

Memo

To: City Council Members

From: Council Members Jill Love and Dave Buhler

CC: Cindy Gust-Jenson, Rocky Fluhart, Sam Guevara, David Dobbins, Ed Rutan, Chief Rick Dinse, Mary Johnston, Judge Zane Gill, Tim Harpst, Larry Spendlove, Lt. Chris Burbank, Diana Karrenberg, Barry Esham, Annette Daley, Gwen Springmeyer, Scott Vaterlaus, DJ Baxter, Sim Gill

Date: February 15, 2005

Re: Proposed ordinance "Enhanced Penalty for Excess Speed in Residential Neighborhoods"

Excess traffic speed on neighborhood streets in residential zones is the number one concern expressed by many District Five and Six residents. We believe that similar concerns are being felt city-wide by other residents. Numerous residents and neighborhoods have expressed extreme concern about the community's safety and welfare due to drivers traveling over the speed limit through residential neighborhoods.

As you are aware, the Council Traffic Management Subcommittee has been working with the Administration in reviewing the City's current Traffic Management Program in an effort to address excess traffic speeds in our City. Calming traffic in our City has been a difficult challenge. At this time, we would like to request the support from our Council colleagues for the attached proposed "enhanced penalty for excess speed in residential neighborhoods" ordinance. We believe it will be an additional effective resource tool to encourage drivers to travel within the 25 mph speed limit when driving through residential neighborhoods.

Under the proposed ordinance, if a driver violates the 25 mph speed limit, the following consequences will be the result:

1. Violation will include an enhanced minimum of ten percent (10%) above the standard traffic violation fines as noted:

<u>Speed Limit</u>	<u>Fine Amount</u>	10% Enhanced <u>Fee</u>	<u>Total Fee</u>
1-10 mph	\$ 92.00	9.20	101.20
11-15 mph over	\$117.00	11.70	128.70
16-20 mph over	\$167.00	16.70	183.70
21-25 mph over	\$242.00	24.20	266.20
26-30 mph over	\$342.00	34.20	376.20
31-35 mph over	\$442.00	44.20	486.20
36-40 mph over	\$492.00	49.20	541.20
41+ mph	\$532.00	53.20	585.20

2. No reduction in said fine and enhancement shall be allowed.

Our intent is not to raise revenue but to raise awareness and encourage drivers to slow down in residential neighborhoods. Although there are residences on streets posted at higher than 25 mph, these streets tend to carry more traffic and are more likely to receive greater attention for police enforcement. To educate the public about this change, and the fact that unless posted, the speed limit is 25 mph, we are also proposing that a city-wide public information campaign be conducted in an effort to fully inform residents of the proposed ordinance prior to its effective date.

We propose that an approximate amount of \$25,000 (Council staff will have a confirmed figure for the Council's discussion) of the amount left in the Capital Improvement Program that was set aside for traffic management purposes be moved from the Capital Improvement Program fund and allocated to conduct this public information campaign. Other potential means of a public information campaign could include: City's Cable Channel 17, a public service announcement approach on Channel Two, University of Utah student newspaper, press releases, community councils, posting on the City's website, Public Utilities notice, and/or an article in the Salt Lake News (insert in Public Utilities bill). As feasible, signs posted at 25 mph may be altered to include a warning that enhanced penalties are imposed for speeding in this zone.

SALT LAKE CITY ORDINANCE

No. _____ of 2005

(Enhanced Penalty for Excess Speed in Residential Neighborhoods)

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN ENHANCED PENALTY FOR OPERATING
A VEHICLE IN EXCESS OF THE SPEED LIMIT IN RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS.

Be it ordained by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah:

SECTION 1. That Section 12.36.020, *Salt Lake City Code*, regarding speed limits be,
and the same hereby is, amended to read as follows:

12.36.020 Speed Limits:

Where no special hazard exists that requires a lower speed for compliance with section
12.36.010 of this chapter, or its successor, the speed of any vehicle in excess of limits specified
in this title is prima facie evidence that the speed is not reasonable or prudent and that it is
unlawful:

A. Twenty Miles Per Hour:

1. Upon meeting or overtaking any school bus which has stopped on the
street for the purpose of receiving or discharging any schoolchildren, provided such school bus
bears upon the front and rear thereof a plainly visible sign containing the words "School Bus" in
letters no less than four inches (4") high which can be removed or covered when the vehicle is
not in use as a school bus;

2. When passing a school building or the grounds thereof, or through a
designated school crossing zone during school recess, or while children are going to or leaving

school during opening or closing hours.

B. Twenty Five Miles Per Hour: On all streets and at all places the prima facie speed limit shall be twenty five (25) miles per hour, except as otherwise provided in subsection A of this section, or in such other streets or places as otherwise posted or marked as directed by the city transportation engineer.

C. Enhanced Penalty: The penalty to be assessed for a violation of subsection B of this section shall be enhanced a minimum of ten percent (10%) above the standard fine ordinarily assessed for each such violation, up to the maximum penalty provided by section 1.12.050 of this code, or its successor. No reduction in said fine and enhancement shall be allowed.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon the date of its first publication.

Passed by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah this _____ day of February, 2005.

CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

CITY RECORDER

Transmitted to Mayor on _____.

Mayor's Action: _____ Approved. _____ Vetoed.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHIEF DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

(SEAL)

Bill No. _____ of 2005.

Published: _____.

ATTEST: ____: