City Council Guidelines For Installation OF Electronic Speed Display (VCALM) Signs

Purpose:

The purpose of these guidelines is to establish minimum thresholds for consideration of the Electronic Speed Display sign installation within the City of Costa Mesa.

Policy:

The Transportation Services Manager will consider existing traffic conditions, analyze collected data, and determine compliance with the Council established guidelines.

Procedure:

Based on excessive and frequent vehicular speed problems, as well as safety concerns, the Transportation Services Manager will apply the following criteria (guidelines) to each case. If in complete compliance, a staff report and recommendation will be presented to the City Council for their consideration.

Criteria:

The Electronic Speed Display sign should only be considered:

a) On multi-lane roadways, only in locations qualifying as a school zone.

b) On two-lane roadways where pedestrian and vehicle volumes meet the minimum California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) warrants for a school crossing guard (Caltrans' Traffic Manual, Chapter 10).

c) On two-lane residential streets that serve as a major entrance to a residential tract where traffic enters from a street with a higher posted speed limit, and where two-way traffic volume exceeds 3000 vehicles per day.

d) On residential streets where the 85th percentile speed exceeds the posted speed limit by 15 miles per hour or more, and/or in the judgment of the Transportation Services Manager, the 85th percentile speed exceeds a safe speed for conditions.

Once installed, the location will be monitored periodically to assure that the installation criteria continues to be met. If the location conditions change, it may necessitate staff consideration to relocate the Electronic Speed Display sign to other qualifying locations.