

STAFF REPORT



ITEM NO. 21
CITY OF OCEANSIDE

DATE: March 19, 2008
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
FROM: Development Services Department
SUBJECT: **INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH SPEED LIMITS
ON VARIOUS STREETS**

SYNOPSIS

Staff and the Transportation Commission recommend that the City Council adopt an ordinance to establish prima facie speed limits for the following streets:

- Plaza Drive - 35 mph
(College Boulevard to Thunder Drive)
- Foussat Road - 40 mph
(State Route 76 to approximately 545 feet north of Alex Road)
- Foussat Road - 35 mph
(Rivertree Drive to approximately 1,000 feet south of Benet Road)
- Corporate Centre - 40 mph
(Oceanside Boulevard to Ocean Ranch Boulevard)
- Rancho del Oro Drive - 50 mph
(Oceanside Boulevard to Mesa Drive)

BACKGROUND

In order to establish prima facie limits, the California Vehicle Code (CVC) requires the governing agency to conduct an engineering and traffic survey on that portion of roadway. The City of Oceanside's traffic code also requires that speed limits be established by a City Council Ordinance.

One way to achieve a safe roadway and to enhance efficient traffic flow is to establish proper and reasonable speed limits that can be enforced. There are various streets throughout the City that do not have posted speed limits. Establishing a speed limit that is reasonable can help to achieve voluntary compliance by the majority of drivers without need for the presence of a police officer. Studies have shown a reduction in accidents on streets where proper speed limits have been established.

Part of the process of establishing a speed limit is completing an engineering and traffic survey which contains necessary data justifying a specific speed limit for a road. A few of the details reviewed in the process of establishing a prima facie speed limit is the 24-hour traffic volume, reported traffic collision history, and the critical speed (85th percentile). The critical speed is the speed at or below which 85 percent of the traffic is traveling. Establishing a speed limit will allow the Police Department to enforce the posted speed limit.

ANALYSIS

Plaza Drive (College Boulevard to Thunder Drive)

Plaza Drive is classified as a four-lane second arterial street through a commercial zone with approximately 19,600 vehicles per day (vpd). The roadway is primarily four lanes with an undeveloped portion of two lanes. In a three-year period from March 1, 2004, to February 28, 2007, there were seven reported collisions. Out of the seven collisions, two collisions had a primary collision factor pertaining to unsafe speed. The posted speed limit for the easterly extension of Plaza Drive (Hacienda Drive in Vista) is 40 miles per hour (mph). The critical speed is 36 mph; staff is recommending a 35 mph speed limit.

Foussat Road (State Route 76 to approximately 545 feet north of Alex Road)

Foussat Road is classified as a four-lane secondary arterial street with approximately 5,990 vpd. This portion of Foussat Road transitions from four to two lanes and is surrounded by vacant commercial property and open space. In a three-year period from April 1, 2004, to March 31, 2007, there were no reported collisions. The critical speed is 42 mph; staff is recommending a 40 mph speed limit.

Foussat Road (Rivertree Drive to approximately 1,000 feet south of Benet Road)

Foussat Road is classified as a two-lane local collector street that is located adjacent to a residential district with approximately 5,990 vpd. The roadway width varies from 36 feet to 50 feet curb to curb. There was one reported traffic collision on this portion of Foussat Road from April 1, 2004, to March 31, 2007. The primary collision factor was driving under the influence. The critical speed is 35 mph; staff is recommending a 35 mph speed limit.

Corporate Centre (Oceanside Boulevard to Ocean Ranch Boulevard)

Corporate Centre is classified as a two-lane collector street with approximately 5,900 vpd. There were three reported traffic collisions in the time period of December 1, 2004, to November 30, 2007. The primary collision factors were excessive speeding, driving

under the influence, and “unknown”. The critical speed is 39 mph and the recommended speed limit is 40 mph due to roadway design speed and safe stopping sight distance considerations.

