

Posted on May 8, 2023 at: 15:30



TOWN OF WIGGINS

BOARD of TRUSTEES WORK SESSION

May 10, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

304 CENTRAL AVENUE
WIGGINS, CO 80654

**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED & ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIA ZOOM
OR WATCH ON YOUTUBE IF THEY ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND MEETING IN PERSON**

GO TO THE FOLLOWING SITE <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88202736268> FOR THE MEETING LINK

WORK SESSION AGENDA

<u>AGENDA TOPIC</u>	<u>ESTIMATED TIME</u>
1. Discussion on reducing residential street speed limit to 20 MPH	10 minutes
2. Report and discussion on Public Work's Projects and Accomplishments	30 minutes
3. Main Street Construction Update	5 minutes
4. Other Items and Updates	10 minutes
5. Upcoming Board Meeting Agenda Topics	5 minutes
6. Future Work Session Topics	5 minutes

The Board of Trustees may adjourn for a brief Special Meeting after the Work Session



STAFF SUMMARY

Board of Trustee Work Session

May 10, 2023

DATE: May 5, 2023

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 1

TOPIC: Discussion on Changing the Town's Default Speed Limit from 25 MPH to 20 MPH

STAFF MEMBER RESPONSIBLE: Craig Miller, Chief of Police

BACKGROUND

Municipalities throughout the United States are adopting lower speed limits in residential areas. These speed limits are determined by the injury minimization or safe system approach, which means that speed limits are set according to the crash types that are likely to occur, the impact forces that result, and the human body's tolerance to withstand these forces. Several other factors also determine whether lower speed limits are applicable, such as the width of the roadway, the amount of parking adjacent to the roadway, and the amount of potential pedestrian/bicyclist/vehicle interactions in and around the roadway. (See Example)

SUMMARY

It is proposed that the Town of Wiggins lower the default speed limit to 20 MPH, which would apply to all residential streets and other streets not currently posted with a speed limit sign.

FISCAL IMPACT

The lowering of the default speed limit will have a minimal impact on the adopted 2023 budget. We would purchase or update three signs at the Town Limits and update any other major collector streets signage, such as the signs on Johnson Street and 11th Avenue with our existing supply of signs.

APPLICABILITY TO TOWN OBJECTIVES AND GOALS TO PROVIDE SERVICES

This Resolution supports the Town's objectives and goals to enhance community safety.

QUESTIONS/INFORMATION REQUESTED FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Does the Board have any questions of staff?

Does the Board want staff to begin implementing this?



20 is Plenty

Slower Speed. Safer Streets. New Limits in 2023.

In August 2022, City Council passed Ordinance No. 28825, which lowers the default speed limit on residential streets from 25 miles per hour (MPH) to 20 MPH. This ordinance also lowers the speed limit from 30 MPH to 25 MPH on arterial streets in four Neighborhood Business Districts, including 6th Avenue, Lincoln, McKinley Hill, and Old Town. Proctor and Sound Tacoma are already 25 MPH.

The new speed limits went into effect January 1, 2023. With this, Tacoma joins numerous cities in the United States and around the world that have chosen to reevaluate and lower local speed limits in an effort to eliminate serious traffic crashes, encourage active transportation use, support sustainability, and make their communities safer.



20 MPH yard signs are available! Help bring awareness to the new 20 MPH speed limit on residential streets by placing a yard sign in your front yard. Yard signs can be picked up at Tacoma Municipal Building, Customer Service Center, at 747 Market Street. Yard signs will also be available at select city sponsored events around the city.

[Tacoma Speed Limits Map](#)

Safe Speeds is a Priority of Vision Zero

In February 2020, the Tacoma City Council adopted Resolution No. 40559 committing to Vision Zero and the goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2035. Contained within Resolution No. 40559 was direction to complete a study on the “State of Speed and Safety in Tacoma” and include consideration of a default speed limit of 25

MPH on arterials and 20 MPH on residential streets.

A key component of the Safe Systems approach under Vision Zero is Safe Speeds. In locations where pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers are regularly mixing, a maximum speed limit of 20 MPH is ideal. The link between speed and injury severity in crashes is consistent, direct and especially critical for more vulnerable roadway users. Lower speeds improve visibility, provide additional time for drivers to stop, and reduce the potential for fatal or severe injuries by lowering impact forces. People who are walking are twice as likely to live after being hit by a car at 25 MPH than at 30 MPH.

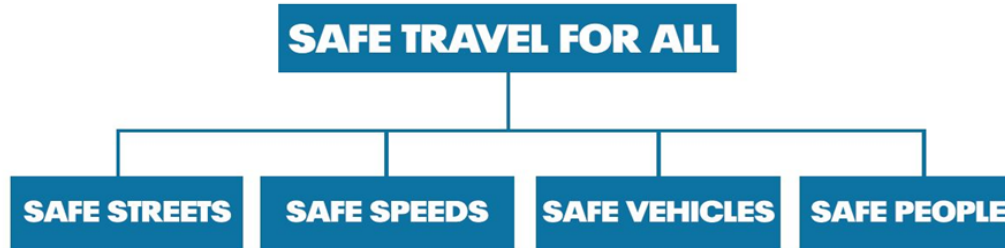


Image credit: Vision Zero Network

Safe Routes to School

A lower residential speed limit will support [Tacoma's Safe Routes to School program](#) by providing a safer environment for students to walk and roll to school. Speed limits are already 20 MPH on streets immediately adjacent to schools or at specific school crossings. The residential speed limit change will make it so all neighborhood walking routes to school have a speed limit of 20 MPH.

Next Steps

The Vision Zero crash safety analysis found the majority of fatalities and serious injury crashes are occurring on arterial streets, making these streets a main focus for future Vision Zero efforts. To lower speeds on most arterial streets, more is needed to change driver behavior than simply lowering the speed limit and changing signs. Infrastructure changes are often need to lower driver speeds and to make the street safe for all users.

[SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION FACTSHEET - JULY 2022](#)

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