



CITY of CALABASAS
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: JUNE 1, 2023

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: MICHAEL DYER, PUBLIC SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS MANAGER

SUBJECT: APPROVE THE PURCHASE AND PLACEMENT OF ADDITIONAL SAFETY SPEED MESSAGE SIGNS IN THE CITY OF CALABASAS

MEETING DATE: JUNE 21, 2023

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION:

Review the existing placement of Safety Speed Message Signs and approve the purchase and placement of two additional Safety Speed Message Signs and one additional combination message board trailer within the city limits.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the 2022-23 Strategic Priorities Work Plan, the Council identified speeding and street racing as an issue of concern. In meetings with the Public Safety Committee, Mayor pro Tem Weintraub and Mayor Shapiro have recommended increasing the number of speed radars in the community.

The purpose of this report is to request City Council approval and authorize the City Manager to purchase and place two additional Safety Speed Message Signs within the City of Calabasas and one combination message board that also has radar capability. The Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Director and Interim Public Works Director will collaborate with the Lost Hills Sheriff Station to deploy the signs at speeding hotspots based on prior data derived from the city's radar trailers, tickets and/or traffic incidents.

The new message signs and trailer will have the capability to retrieve traffic data and provide a report that will allow the city and the Lost Hills Sheriff to identify speeding hotspots throughout the city and staff appropriate law enforcement assets as needed. The new message signs are portable and can be placed along with the trailer to identify new locations and times where speeding most occurs.

The larger message trailer offers several enhancements during emergencies such as:

- Increased mobility
- A larger message sign (24" vs 18") for Evacuation Routes or Shelter Locations
- Larger solar panels and battery pack to extend operation

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

Safe speeds are a core principle of the Safe System Approach since humans are less likely to survive high-speed crashes. Enforcing safe speeds has been challenging; however, with more information and tools communities can make progress in reducing speeds. Agencies can use Safety Speed Message Signs as an effective and reliable technology to supplement more traditional methods of enforcement, engineering measures, and education to alter the social norms of speeding. Safety Speed Message Signs use radar to detect speeding of vehicles that are violating a set speed threshold.

Currently, the city has (8) pole mounted signs deployed at the following locations. These signs are not capable of retrieving traffic data.

1. Two on NB and SB Pkwy Calabasas just north of Park Entrada
2. SB Pkwy Calabasas just south of the roundabout
3. SB Las Virgenes Road, just north of Lost Hills Road
4. WB Mulholland Hwy, near Eddingham
5. Two on Mulholland Hwy near Viewpoint school (owned by Viewpoint)
6. Park Sorrento near City Hall

The city currently has three trailer signs. One of the signs is a speed radar sign. The second sign is a 48" by 96" combination message board that is also capable of speed radar, and the third sign is an arrow sign used only for traffic control. The speed radar trailer sign and the combination message board also have the capability of traffic data download but currently there is not any compatible software to produce reports. One of the current speed radar trailers is currently rotated around the city between the following locations.

1. 4245 Meadowlark Dr
2. 3566 Adamsville Ave
3. Las Virgenes Road north of Oak Glen
4. Valmar/ Old Topanga Canyon Road
5. 3766 Eddingham Ave.

FISCAL IMPACT/SOURCE OF FUNDING:

The cost of the portable Safety Speed Message Signs is approximately \$7000 each for a total of \$14,000. The combination message board/speed radar trailer is approximately \$19,000. The items will be funded out of Woolsey Settlement funds as approved by Council at the May 31, 2023 council meeting. Total cost will be \$33,000.

REQUESTED ACTION: Approve the purchase and placement of two additional Safety Speed Message Signs and one additional combination message board trailer within the city limits.

ATTACHMENT:

- A. Map of existing fixed sign locations