

AGENDA DOCUMENTATION

DATE: APRIL 27, 2017
TO: TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION
FROM: TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING DIVISION
SUBJECT: **ITEM 6**

DISCUSSION FOR POSSIBLE ACTION TO CHANGE THE SPEED LIMIT ON LAMB BOULEVARD BETWEEN CHARLESTON BOULEVARD AND OWENS AVENUE FROM 45 MPH TO 40 MPH - Ward 3 (Coffin)

SITUATION

The Transportation Engineering Division would like to change the speed limit on Lamb Boulevard between Charleston Boulevard and Owens Avenue from 45 mph to 40 mph. The Federal Highway Administration's Office of Safety developed an updated web-based tool called USLIMITS2 to aid in the evaluation and setting of speed limits. USLIMITS2 assists traffic engineers in the setting of speed limits for specific sections of roadway based on its characteristics in an effort to reduce speeding-related fatalities and serious injuries. The program was developed based on past studies and logic systems for evaluation of speed limits. It also was developed based on surveys and input from traffic engineers, enforcement personnel, decision makers, and researchers from across the country. The USLIMITS2 program was released in 2012 and is available at the following website: <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/uslimits/>. Characteristics that are used in the evaluation of the speed limit for a corridor using USLIMITS2 include the following:

- 50th Percentile Speed
- 85th Percentile Speed
- Average Annual Daily Traffic
- Crash Rates
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Activity
- Presence of On-Street Parking
- Number of Driveways
- Number of Signalized intersections
- Area Type
- Roadway Geometry / Adverse Alignment

Attached are the results of the study conducted by staff on Lamb Boulevard from Charleston Boulevard to Owens Avenue. Based on this study, staff recommends changing the speed limit from 45 mph to 40 mph due to high pedestrian and bicycle activity and crash rates that are almost 4 times the average for injuries. Stretches of Lamb Boulevard north of Owens Avenue and south of Charleston Boulevard are in the County and the speed limit is 45 mph. We are suggesting to the County that they lower the speed limit on their stretches to 40 mph.

RECOMMENDATION

The Transportation Engineering Division recommends changing the speed limit from 45 to 40 mph based on the USLIMITS2 evaluation program.