



STAFF REPORT – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 18, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Netra Khatri, City Engineer

PREPARER: Netra Khatri, City Engineer

DATE: June 12, 2023

TITLE: **Adopt Resolution No. 234-13 Amending Resolution No. 167-36, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Arcata Establishing School Zone Speed Limits on City Streets and Roads.**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Council Adopt Resolution No. 234-13 Amending Resolution No. 167-36, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Arcata Establishing School Zone Speed Limits on City Streets and Roads.

INTRODUCTION:

The Safer School Zone Act, also known as Assembly Bill 321 (Nava), is a state law that went into effect in 2008. It allowed cities and counties to expand 25-mile-per-hour school zones and reduce speeds immediately around schools to 15 miles per hour. The bill allowed a city or county, based on an engineering and traffic survey finding that the prima facie speed limit of 25 miles per hour is more than is reasonable or safe, by ordinance or resolution, to determine and declare a prima facie speed limit of 20 or 15 miles per hour, whichever is justified as the appropriate speed limit by that survey. The City's existing Resolution No. 167-36 is based on AB 321. More recently Assembly Bill 43, titled "Traffic Safety," was voted upon and passed by the California Assembly on September 9, 2021, and approved by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State on October 8, 2021. AB 43 provides local authorities greater flexibility in setting and reducing speed limits on the streets. One of the stipulations in the bill allows the City to reduce the posted prima facie speed limits in school zones to as low as 15 mph without requiring a traffic survey [revised CVC 22354(a) & 22358(a)]. This stipulation was reviewed by California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC) in 2022 and the committee approved the changes to the California Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA-MUTCD) to implement AB 43.

DISCUSSION: City adopted a resolution 167-36 in 2017 to establish school zone speed limits on City streets and roads which followed AB 321. Since then, new schools have been established and few were missed in the 167-36 resolution. Below is the updated list of schools where the school zone speed limit of 15 MPH will be established and meets the criteria stated in AB 321

and AB 43 for speed reduction.

Name of the School	Address	Adjacent Street
*Arcata Christian School	1700 Union Street	Union Street
*Arcata Elementary School	2400 Baldwin Street	Sunset Avenue
*Coastal Grove Charter School	1897 "S" Street	Janes Road
*Fuente Nueva Charter School	1897 "S" Street	Janes Road
*Jacoby Creek Elementary School	1617 Old Arcata Road	Old Arcata Road
*Laurel Tree Charter School	4555 Valley West Blvd	Valley West Blvd
*Pacific Union School	3001 Janes Road	Janes Road
*Union Street Charter School	470 Union Street	Union Street
*Sunny Brae Middle School	1430 Buttermilk Lane	Buttermilk Lane
*Trillium Charter School	1464 Spear Avenue	Spear Avenue
HSU Childrens Center (Preschool)	1350 C Street	14 th Street
Arcata High School	1720 M Street	16 th Street
North Coast Preparatory & Performing Arts	1761 11 th Street	Q Street
North Coast Preparatory & Performing Arts	285 Bayside Rd	Bayside Rd
Arcata Childrens Center	1695 10 th Street	Q Street
Rainbow Bridge Preschool	1920 Zehndner Avenue	S Street
Little Learners Center	1111 M Street	11 th Street
Redwood Coast Montessori School	693 K Street	8 th Street

** Originally established in Resolution 167-36, dated February 15, 2017*

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT: No impacts at this time, additional signs and installation are within proposed budget for FY 23-24.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution 234-13 (DOCX)