


CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 17, 2010

To: June Lagmay, City Clerk
City Clerk's Office

From: Dorothy Tate, Acting Commission Executive Assistant
Board of Transportation Commissioners

Subject: ORDINANCE APPROVAL - RECOMMENDED SPEED LIMIT REVISION
FOR CLYBOURN AVENUE BETWEEN STRATHERN STREET AND
COHASSET STREET



At its regular meeting of March 11, 2010, the Board of Transportation Commissioners considered the evidence presented at the public hearing and approved the Ordinance referenced above. A copy of the Board's action, along with the Ordinance is attached for your information.

After your office reviews the Board Report, please forward it to the City Council for consideration.

If you need further information, please contact Alan Willis, Principal Transportation Engineer, at (213) 972-8430

DT

Attachments

c: John Fisher
Alan Willis
Jasmin San Luis

STANDARD 11 11-13

BY _____
CITY CLERK

2018 MAR 17 PM 4:43

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

**BOARD REPORT
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

✓ 02, 06 – East Valley #10-1680
Clybourn Av bet. Strathern St & Cohasset
St

DATE: *March 11,*
January 29, 2010

TO: Board of Transportation Commissioners

**SUBJECT: ORDINANCE APPROVAL - RECOMMENDED SPEED LIMIT REVISION
FOR CLYBOURN AVENUE BETWEEN STRATHERN STREET AND
COHASSET STREET**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That your Board approve revising the speed limit on Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street from 35 miles per hour to 45 miles per hour, so as to be able to retain radar enforcement.
2. That your Board recommend to the City Council that they approve the attached City Attorney's draft ordinance amending Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (L.A.M.C.) to establish the recommended speed limit.
3. That two copies of this report and the draft ordinance be forwarded to the City Clerk for assignment of a council file number and transmittal to the City Council.

INITIATED BY:

A speed study was initiated by a request from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to determine the appropriate speed limit and to permit enforcement by the use of radar.

DISCUSSION:

In order for jurisdictions to legally use radar enforcement, the California Vehicle Code requires that the speed limits be re-established every seven years (or ten years following a one-time three year extension) using factual and impartial criteria. These factors include prevailing critical speeds, collision history and the existence of any conditions not readily apparent to motorists. These criteria are intended to provide an objective basis for setting speed limits and precluding speed traps. Speed limits set according to these criteria ensure that the greater majority of reasonable motorists will not be subject to arbitrary citations.

An engineering and traffic survey has been completed for Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street as required by California Vehicle Code Section 40802(b), in order to justify enforcement of the speed limit by radar. The attached

March 11,
January 29, 2010

Engineering Report summarizes the findings of the engineering and traffic survey and the basis for the recommended speed limit. The survey indicated that the proposed speed limit of 45 miles per hour for Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street is consistent with traffic conditions and roadway characteristics and will facilitate the safe and orderly movement of traffic.

The average critical speed for Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street is 42.75 miles per hour. If the current 35 miles per hour speed limit were to be retained for this segment, then 64.7 percent of the motorists would be considered as speed violators. There are no significant roadway conditions that could be considered as not readily apparent to motorists, or that create special problems for bicyclists or pedestrians. The injury accident rate of 1.05 accidents per million vehicle miles for Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street is within the normal range, and substantiates the safety level of the roadway operation within 5 miles per hour of the critical speed.

COORDINATION:

LAPD has reviewed the information supporting the proposed speed limit revision and has no objections as stated in their May 26, 2009 response to a Department of Transportation memo dated May 13, 2009. The Department of Transportation sent letters to Councilmember Tony Cardenas, 6th District, and Councilmember Wendy Greuel, 2nd District, on May 21, 2009, notifying them of the proposed speed limit revisions and the reasons for the changes.

On May 21, 2009, the Department sent a letter to the Sun Valley Neighborhood Council notifying them of the proposed speed limit revisions and the reasons for the changes. On July 14, 2009, the Department of Transportation met with the Sun Valley Neighborhood Council to discuss the rules and procedures for determining speed limits and enforcing them, the proposed changes to the speed limits on Clybourn Avenue, and to advise them that this matter is to be heard by the Board of Transportation Commissioners.

Approved by:

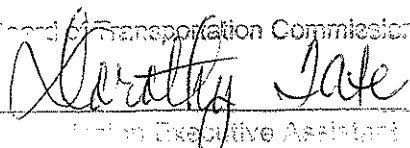

RITA L. ROBINSON
General Manager
Department of Transportation

Date Signed: 2/4/10

RLR:brg
Board report_ClybournAv bet strathernCohasset10

c: Councilmember Tony Cardenas, 6th Council District

Approved: March 11, 2010

Board of Transportation Commissioners

Dorothy Tate
Executive Assistant

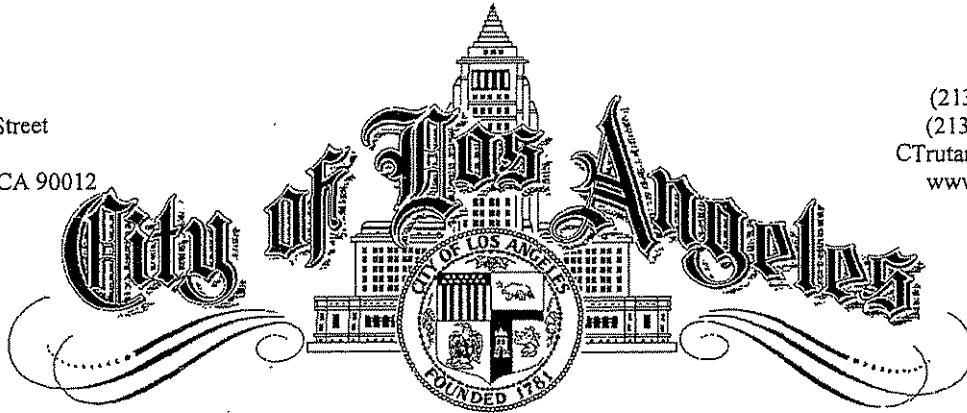
March 11,
January 29, 2010

Councilmember Paul Krekorian, 2nd Council District
City Clerk (2)
City Attorney
Board of Transportation Commissioners (7)
Captain Phillip Trotter, LAPD
Survey Section, LADOT
Carolyn Jackson, LADOT

