

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT and RESOLUTION relative to authority to implement 15 mile per hour speed limits in School Zones on 494 street segments adjacent to 200 schools in the City of Los Angeles.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTION establishing “School Safety Zone” speed limits of “15 Miles Per Hour When Children Are Present” at 494 street segments adjacent to 200 schools within the Los Angeles Unified School District boundaries in accordance with California Vehicle Code Section 22358.4.
2. DIRECT the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (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 Los Angeles Police Department for the 494 street segments identified on Exhibit 1 in the October 26, 2023 LADOT report, attached to the Council File.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The LADOT reports that the initial estimate to authorize, purchase, and install the signs and posts at 200 schools on overtime is \$750,000. For this purpose, the funds are budgeted within LADOT’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 budget.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On November 1, 2023, your Committee considered an October 26, 2023 LADOT report and Resolution relative to authority to implement 15 mile per hour speed limits in School Zones on 494 street segments adjacent to 200 schools in the City of Los Angeles.. According to the LADOT, 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, the 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, the 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. The 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 (Council File No. 14-0348-S1). The LADOT implemented reduced speed limits at all 11 schools. In May 2023, Council adopted a resolution to establish school zone speed limits at the remaining top 50 schools in the City (Council File No, 14-0348-S1). The LADOT completed the implementation of the 15-mph school zone signs on August 15, 2023. The FY 2023-24 Budget funds the expansion of School Safety Zones to 200 additional schools. This report identifies these schools for reduced 15 mph speed limits. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the recommendations contained in the LADOT report. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,
Transportation Committee

COUNCILMEMBER VOTE

HUTT:	YES
PARK:	YES
HERNANDEZ:	YES
RAMAN:	ABSENT
YAROSLAVSKY:	YES

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11/1/23

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