redondo Beach Boulevard and 190th Street.
i) Arlington Avenue between Van Ness Avenue and Carson Street.
j) Marcelina Avenue between Arlington Avenue and Cabrillo Avenue
k) 164th Street between Crenshaw Boulevard and east City limits
l) 166th Street between Crenshaw Boulevard and east City limits
m) 168th Street between Yukon Avenue and Cherry Avenue
n) Cherry Avenue between 168th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard
o) 171st Street between Prairie Avenue and Van Ness Avenue.
p) 186th Street between Kingsdale Avenue and Bailey Drive
q) Spencer Street between Victor Street and Madrona Avenue
r) Emerald Street between Henrietta Street and Madrona Avenue
s) Civic Center Drive between Madrona Avenue and Maple Avenue
t) Dominguez Street between Crenshaw Boulevard and Van Ness Avenue.
u) 235th Street between Crenshaw Boulevard and Western Avenue
v) Via Velmonte between Hawthorne Boulevard and south City limits
w) Newton Street between Hawthorne Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway
x) Crest Road between Crenshaw Boulevard and Highross Drive

SECTION 61.10.2 THIRTY MILES PER HOUR.
The prima facie speed limit shall be thirty (30) miles per hour on the following streets:

a) Palos Verdes Boulevard between Torrance Boulevard and west City limits.
b) Palos Verdes Boulevard between Pacific Coast Highway and south City limits.
c) Anza Avenue between Sepulveda Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway.
d) Earl Street between Del Amo Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard
e) Del Amo Circle Drive between Carson Street and Hawthorne Boulevard
f) Maple Avenue between Del Amo Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard
g) Arlington Avenue between Carson Street and Sepulveda Boulevard.
h) Cabrillo Avenue between Torrance Boulevard and south City limits.
i) Calle Mayor between Palos Verdes Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway.
j) Beryl Street between 190th Street and Flagler Lane
k) 182nd Street between Hawthorne Boulevard and Kingsdale Avenue.
l) Plaza Del Amo between Carson Street and Border Avenue.

SECTION 61.10.3 THIRTY-FIVE MILES PER HOUR
The prima facie speed limit shall be thirty-five (35) miles per hour on the following streets:

a) Henrietta Avenue between Del Amo Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard.
b) Anza Avenue between 190th Street and Sepulveda Boulevard.
c) Anza Avenue between Pacific Coast Highway and Newton Street.
d) Hawthorne Boulevard between Redondo Beach Boulevard and 190th Street
e) Prairie Avenue between Redondo Beach Boulevard and 190th Street.
f) Madrona Avenue between Torrance Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard.
g) Maple Avenue between Sepulveda Boulevard and Nadine Circle/235th Street.
h) Crenshaw Boulevard between Dominguez Street and Carson Street.
i) Van Ness Avenue between Redondo Beach Boulevard and 190th Street.
j) Arlington Avenue between Sepulveda Boulevard and south City limits.
k) 182nd Street between Hawthorne Boulevard and Western Avenue.
l) 190th Street between west City limits and Inglewood Avenue.
m) Del Amo Boulevard between Madrona Avenue and Maple Avenue.
n) Del Amo Boulevard between Crenshaw Boulevard and Western Avenue.
o) Maricopa Street between Maple Avenue and Crenshaw Boulevard.
p) Torrance Boulevard between Madrona Avenue and Western Avenue.
q) Carson Street between Palos Verdes Boulevard and Western Avenue.
r) Plaza Del Amo between Madrona Avenue and Crenshaw Boulevard.
s) 223rd Street between Border Avenue and Western Avenue.
t) 235th Street between Nadine Circle and Crenshaw Boulevard.
u) Calle Mayor between Pacific Coast Highway and Anza Avenue.
v) Pacific Coast Highway between west City limits and Palos Verdes Boulevard.
w) Vista Montana between Paseo De Las Tortugas and Newton Street.
x) Rolling Hills Road between Hawthorne Boulevard and south City limits.

SECTION 61.10.4. FORTY MILES PER HOUR.
The prima facie speed limit shall be forty (40) miles per hour on the following streets:

a) Hawthorne Boulevard between Pacific Coast Highway and 190th Street.
b) Madison Street between Lomita Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway
c) Prairie Avenue between 190th Street and Del Amo Boulevard.

d) Madrona Avenue between Del Amo Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard.
e) Crenshaw Boulevard between Redondo Beach Boulevard and 190th Street.
f) Van Ness Avenue between Del Amo Boulevard and Torrance Boulevard.
g) Western Avenue between Artesia Boulevard and 190th Street
h) Western Avenue between Del Amo Boulevard and south City limits.
i) Redondo Beach Boulevard between Hawthorne Boulevard and Prairie Avenue
j) Redondo Beach boulevard between Crenshaw Boulevard and east City limits.
k) Artesia Boulevard between Hawthorne Boulevard and Crenshaw Boulevard.
l) 190th Street between Inglewood Avenue and Prairie Avenue.
m) Del Amo Boulevard between west City limits and Madrona Avenue.
n) Torrance Boulevard between west City limits and Madrona Avenue.
o) Sepulveda Boulevard between west City limits and Maple Avenue
p) Sepulveda Boulevard between Arlington Avenue and Western Avenue.
q) Lomita Boulevard between Anza Avenue and Hawthorne Boulevard.
r) Pacific Coast Highway between Palos Verdes Boulevard and Vista Del Parque.
s) Pacific Coast Highway (northbound) between Calle Mayor and east City limits.

