

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Action on Ordinance No. 950 - Amending Shoreline Municipal Code Chapter 10.20 Speed Limits
DEPARTMENT:	Public Works
PRESENTED BY:	Kendra Dedinsky, City Traffic Engineer
ACTION:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

Fatal and serious injury collisions are on the rise in Shoreline. High vehicle speed is a key factor in these types of collisions, particularly for pedestrians and bicyclists. Recent research and associated updates to speed limit setting methods recognize that speed limits are an important tool for creating safer streets.

Therefore, as was discussed with the City Council at their November 22, 2021 regular meeting, staff recommends a speed limit reduction of five (5) miles per hour (mph), from 35 mph to 30 mph, for five of the six study corridors including:

- N/NE 175th Street from Aurora Avenue N to 15th Avenue NE,
- Meridian Avenue N from N 145th Street to NE 205th Street,
- 15th Avenue NE from NE 145th Street to NE 175th Street,
- Greenwood Avenue N from N 145th Street to NW Innis Arden Way, and
- N/NW Richmond Beach Road from 8th Avenue NW to Fremont Avenue N.

This recommendation is included in proposed Ordinance No. 950 (Attachment A). Tonight, Council is scheduled to take action on this proposed Ordinance. Also included in this staff report for Council’s consideration is amendatory language to add two corridors to proposed Ordinance No. 950 for a similar five (5) mph speed limit reduction, from 35 mph to 30 mph, as discussed by some Councilmembers on November 22nd.

RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The financial impact of lowering speed limits on the five recommended corridors is estimated to be approximately \$12,000 and would be funded by the Traffic Safety Capital Improvement Program. The majority of this cost is associated with physical sign changes, although a very small portion will be used for public education efforts such as yard signs to highlight the changes and provide a link to more information. The Shoreline Police Department anticipates any emphasis efforts associated with these speed limit changes can be absorbed within their existing operating budget.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council move to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 950.

Approved By: City Manager ***DT*** City Attorney ***MK***

BACKGROUND

Shoreline Municipal Code (SMC) [Chapter 10.20 Speed Limits](#) adopts by reference Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 308-330-423 Speed Restrictions, which sets a base 25 mph speed limit for arterials. This WAC incorporates various provisions of the RCW including RCW 41.61.415. This RCW permits local jurisdictions to establish or alter speed limits established by the State Department of Transportation on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation; determining the proper maximum speed for all arterial streets. Based on this authority, SMC 10.20.010 establishes a maximum speed limit of 30 mph, 35 mph, or 40 mph for various arterial roadways throughout the city.

Throughout 2020, staff worked on a speed limit study with traffic engineering consultant DKS, a leader and expert in evolving speed limit setting practices. The study and results were presented to the Council on January 4, 2021 and are available at the following link: [January 4, 2021 staff report on Discussion of the Arterial Speed Limit Study](#). Based on this meeting, staff prepared proposed amendments to SMC Chapter 10.20.

On November 22, 2021, staff presented the proposed amendments to SMC Chapter 10.20 Speed Limits (Attachment A, Exhibit A) for Council consideration. Specifically, staff proposed a speed limit reduction of five (5) miles per hour (mph), from 35 mph to 30 mph, for the following five corridors:

- N/NE 175th Street from Aurora Avenue N to 15th Avenue NE,
- Meridian Avenue N from N 145th Street to NE 205th Street,
- 15th Avenue NE from NE 145th Street to NE 175th Street,
- Greenwood Avenue N from N 145th Street to NW Innis Arden Way, and
- N/NW Richmond Beach Road from 8th Avenue NW to Fremont Avenue N

This recommendation is included in proposed Ordinance No. 950 (Attachment A). The Staff Report for the November 22nd Council discussion is available at the following link: [November 22, 2021 staff report on Discussion of Ord. No 950 Speed Limit Reductions](#).

