



City Council Report

Date: January 10, 2022
To: City Council
Through: Scott Butler, Deputy City Manager
From: RJ Zeder, Transportation Department Director
Ryan Hudson, City Traffic Engineer
Subject: Establish Speed Limits – Warner Road, Power Road to Eastmark Parkway, Council District 6

Purpose and Recommendation

The intent of this report is to establish speed limits on Warner Road from Power Road to Eastmark Parkway. This stretch of Warner Road is a mix of existing, recently annexed, and newly built roadways, none of which currently have a speed limit that is established in Mesa City Code (City Code). Staff recommends the following:

- Establish a speed limit of 35 mph on Warner Road from Power Road to a point 1,560 feet east of Power Road in City Code.
- Establish a posted speed limit of 40 mph for Warner Road from a point 675' west of 80th Street to Ellsworth Road in City Code.
- Establish a speed limit of 35 mph on Warner Road from Ellsworth Road to Eastmark Parkway in City Code.

See the attached **Figure 1** for a location map.

Background and Discussion

Warner Road east of Power Road is currently a half-built cross section that provides one eastbound and two westbound travel lanes. When the property located on the southeast corner of Warner Road and Power Road is developed, Warner Road will become full built as a 4-lane arterial with raised median at the intersection with Power Road. Currently, Warner Road ends approximately 1,560 feet east of Power Road, just west of the Roosevelt Water Conservation District (RWCD) canal and East Maricopa Floodway. This segment of Warner Road currently has a posted speed limit of 35 mph but is not established in City Code. The 35-mph speed limit must be established by means of Ordinance and amendment of Section 10-4-5 of City Code.

Warner Road east of Sossaman Road has a rural street cross section providing one lane in each direction and a striped shoulder. The segment between Sossaman Road and Ellsworth Road used to reside entirely within Maricopa County (County) jurisdiction and currently has a posted speed limit of 40 mph. By means of an ordinance, the City

annexed segments of Warner Road starting from a point 675' west of 80th Street to Ellsworth Road, and the respective annexations were recorded on April 20, 2020. Now that the City has annexed these portions of Warner Road, the proposed 40-mph speed limit must be established by means of Ordinance and amendment of Section 10-4-4 of the City Code.

Warner Road will be a fully developed 80-foot-wide street from Ellsworth Road to Eastmark Parkway, contained within the Eastmark Community. The street will be a 4-lane collector with a raised median and has been identified as a "district street" in the Eastmark Community Plan. This segment of Warner Road will provide access to numerous local/ residential streets through the Eastmark development, east of Ellsworth Road and will not extend east of Eastmark Parkway. A 35-mph speed limit is reasonable and typical for this type of roadway and is consistent with other similar streets within Eastmark. The 35-mph speed limit must be established by means of Ordinance and amendment of Section 10-4-5 of City Code.

Coordination

The Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) has reviewed the proposed speed limits for Warner Road and concurred with staff's recommendations to establish a speed limit of 35 mph on Warner Road from Power Road to a point 1,560 feet east of Power Road and Ellsworth Road to Eastmark Parkway and a speed limit of 40 mph on Warner Road from a point 675' west of 80th Street to Ellsworth Road. The TAB reviewed and concurred at their November 16, 2021 meeting.

Alternatives

As an alternative, a speed limit other than the recommended 35 mph (between Power Road and the RWCD canal and between Ellsworth Road and Eastmark Parkway) and 40 mph (from a point 675' west of 80th Street to Ellsworth Road) could be established. However, considering the roadway geometrics of these segments of Warner Road, the posted speed limits on the adjacent sections in the County, and the adjacent land uses, the recommended speed limits are most appropriate and reasonable.

Fiscal Impact

The installation of speed limit signs between 80th Street and Ellsworth Road is included in the maintenance efforts required per the annexation with the County and between Ellsworth Road and Eastmark Parkway is included in the construction of Eastmark, resulting in no fiscal impact.

Figure 1

