



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 18-411, **Version:** 1

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*Report Prepared by:* Steven C. Son, City Engineer, Engineering

**SUBJECT:** Public Hearing - Potential Introduction of Ordinance 2492, Amending Section 10.16.010, "Speed Limits," of the Merced Municipal Code

### REPORT IN BRIEF

Consider the introduction of Ordinance 2492 amending Section 10.16.010, "Speed Limits," of the Merced Municipal Code. Amendment to the Speed Limits section consists of modification to speed limits throughout the City.

### RECOMMENDATION

**City Council** - Adopt a motion introducing **Ordinance 2492**, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Merced, California, amending Section 10.16.010, "Speed Limits" of the Merced Municipal Code.

### ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve, as recommended by staff; or,
2. Approve, subject to modifications as conditioned by City Council; or,
3. Refer to staff for reconsideration of specific items; or,
4. Deny.

### AUTHORITY

Charter of the City of Merced, Section 200 et seq.

### CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Not applicable.

### DISCUSSION

The City of Merced conducted its last speed zone study in 2011 and Ordinance No. 2370 was adopted by City Council on June 15, 2011. The current speed zone study has expired which means the Police Department is unable to enforce posted speed limits throughout the city utilizing a radar or a LIDAR.

The City contracted with Omni-Means, LTD to conduct the recent Engineering and Traffic Survey. Omni-Means, LTD offered their recommendation for the new speed limits in the City. Based on Omni-Means' recommendation and the "California Manual for Setting Speed Limits," published in 2014 by Caltrans, it states a speed limit can be adjusted no more than 5 miles per hour if the City Engineer or Traffic Engineer can provide valid justification. Based on this guideline, the speed limit at several

locations were adjusted because they were in close proximity to a school, residential homes, or the geometry of the road.

For this reason, Staff recommends Council adopt Ordinance 2492 to amend Merced Municipal Code Section 10.16.010, Speed Limits.

#### History and Past Actions

On January 17, 2017, City Council approved a general fund appropriation in the amount of \$100,000 to conduct a speed zone study.

On April 12, 2017, the City of Merced contracted with Omni-Means, LTD to conduct the speed zone study.

On August 6, 2018, City Council set a public hearing date of August 20, 2018, to adopt Ordinance 2492 to amend Section 10.16.010, "Speed Limits."

#### **IMPACT ON CITY RESOURCES**

None at this time.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Redline of Ordinance
2. Ordinance 2492
3. Presentation