

SIERRA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION NO. 110-278

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A PROCESS FOR THE EXAMINATION AND INSTALLATION OF TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES

WHEREAS, the Sierra County Commission met upon notice of a duly noticed regular County Commission Meeting on October 15, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. in the Sierra County Administration Building, 1712 N. Date Street, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 4-38-1 (1884) the powers of a county as a body politic and corporate shall be exercised by a board of county commissioners; and,

WHEREAS, Section 4-37-1 et seq. NMSA 1978 provides that counties may adopt those resolutions and ordinances, not inconsistent with statutory or constitutional limitations placed on counties, to discharge those powers necessary and proper to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of the county and its inhabitants; and,

WHEREAS, the safety and well-being of the residents of Sierra County are of paramount importance; and

WHEREAS, increasing traffic speeds on county roads pose significant risks to pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of traffic calming devices can effectively reduce vehicle speeds and enhance safety in residential areas; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes the need for a systematic approach to assess the need for traffic calming measures based on empirical data; and

WHEREAS, the aggregated GPS data identifying speeds along Sierra County roads provides a valuable resource for informing traffic safety decisions; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to engage the community in the decision-making process regarding traffic calming measures; and

WHEREAS, the consultation with a qualified traffic engineer will ensure that recommendations are based on professional standards and best practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County hereby establishes the following process for examining the need for the installation of traffic calming devices:

- Data Collection: The County will aggregate GPS data to analyze speed patterns along designated roads in Sierra County.
- 2. Consultation with a Traffic Engineer: Upon identifying roads that may require traffic calming measures, the County will consult with a qualified traffic engineer to evaluate the data and provide recommendations.
- 3. Public Hearing: Following the traffic engineer's assessment, the County will hold a public hearing to present the findings and recommendations. This will allow residents to provide input and voice their concerns regarding proposed traffic calming measures.
- 4. Review and Recommendation: After considering public input, the Board of County Commissioners will review the traffic engineer's recommendations.
- 5. Adoption of Measures: The Board will then adopt the least aggressive traffic calming device(s) deemed appropriate, based on the recommendations of the traffic engineer and the aggregated speed data.
- 6. Implementation and Monitoring: Once approved, the County will proceed with the installation of the selected traffic calming device(s) and monitor their effectiveness over time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that alternative traffic management strategies should always be pursued before the decision is made to install of rumble strips, including, but not limited to, (1) reviewing, establishing and/or revising and enforcing general laws and ordinances pertaining to speed limits and other traffic control management items; (2) educating residents and neighborhood groups so that they can better understand causes of traffic problems, potential solutions to these problems, and the advantages and disadvantages of implementing different solutions; and (3) installing specific regulatory, warning and guide message signs or other traffic control devices; and (4) rumble strips are an effective and appropriate device for safely reducing vehicle speeds on certain types of roads when all other speed control alternatives have

been investigated and determined to be ineffective, with such devices located selectively in accordance with defined transportation engineering criteria.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners shall periodically review the traffic calming process and make adjustments as necessary to ensure continued safety and community engagement.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED on this 15th day of October, 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SIERRA COUNTY

Travis Day, Chair

James Paxon, Vice-Chair

Mank Hopkins, Commissioner

Attest:

Sierra County Clerk