DISCUSSION

At the November 22nd Council meeting, Council generally expressed support for the amendments in proposed Ordinance No. 950. Additionally, there was some interest expressed in reducing the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph at two (2) additional locations:

- On 15th Avenue NE between NE 180th Street and NE 196th Street, and
- On Dayton Avenue N between Westminster Way North and Carlyle Hall Road North.

If a Councilmember would like to include these locations for a speed limit reduction in proposed Ordinance No. 950, a councilmember would need to make the following motion:

I move to amend Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 950 to reduce the speed limit to 30 mph on 15th Avenue NE from NE 180th Street to NE 196th Street and Dayton Avenue North from Westminster Way North to Carlyle Hall Road N from the 35 mph currently shown in SMC 10.20.010(B).

Tonight, Council is scheduled to take action on proposed Ordinance 950.

COUNCIL GOAL(S) ADDRESSED

This item addresses the following City Council Goals:

- Goal 2: Continue to deliver highly-valued public services through management of the City's infrastructure and stewardship of the natural environment.
- Goal 4: Promote and enhance the City's safe community and neighborhood programs and initiatives.

RESOURCE/FINANCIAL IMPACT

The financial impact of lowering speed limits on the five recommended corridors is estimated to be approximately \$12,000 and would be funded by the Traffic Safety Capital Improvement Program. The majority of this cost is associated with physical sign changes, although a very small portion will be used for public education efforts such as yard signs to highlight the changes and provide a link to more information. The Shoreline Police Department anticipates any emphasis efforts associated with these speed limit changes can be absorbed within their existing operating budget.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council move to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 950.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Proposed Ordinance No. 950

Exhibit A – Amendments to SMC Chapter 10.20

ORDINANCE NO. 950

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, AMENDING CHAPTER 10.20 SPEED LIMITS OF THE SHORELINE MUNICIPAL CODE TO LOWER SPEED LIMITS ON CERTAIN ARTERIAL CORRIDORS.

WHEREAS, RCW 41.61.415 authorizes the City of Shoreline to determine and declare a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for all arterial streets; and

WHEREAS, based on the City's 2018 Annual Traffic Report, in 2020 City Staff worked on a speed limit study utilizing data from the National Cooperative Highway Research Program Project 17-76 to evaluate six arterial corridors; and

WHEREAS, these six arterial corridors were selected for study based on multiple factors including existing speed limit, collision history, recent changes to road cross section, or adjacent land use; and

WHEREAS, at its January 4, 2021, regular meeting, the City Council discussed the Arterial Speed Limit Study; and

WHEREAS, based on this discussion, City Staff proposed to reduce the speed limit by five (5) miles per hour on five (5) of the six (6) corridors studied; and

WHEREAS, the City Council discussed the proposed speed limit reduction at its November 22, 2021, regular meeting; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the amendments to SMC Chapter 10.20 are in the best interests of the City of Shoreline and the health, safety, and welfare of its residents;

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment – SMC 10.20 Speed Limits. SMC Chapter 10.20 is amended as set forth in Exhibit A to this Ordinance.

Section 2. Corrections by City Clerk or Code Reviser. Upon approval of the City Attorney, the City Clerk and/or the Code Reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this Ordinance, including the corrections of scrivener or clerical errors; references to other local, state, or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations; or ordinance numbering and section/subsection numbering and references.

Section 3. Severability. Should any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance or its application to any person or situation be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or its application to any person or situation.

Section 4. Publication and Effective Date. A summary of this Ordinance consisting of the title shall be published in the official newspaper as soon as practicable after passage. This Ordinance shall take effect at 12:01 am local time on June 1, 2022.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 6, 2021.

