

AGENDA ITEM REPORT

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To: Town Council

Subject: Discuss, consider and act upon the first reading of Ord. 2024-18 lowering the speed limit on Barnes Bridge Road (from Belt Line Road to eastern Town Limits) from the currently posted 35 miles-per-hour to 25 miles-per-hour.

Meeting: Town Council - November 12, 2024

Department: Engineering

Staff Contact: Matt Holzapfel

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Barnes Bridge Road is one of the oldest roads in the Town of Sunnyvale and has been in operation since at least 1840 (see attachment). The Duck Creek bridge on Barnes Bridge Road was closed in 2019 due to severe creek erosion undermining segments of the bridge approach slabs. Later the bridge collapsed due to continued erosion.

During the bridge closure, citizens living on Barnes Bridge Road became concerned with the future reconstruction of the Duck Creek bridge and its impact on traffic volumes and speed on Barnes Bridge Road. The citizens were concerned that the current 35-mph speed limit is excessive for the roadway and asked Town Council and staff to study the roadway to determine if a speed reduction is appropriate. The current 35-mph speed limit on Barnes Bridge Road was established by ordinance 16-11, passed by the Town Council on August 8, 2016.

Due to this concern the Town Manager requested that a speed zone study be conducted by the Town Police Department and Engineering Department staff.

The results of the engineering study support changing the speed limit on Barnes Bridge road at all locations within the Town Limits to 25 mile-per-hour. Attached to this agenda item are the speed zone study and ordinance reducing the speed limit on Barnes Bridge Road to 25-mph.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The financial impact to changing out the speed limit signs from the present 35-mph to the new 25-mph speed limit is approximately \$50/sign (assuming the existing poles will be reused). The total cost of the speed sign change is estimated to be less than \$1,000.

ATTACHMENTS:

[ORD 2024-18 Barnes Bridge Road Speed Limit.docx](#)

[2024-10-18 Barnes Bridge Speed Study Report.pdf](#)

[History of Sterling Barnes and Barnes Bridge Road](#)