Attachments

City Hall East
200 N. Main Street
Room 800
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 978-8100 Tel
(213) 978-8312 Fax
CTrutanich@lacity.org
www.lacity.org/atty



CARMEN A. TRUTANICH
City Attorney

October 22, 2009

11/10/09

c: Alan Willis

The Honorable Board of
Transportation Commissioners
City of Los Angeles
100 S. Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Pat Sanchez

Note: Received 11/9/09

Re: A Draft Ordinance Amending Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles
Municipal Code to Change the Speed Limit on Clybourn Avenue in the City
of Los Angeles

Honorable Members:

Pursuant to standing instructions from the City Council and the request of the Department of Transportation, this office has prepared and transmits with this letter, approved as to form and legality, a draft of ordinance amending Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 80.81 to establish the speed limit on certain portions of Clybourn Avenue in Council Districts 2 and 6, at 45 miles per hour, in order to ensure radar enforcement. This draft ordinance has been approved by the Los Angeles Police Department as well as by the affected Council Offices, completing all requirements of City Council Rule 38.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (213) 978-8147.

Sincerely,

CARMEN A TRUTANICH, City Attorney

By 
SHELLEY ILENE SMITH
Assistant City Attorney

Transmittal

M:\General Counsel (GC)\SHELLEY SMITH\Speed Limit on Clybourn Ave Ltr.doc

ORDINANCE NO. _____

An ordinance amending Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to change the speed limit on Clybourn Avenue in the City of Los Angeles.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Subdivision C of Subsection (2) of Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended by deleting the following:

On those portions of Clybourn Avenue within the City of Los Angeles between Sherman Place and Strathern Street.

Sec. 2. Subdivision C of Subsection (4) of Section 80.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended by adding the following in alphabetical order:

Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street.

Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

I hereby certify that this ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles, at its meeting of _____.

JUNE LAGMAY, City Clerk

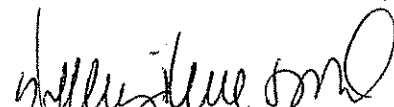
By _____ Deputy

Approved _____

Mayor

Approved as to Form and Legality

CARMEN A. TRUTANICH, City Attorney

By  _____
SHELLEY I. SMITH
Assistant City Attorney

Date 10/22/09 _____

File No. _____

ENGINEERING REPORT

Engineering and Traffic Survey for Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street

Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street is designated as a "Major Highway", and is posted with a 35 miles per hour speed limit.

Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street has a roadway width varying from 67 to 80 feet, with two lanes in each direction, left-turn channelization, and left-turn pockets at the intersections of Wixom Street, Keswick Street, Lull Street, and Saticoy Street.

The roadway is straight and level. The development along the frontage of this segment of Clybourn Avenue is a mixture of residential on the west side of the street, and industrial on the east side of the street. The west side of the roadway has curb, gutter, and sidewalks or other pedestrian walking areas, and pedestrians are not forced to walk in the street. The east side of the roadway, south of Keswick Street also has curb, gutter, and sidewalks to accommodate pedestrians. However, for most of the east side of the roadway north of Keswick Street, paved shoulders with vehicles parked on the parkway take the place of curb and sidewalk, and pedestrians need to walk between parked cars or into the street. The roadway widths are adequate to accommodate parked vehicles, bicyclists, and vehicles. The roadway width of 67 to 80 feet is sufficient for the large trucks that access the industrial facilities along this segment, or at the Bob Hope Airport, further south.

Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street is a distance of approximately 0.64 miles, with an average critical speed of 42.75 miles per hour. The average lower limit of pace is 34.0 miles per hour, and the average median speed is 37.0 miles per hour. According to the requirements for setting speed limits described in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (California MUTCD, Section 2B.13), effective September 26, 2006, the speed limit on this segment of Clybourn Avenue should be set at 45 miles per hour, unless there are roadway characteristics that are unexpected to drivers that can justify a 5 miles per hour reduction. A review of field conditions and accident records indicates that there are no observed conditions that objectively could be considered as not readily apparent to motorists. Although there are no sidewalks or walking areas for pedestrians on the east side of Clybourn Avenue between Keswick Street and Strathern Street, this side of the roadway is industrial, and the pedestrian traffic is light, and limited to adults who are usually just walking to their parked vehicles. The accident rate for Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street is just 1.05 accidents per million-vehicle-miles. Accordingly, any speed limit reduction below the proposed 45 miles per hour speed limit would not be justified.

If the current 35 miles per hour speed limit were to be retained, then 64.7 percent of the motorists would be considered as speed violators. In the absence of factors, this high rate of violators would be unreasonable and would not distinguish occasional violators from the majority of reasonable drivers.

Therefore, for the reasons described above, the Department recommends that the existing 35 miles per hour speed limit for Clybourn Avenue between Strathern Street and Cohasset Street be increased to 45 miles per hour.

Approved: John E. Fisher for Title: Principal Transportation Engineer

Date: May 12, 2009