Mayor Will Hall

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Jessica Simulcik Smith
City Clerk

Julie K Ainsworth-Taylor
Assistant City Attorney
on behalf of Margaret King, City Attorney

Date of Publication: _____, 2021
Effective Date: June 1, 2022

SMC 10.20.010 is amended to read as follows:

10.20.010 Speed limits.

WAC 308-330-423 is adopted to establish rules governing motor vehicle speed within the city; provided, that the speed limit for all streets within the city shall be 25 miles per hour, except as designated below:

A. 30 Miles Per Hour.

NW 196th Street from 23rd Avenue NW to 20th Avenue NW;

NW 195th Street from 20th Avenue NW to 15th Avenue NW;

NW Innis Arden Way from Greenwood Avenue North to 10th Avenue NW;

NW Richmond Beach Road from 15th Avenue NW to 8th Avenue NW;

North 160th Street from Greenwood Avenue North to Dayton Avenue North;

North 175th Street from Fremont Avenue North to Aurora Avenue North;

North 185th Street from Fremont Avenue North to 1st Avenue NE;

North 150th Street from 15th Avenue NE to 25th Avenue NE;

North 155th Street from Aurora Avenue North to 1st Avenue NE;

NE 155th Street from 1st Avenue NE to 15th Avenue NE;

NE 168th Street from 15th Avenue NE to 25th Avenue NE (south leg);

NE 175th Street from 15th Avenue NE to 22nd Avenue NE;

NE 185th Street from 1st Avenue NE to 10th Avenue NE;

8th Avenue NW from NW 180th Street to NW Richmond Beach Road;

8th Avenue NW from NW Richmond Beach Road to the northerly city limits (NW 205th Street);

Greenwood Avenue North from NW Innis Arden Way to North Carlyle Hall Road;

Dayton Avenue North from Carlyle Hall Road N to N Richmond Beach Road;

Fremont Avenue North from North 165th Street to the northerly city limits (North 205th Street);

Ashworth Avenue North from North 155th Street to North 200th Street;

1st Avenue NE from the southerly city limits (NE 145th Street) to NE 155th Street;

3rd Avenue NW from Richmond Beach Road NW to the northerly city limits (NW 205th Street);

5th Avenue NE from the southerly city limits (NE 145th Street) to the northerly city limits (NE 205th Street);

10th Avenue NE from NE 175th Street to NE 190th Street;

15th Avenue NE from NE 196th Street to Ballinger Way NE;

19th Avenue NE from 15th Avenue NE to NE 205th Street;

24th Avenue NE from 15th Avenue NE to 25th Avenue NE;

25th Avenue NE from the southerly city limits (NE 145th Street) to NE 178th Street;

25th Avenue NE from Ballinger Way NE to NE 205th Street.;

N/NE 175th Street from Aurora Avenue N to 15th Avenue NE;

Meridian Avenue North from the southerly city limits (North 145th Street) to the northerly city limits (North 205th Street);

15th Avenue NE from the southerly city limits (NE 145th Street) to NE 175th Street;

Greenwood Avenue N from the southerly city limits (North 145th Street) to NW Innis Arden Way;

N/NW Richmond Beach Road from 8th Avenue NW to Fremont Avenue North.

B. 35 Miles Per Hour.

~~NW Richmond Beach Road from 8th Avenue NW to Fremont Avenue North;~~

~~North 175th Street from Aurora Avenue North to Interstate 5;~~

~~NE 175th Street from Interstate 5 to 15th Avenue NE;~~

North 160th Street from Dayton Avenue North to Aurora Avenue North;

North 155th Street from Westminster Way North to Aurora Avenue North;

~~Greenwood Avenue North from the southerly city limits (North 145th Street) to NW Innis Arden Way;~~

Westminster Way North from Greenwood Avenue North to Aurora Avenue North;

Dayton Avenue North from Westminster Way North to Carlyle Hall Road N;

~~Meridian Avenue North from the southerly city limits (North 145th Street) to the northerly city limits (North 205th Street);~~

1st Avenue NE from NE 195th Street to the northerly city limits (NE 205th Street);

ORDINANCE NO. 950
SMC Chapter 10.20

~~15th Avenue NE from the southerly city limits (NE 145th Street) to NE 175th Street;~~

15th Avenue NE from NE 180th Street to NE 196th Street.

C. 40 Miles Per Hour.

Aurora Avenue North from the southerly city limits (North 145th Street) to the northerly city limits (North 205th Street).

D. 45 Miles Per Hour. [Reserved].