Rancho del Oro Drive (Oceanside Boulevard to Mesa Drive)

Rancho del Oro Drive is classified as a four-lane major arterial street with approximately 10,700 vpd. There have been no reported traffic collisions from March 1, 2004, to February 28, 2007. The critical speed is 52 mph; staff is recommending a 50 mph speed limit.

A speed survey was conducted for all five segments. The data is summarized in Table “A” below. Using the data from the speed surveys, an engineering and traffic survey was completed for the five subject segments of road.

Table A: Speed Survey Summary

Survey Date	Location	Limits	Proposed Speed (mph)	Critical Speed (mph)	Pace Speed (mph)	% in Pace
6/1/06	Plaza Dr.	College Blvd. to Thunder Dr.	35	36	28-38	94
2/6/07	Foussat Rd.	State Route 76 to ~545 ft. n/o Alex Rd.	40	42	30-40	74
2/6/07	Foussat Rd.	Rivertree Dr. to ~1,000 ft. s/o Benet Rd.	35	35	26-36	93
2/15/08	Corporate Centre	Oceanside Blvd. to Ocean Ranch Blvd.	40	39	30-40	85
6/12/06	Rancho del Oro Dr.	Oceanside Blvd. to Mesa Dr.	50	52	42-52	82

FISCAL IMPACT

The installation of the speed limit signs would cost approximately \$500 with an increase in annual maintenance of two work hours.

COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT

At the December 18, 2007, meeting, the Transportation Commission reviewed and approved the proposed prima facie speed limits for the various streets.

CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS

The referenced documents have been reviewed by the City Attorney and approved as to form.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff and the Transportation Commission recommend that the City Council introduce an ordinance to establish prima facie speed limits for the following streets:

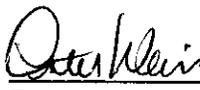
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- Corporate Centre - 40 mph
(Oceanside Boulevard to Ocean Ranch Boulevard)
- Rancho del Oro Drive - 50 mph
(Oceanside Boulevard to Mesa Drive)

PREPARED BY:



 Paul Pace
 Transportation Operations Engineer

SUBMITTED BY:



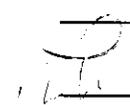
 Peter A. Weiss
 City Manager

REVIEWED BY:

Michelle Skaggs Lawrence, Deputy City Manager

Lauren Wasserman, Interim Development Services Director

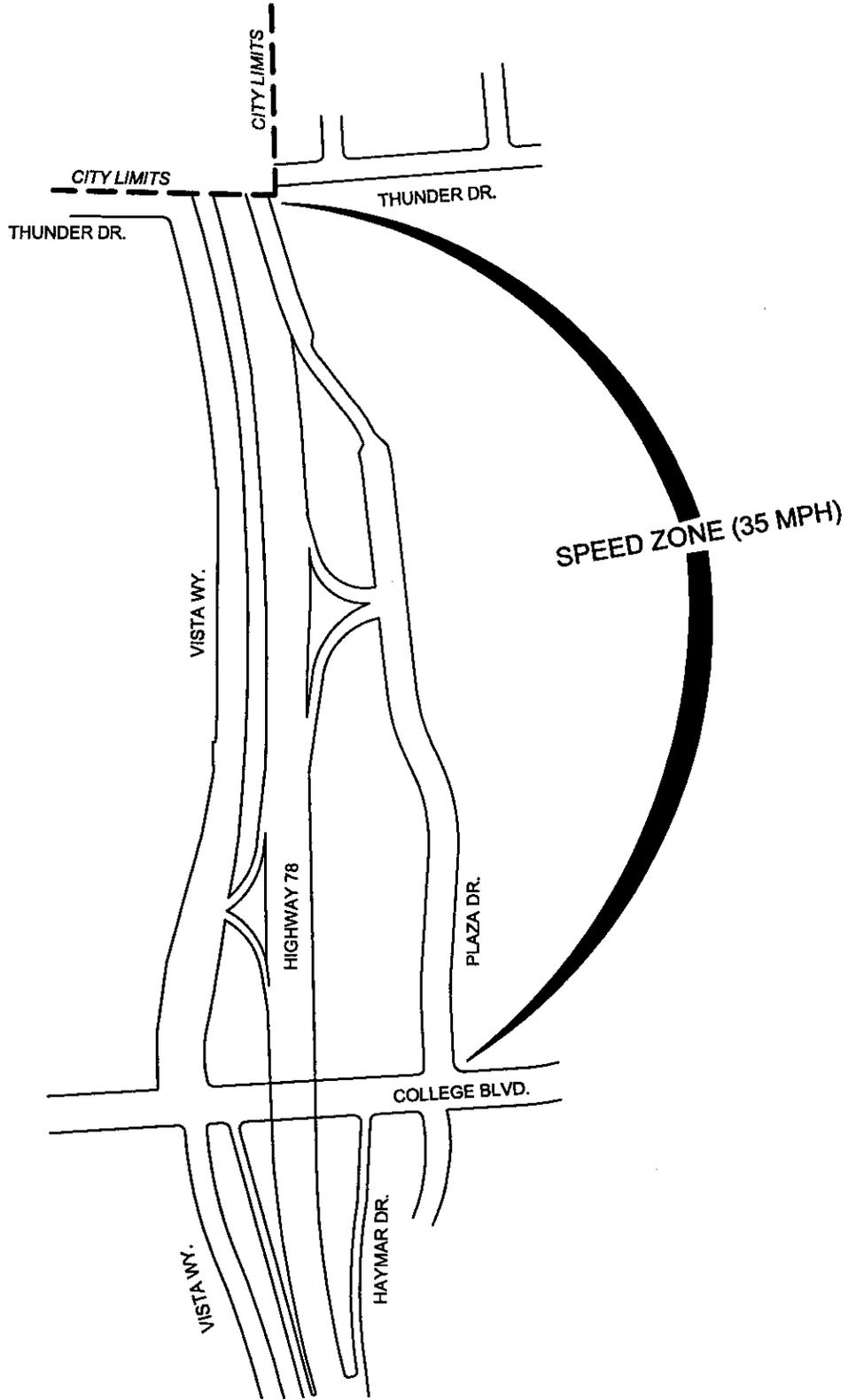
Scott O. Smith, City Engineer





Attachment: Exhibit A, B, and C (Location Diagrams)

LOCATION DIAGRAM



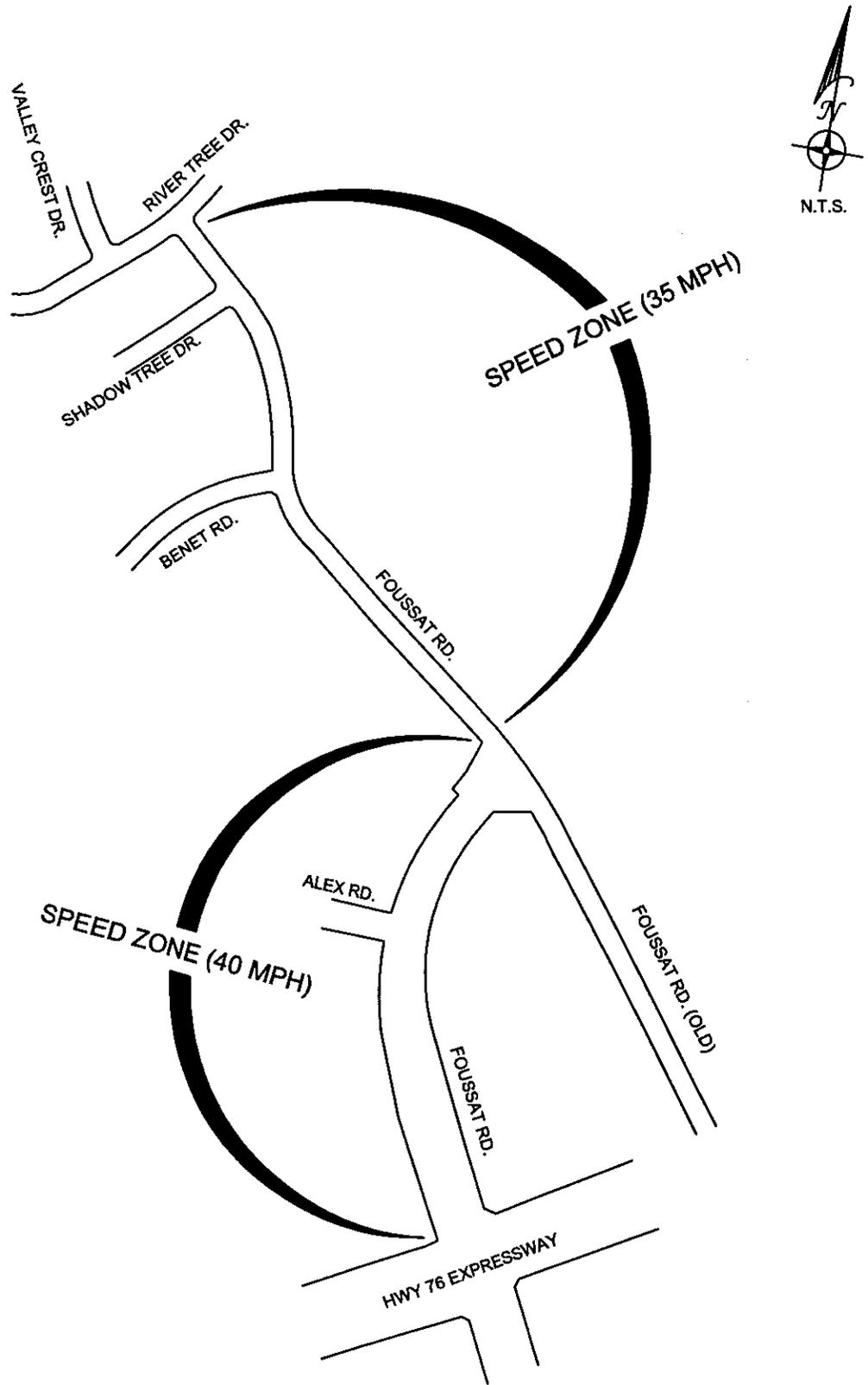
PROJECT NAME

PROPOSED SPEED ZONE FOR
PLAZA DRIVE

EXHIBIT

A

LOCATION DIAGRAM



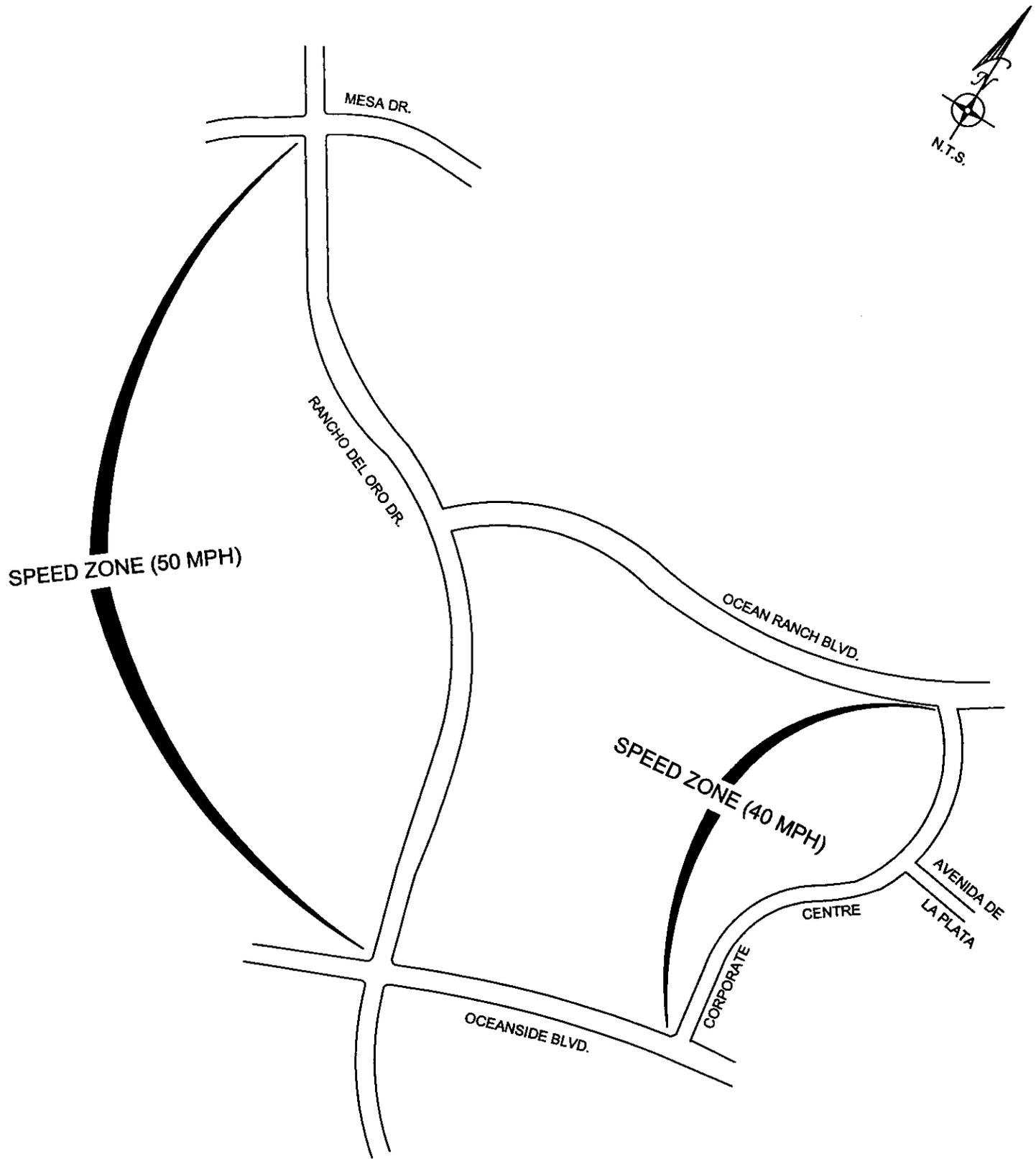
PROJECT NAME

TWO PROPOSED SPEED ZONES FOR
FOUSSAT ROAD

EXHIBIT

B

LOCATION DIAGRAM



PROJECT NAME

THREE PROPOSED SPEED ZONES FOR
RANCHO DEL ORO DRIVE AND
CORPORATE CENTRE

EXHIBIT

C

1 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Oceanside, California,
2 this _____ day of _____, 2008, by the following vote:

3 AYES:

4 NAYS:

5 ABSENT:

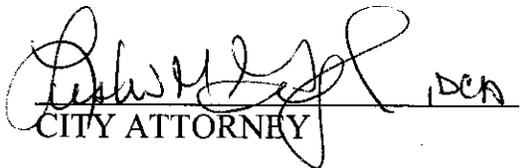
6 ABSTAIN:

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9 _____
10 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF OCEANSIDE

11 ATTEST:

12 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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14 _____
15 CITY CLERK

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CITY ATTORNEY

27 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OCEANSIDE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING ARTICLE
28 14, SECTION 14.1 OF THE OCEANSIDE TRAFFIC CODE BY THE ADDITION OF SUBSECTIONS EIGHTY ONE
(81) TO EIGHT FIVE (85) TO ESTABLISH VARIOUS SPEED LIMITS ON VARIOUS STREETS