



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: June 30, 2015

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Introduction Of Ordinance Establishing Speed Limits On Certain Portions Of Loma Alta Drive

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Chapter 10.60 of the Municipal Code by Amending Section 10.60.015, Establishing Prima Facie Speed Limits on Certain Portions of Loma Alta Drive.

DISCUSSION:

California Vehicle Code (CVC) Section 40802 prohibits the enforcement of speed limits on non-local streets using radar unless the speed limit is justified by a current Engineering and Traffic Survey (ETS).

Recently, it was discovered that the 25 mph posted speed limit on Loma Alta Drive, between Canon Perdido Street and Coronel Street, did not match the 30 mph speed limit listed in the Santa Barbara Municipal Code and the ETS completed in 2010. Posted speed limit signs should match the Municipal Code and the supporting ETS. Consequently, the 25 mph signs were replaced with 30 mph signs.

The City received feedback from nearby residents that the 30 mph speed limit signs will encourage drivers to travel faster than speeds appropriate for a neighborhood setting. In consultation with the Santa Barbara Police Department, speed enforcement on Loma Alta Drive is challenging due to the terrain and roadway geometry. Without Police enforcement, the speed limit signs do not serve a purpose.

Staff recommends the removal of Loma Alta Drive between Canon Perdido Street and Coronel Street from Section 10.60.015 of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code so that the 30 mph signs can be removed. (See the attached Vicinity Map).

Warning signs giving drivers notice of appropriate operating speeds will be installed.

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The basic speed limit law (California Vehicle Code 22350) would still apply, which requires drivers to operate their vehicles at speeds reasonable for roadway conditions.

The existing 25 mph school speed limit zone that is adjacent to McKinley Elementary will not change.

ATTACHMENT: Vicinity Map

PREPARED BY: Derrick Bailey, Supervising Transportation Engineer/mj

SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office

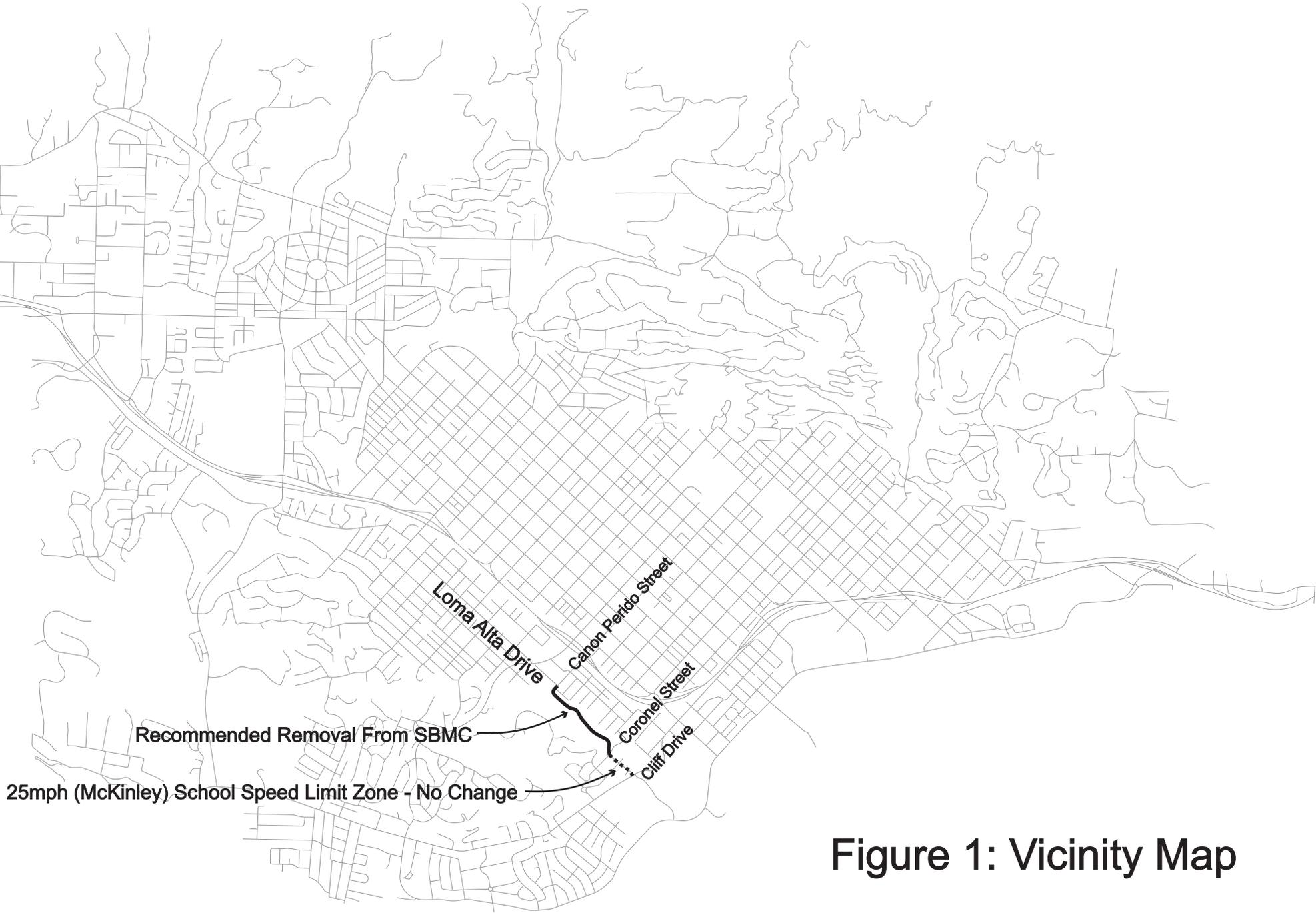


Figure 1: Vicinity Map