SECTION 61.10.5 FORTY-FIVE MILES PER HOUR
The prima facie speed limit shall be forty-five (45) miles per hour on the following streets:

a) Hawthorne Boulevard between Pacific Coast Highway and south City limits.
b) Crenshaw Boulevard between 190th Street and Dominguez Street.
c) Crenshaw Boulevard between Carson Street and south City limits.
d) Van Ness Avenue between 190th Street and Del Amo Boulevard.
e) Western Avenue between 190th Street and Del Amo Boulevard.
f) Artesia Boulevard between Crenshaw Boulevard and Western Avenue
g) 190th Street between Prairie Avenue and Western Avenue
h) Sepulveda Boulevard between Maple Avenue and Arlington Avenue
i) Lomita Boulevard between Hawthorne Boulevard and Crenshaw Boulevard.
j) Skypark Drive between Hawthorne Boulevard and Crenshaw Boulevard.
k) Pacific Coast Highway between Vista Del Parque and Calle Mayor
l) Pacific Coast Highway (southbound) between Calle Mayor and east City limits."

SECTION 3

Any inconsistent provisions of the Torrance Municipal Code, or any other inconsistent ordinances of the City, are repealed, to the extent of the inconsistencies.

SECTION 4

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason deemed or held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect that validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance. The City Council of the City of Torrance hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or other portions might subsequently be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 5

Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance will be guilty of an infraction and, upon conviction thereof, will be subject to a fine as provided in Section 36900 of the California Government Code.

SECTION 6

This ordinance will take effect thirty days after the date of its adoption. Within fifteen days following adoption, this ordinance or a summary of this ordinance, if authorized by the City Council, will be published at least once in the Daily Breeze, a newspaper of general circulation, published and circulated in the City of Torrance.

INTRODUCED and APPROVED this _____day of _____, 2008.

ADOPTED and PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2008.

_____
Mayor Frank Scotto

ATTEST:

_____
Sue Herbers, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JOHN FELLOWS III, City Attorney

By: _____
Ronald T. Pohl, Assistant City Attorney

ATTACHMENT C

Daily Breeze

5215 TORRANCE BLVD * TORRANCE CALIFORNIA 90503-4077
(310) 543-6635 * (310) 540-5511 Ext. 396

PROOF OF PUBLICATION
(201 5.5 C.C.P.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

County of Los Angeles,

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to or interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of the **THE DAILY BREEZE**

a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published

in the City of **Torrance**
County of Los Angeles, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of County of Los Angeles, State of California, under the date of

June 10, 1974
Case Number **SWC7146**
that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement there of on the following dates, to-wit

May 2,

all in the year 2008

the foregoing is true and correct.
Dated at Torrance

California, this 2 May 2008

Signature

This space is for the County Clerk's Filing Stamp

RECEIVED
2008 MAY 05 PM 1:50
CITY OF TORRANCE
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Proof of Publication of

DB

DB-5-24
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Torrance, California will hold a public hearing at 7:00 PM, **May 13, 2008**, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall at 3031 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance, California on the following matter:

CONSIDERATION TO AMEND THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING SPEED LIMITS

Recommendation of the Community Development Director and the Chief of Police that the City Council concur with staff's recommendation to amend Article 10 (Speed Limits) of the Torrance Municipal Code (TMC) Sections 61.10.1, 61.10.2, 61.10.3, 61.10.4 & 61.10.5 modifying speed limits on certain streets in the City of Torrance.

Material can be reviewed in the Community Development Department and City Clerk's office. All persons interested in the above matter are requested to be present at the hearing or to submit their comments to the City Clerk, City Hall, 3031 Torrance Boulevard, Torrance CA 90503, prior to the public hearing.

If you challenge the above matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk at, or prior to, the public hearing and further, by the terms of Resolution No. 88-19, you may be limited to ninety (90) days in which to commence such legal action pursuant to Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Community Development Department at (310) 618-5990. If you need a special hearing device to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 618-2870. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting [28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II].

For further information, contact the TRANSPORTATION/PLANNING DIVISION of the Community Development Department at (310) 618-5990.

SUE HERBERS
CITY CLERK

Pub: May 02, 2008

RECEIVED
MAY 05 2008
CITY OF TORRANCE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT.