

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



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October 29, 2018

Westwood Neighborhood Council
Lisa Chapman, President
P.O. Box 24802
Los Angeles, CA 90024
Email: Lchapman@wwnc.org

Dear Ms. Chapman:

RE: PROPOSED SPEED LIMITS ON WESTHOLME AVENUE BETWEEN HILGARD AVENUE AND WILSHIRE BOULEVARD

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) and the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) are working together to ensure that speed limits can be enforced citywide. LADOT has determined that a street with a proposed speed limit change is within your neighborhood.

For LAPD to enforce speed limits on surface streets using radar technology, those streets must have a traffic speed survey that was conducted by LADOT within the past seven years. If the speed survey expires, LAPD can no longer enforce the speed limit. California Vehicle Code Section 21400 mandates the use of the 85th-percentile rule for setting speed limits, whereby the speed limit on a road reflects the speed of approximately 85 percent of the vehicles traveling on that road, determined by surveying the speeds at least 100 cars.

As a result of this state mandated law, LADOT is recommending the following proposed speed limit revision so that radar enforcement may be used:

Revise the speed limit on Westholme Avenue between Hilgard Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour.

Any posted "SCHOOL ZONE, 25 MILES PER HOUR, WHEN CHILDREN ARE PRESENT" speed limit signs adjacent to the school(s) will also continue to be in effect and will be enforceable by radar.

The updated speed limit will allow LAPD to resume enforcing speeding laws, which will make Los Angeles streets safer. The role of LADOT is to ensure that the process is objective, that the speed limit is enforceable and, that the speed limit does not compromise traffic safety. The City is actively working with the State of California to re-evaluate the 85th-percentile methodology.

AB 2363, signed September 2018, will establish a state task force to review this policy. Learn more about the current efforts around the City's Vision Zero Initiative at <http://visionzero.lacity.org/>

We are processing this proposed radar-enforced speed limit for consideration by the Transportation Commission, the Transportation Committee and the City Council. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Jaclyn Garcia, Transportation Planning Associate, at jaclyn.garcia@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

TIM CONGER
Senior Transportation Engineer
LADOT Traffic Surveys

C: Councilmember Paul Koretz, 5th Council District, Attn: Jay Greenstein