

**ORDINANCE NO. 08-2002**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELK GROVE  
REDUCING THE SPEED LIMIT ON ELK GROVE BOULEVARD BETWEEN  
WATERMAN ROAD AND GRANTLINE ROAD TO 40 MPH**

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELK GROVE, CALIFORNIA, does ordain as follows:

Section 1: Findings

- A. On February 6, 2002 the City Council of the City of Elk Grove reviewed and considered the engineering and traffic survey dated December 11, 2001 ("Survey"), and related information, attached hereto and incorporated by reference.
- B. Based upon the review of the Survey and related information, the City Council finds the prevailing or 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of the vehicles using Elk Grove Boulevard between Waterman Road and Grantline Road is 47 miles per hour.
- C. Based on this review of the Survey, the City Council finds that the most appropriate speed limit to facilitate the orderly movement of traffic that is reasonable and safe for the above-listed street is as set forth in Section 2.

Section 2: Declaration of reduced speed limit

- A. Based on findings set forth in Section 1, above, the City Council hereby declares that the speed limit for Elk Grove Boulevard, between Waterman Road and Grantline Road shall be forty (40) miles per hour.

Section 3: Direction to City Traffic Engineer

On or after the effective date of this ordinance, the City Traffic Engineer is directed to clearly post speed limit signs effectuating Section 2, above, to give notice that this ordinance is in effect.

Section 4: No mandatory Duty of Care

This ordinance is not intended to and shall not be construed or given effect in a manner that imposes upon the City or any officer or employee thereof a mandatory duty of care towards persons and property within or without the City, so as to provide a basis of civil liability for damages, except as otherwise imposed by law.

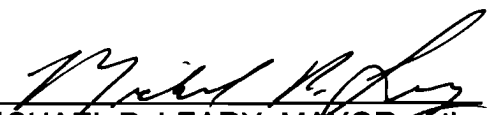
**Section 5: Severability**

If any provision of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are severable. This City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this ordinance irrespective of the invalidity of any particular portion thereof.

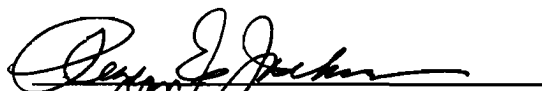
**Section 6: Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption. In lieu of publishing the full text of the ordinance within 15 days after its passage, a summary of the ordinance may be published at least five days prior to and fifteen (15) days after adoption by the City Council and a certified copy shall be posted in the office of the City Clerk, pursuant to GC 36933(c) (1).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Elk Grove on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February 2002.

  
MICHAEL P. LEARY, MAYOR of the  
CITY OF ELK GROVE

ATTEST:

  
PEGGY JACKSON, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
ANTHONY MANZANETTI,  
CITY ATTORNEY

**AYES:** Leary, Scherman,  
Briggs, Soares  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None  
**ABSENT:** Cooper

**Effective date: March 22, 2002**

FLK 071001



# COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Traffic Engineering  
4135 Traffic Way, Sacramento, California 95827  
Telephone: (916) 875-5171 □ FAX: (916) 876-5459

January 2, 2002

Bill Hetland  
Director of Public Works  
City of Elk Grove  
P.O. Box 1776  
Elk Grove, A 95759

Mr. Hetland:

This is in response to the recent requests from the Elk Grove City Council for the following:

1. Review the speed limit on Elk Grove Boulevard (Waterman Road to Grantline Road) and on Grantline Road (Wilton Road to Highway 99). Determine if the speed limits on these roads can be lowered from the current 55 mph.
2. Explain to Mr. & Mrs. Russell why West Camden Road is posted with a 30 mph speed limit.

Per the California Vehicle Code, the establishment of a speed limit is based upon Caltrans standards and requires an engineering and traffic survey. Factors considered in setting speed limits include the prevailing speed of traffic and traffic/roadway characteristics. Speed limits should be established preferably at or near the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed which is defined as that speed at or below which 85 percent of the traffic is moving. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is often referred to as the critical speed. Speed limits higher than the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile are not generally considered reasonable and safe and limits below the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile do not facilitate the orderly movement of traffic. Speed limits established on this basis conform to the consensus of those who drive the highway as to what speed is reasonable and safe, and are not dependent on the judgment of one or a few individuals. The California Vehicle Code, Section 40802, states that streets can be illegal speed traps if radar equipment is used for enforcement when the posted speed limits are not based upon engineering and traffic surveys. The courts have difficulty upholding citations which involve a substantial difference between the posted speed limit and the prevailing speed of traffic. Elk Grove Boulevard and Grantline Road were reevaluated under these criteria.

**Elk Grove Boulevard:** Our recent radar speed survey indicated a prevailing speed of 47 mph. The pace is between 38 mph and 47 mph. The pace is the ten-mile per hour speed range containing the largest number of vehicles surveyed. This recent traffic survey supports consideration of a 45 mph speed limit by the Elk Grove City Council. A copy of the radar survey is enclosed.

Bill Hetland  
January 2, 2002  
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**Grantline Road:** Our recent radar speed survey indicated a prevailing speed of 62 mph. The pace is between 52 mph and 61 mph. The data do not support a reduction in the speed limit at this time. We therefore do not recommend a change in the speed limit. A copy of the survey is enclosed.

At the present time, we are applying the same criteria for placement of traffic signs used in the City of Elk Grove as those applied in the unincorporated area of Sacramento County. The City of Elk Grove may modify the policies and standards to fit the needs of the City.

We are preparing a letter to Mr. & Mrs. Russell explaining why West Camden Drive was posted 30 mph and not 25 mph in 1991. A copy will be forwarded to you upon completion.

If you need additional information, please contact me at 876-5412.

Sincerely,



Randy Foust  
Principal Civil Engineer  
Department of Transportation



C: Dave Franke

Enclosures

P:\Shared Folders\Traffic Engineering\CK letters\speed limit\Elk Grove (waterman to grantline).doc

# ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC SURVEY

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO, PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY, TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

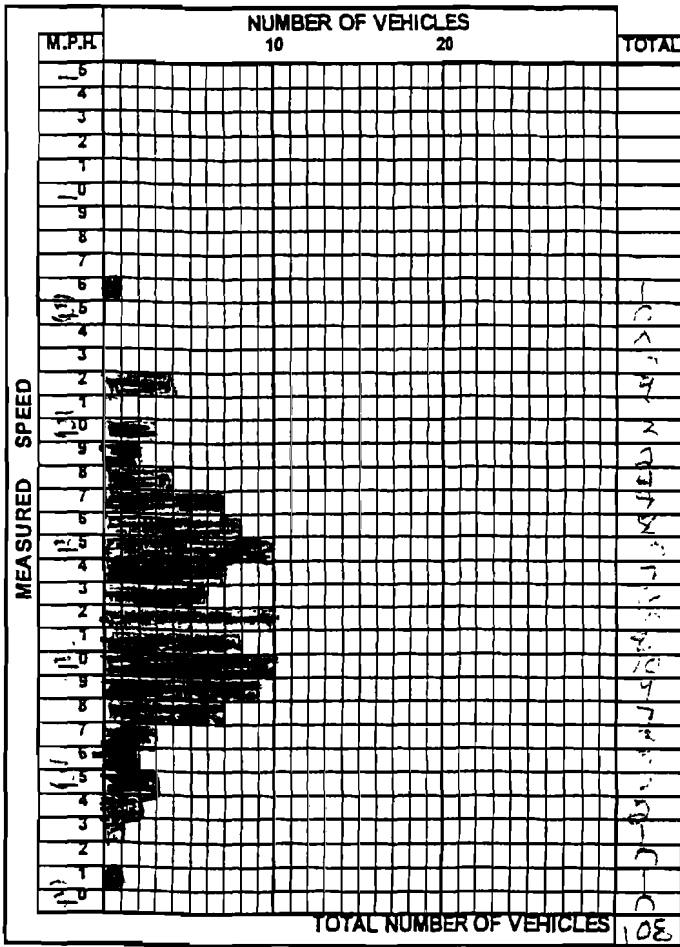
STREET: Elmwood Blvd LIMITS: Union Forest Ln, Williams Rd  
 LENGTH: 400 NUMBER OF LANES: 2 DIRECTION: West  
 EXISTING SPEED LIMIT: 55 posted DEVELOPMENT: Residential - Rural  
 DATE: 12-11-01 TIME: 10:50 WEATHER: clear OBSERVER: KS

85th PERCENTILE: 57 MPH AVERAGE SPEED: 47.10 MPH  
 PACE: 79 MPH TO 47 MPH  
 UNDER: 11 % IN: 75.9 % OVER: 3.0 %

TRAFFIC COUNT			
STREET	VOLUME	TIME	DATE

ACCIDENT RECORD			
YEAR	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL

ANALYSIS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



HIGHWAY, TRAFFIC AND ROADSIDE CONDITIONS: Some traffic  
with some heavy trucks  
Some of the...

RECOMMENDATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

EXISTING SPEED LIMIT SIGNS: posted 55  
55 mph

"I CERTIFY THIS ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC SURVEY TO BE A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT."  
 CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 VEHICLE CODE 627

ACTION: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_