

**CITY OF ALBANY  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA  
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: 12/5/05  
Prepared Date: 11/07/05  
Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT:** Installation of Two Speed Humps on Sonoma Avenue at Ventura Avenue

**REPORT BY:** Ann Chaney, Community Development Director  
A. Cherry Chaicharn, Transportation Planner

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**TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1) Approve Resolution No. 05-56 which authorizes installation of two speed humps on Sonoma Avenue at Ventura Avenue; and
- 2) Approve \$12,600 from Measure F Traffic Management Contingency Funds for implementation of the speed humps on Sonoma Avenue.

**BACKGROUND**

In May 2000, the Albany City Council approved the Albany Traffic Management Plan (TMP), which included recommendations to address speeding on Sonoma Avenue due to cut-through traffic. The TMP recommended stop signs to alleviate the speeding on Sonoma Avenue. On May 17, 2004, City Council also approved a list of Measure F projects that included 4-way stop signs at Sonoma Avenue at Ventura Avenue.

**DISCUSSION**

Staff followed-up with implementation of the approved Measure F project list. However, a field review revealed that the intersections of Ventura and Sonoma Avenues were too off-set for implementation of stop signs to be effective (see attached photos). Both the City Engineer and the Transportation Planner concluded that this off-set and the use of stop signs would be too confusing to motorists. Since the issue of speeding still needs to be addressed, an alternate plan to implement speed humps was devised. Based on discussions between the City Engineer, Transportation Planner, and Korve traffic engineer, it was determined that two appropriately spaced speed humps would help slow traffic, particularly as traffic heads downhill. It was determined that two speed humps were required because one needs to be placed on either side of the intersection on Sonoma at Ventura.

On October 27, 2005 the Traffic and Safety Commission voted unanimously to recommend that the City Council (1) approve the installation of two speed humps on Sonoma Avenue at Ventura Avenue; and (2) approve additional funding for the speed humps from Measure F Traffic Management Contingency Funds. Residents on Sonoma Avenue were notified of this meeting and most all favored the use of speed humps. The Traffic & Safety Commission felt that since Sonoma Avenue was already approved as a Measure F project, albeit stop signs, it was justified to proceed with speed hump installation in order to alleviate the speeding on Sonoma Avenue.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The City has allocated \$27,500 in Measure F Funds for stop signs, red curbs, and speed humps. However, \$15,000 has already been specifically dedicated for speed humps on certain streets. The rest of the funds have been already been allocated for the implementation of stop signs and red curb as identified in the Measure F project list. The City also approved a Measure F Traffic Management Contingency Fund of \$97,000. An allocation of \$12,600 is needed towards the implementation of speed humps on Sonoma Avenue at Ventura Avenue. This would leave \$84,400 for the Measure F Contingency Funds for future projects.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- Resolution No. 05-56
- Exhibit A: Map of Traffic Calming Implementation Measures from TMP
- Exhibit B: Photos of Sonoma and Ventura Avenues