



Kalama City Council - Council Agenda Item Information Form

Agenda Item: 4A – Public Hearing

Meeting Date August 1, 2019

Prepared by: Coni McMaster, Clerk/Treasurer

Subject: Reduced Speed Limit on Kalama River Road – Old Pacific Highway North

Summary: The Port of Kalama is nearing completion of Phase 1 of the Spencer Creek Business Park development, including the roundabout at the intersection of Kalama River Road and North Old Pacific Hwy. Based on the changes in the traffic patterns and gradually increasing traffic and recommendations of engineers and traffic specialists, the City is considering reducing the speed limit along Kalama River Road and North Old Pacific Highway. The speed limit would be reduced from 35mph on Kalama River Road and 40mph on North Old Pacific Highway to 25mph for the sections of each roadway that are inside the City limits.

History: In November of 2015, the Port of Kalama received approval of the Spencer Creek Master Plan. Included in the Staff report recommendations was the following:

“The master plan application includes a Traffic Impact Study (TIS) and updated traffic information (Exhibits 3.j and 11). The TIS indicates the development will result in 535 site trips during the morning peak hour, 1,186 site trips during the evening peak hour, and 12,194 daily trips at full build out. Increased trips will be mitigated by road dedication and improvements to Kalama River Road and Old Pacific Highway. Proposed public improvements are described in detail within Title 11 of this report and on the applicant’s site plans, attached (Exhibit 3.d). Additional traffic mitigation will be provided to meet level of service (LOS) standards as required in the SEPA mitigation measures per Condition of Approval 5.”

In 2017 the Port developed a plan for a roundabout to address traffic issues, presenting different alternatives which was reviewed by the City. Comments from the City’s consulting engineers at Gray & Osborne and the information provided by the Port of Kalama’s consultants all address the issue that once Phase 1 improvements are made to the development, the speed along the road will need to be reduced to 25 mph to meet the traffic impacts. City engineers noted that the reduced speed would not be warranted until further development of the office park and additional traffic reduces travel speeds.

In the December 2017 Roundabout Alternatives Analysis from AKS submitted by the Port of Kalama includes a Table describing Roundabout Design Criteria which indicates the approach to the roundabout would be 25 mph with circulating speed of 15 mph.

Construction of the roundabout by the Port of Kalama is nearing completion along with infrastructure of the future Business Park. Construction zone speed limit has been 25 mph. It is expected that construction will be continuing on different phases of the project into the future. The area will continue to see additional construction vehicle traffic and also includes the area along the entrances and exits of Haydu Park. There will be a crosswalk across Kalama River Road connecting a walking path from around the business park over to the River and Haydu Park areas. The School will be utilizing the baseball fields at Haydu beginning with 2019-2020 school year which will increase traffic in the area.

The City of Kalama through the City Council is tasked with addressing issues of public safety which includes the setting of speed limits on City Streets based on information related to the activities that occur within the area along the streets, the number of trips that are projected in the area, pedestrian activities and ingress/egress of traffic to and from the roadway.

Recommendation :

Included in the Current Year's Budget YES NO If No – Fiscal Impact:

Funding Source if not included in the current Budget

Alternatives:

► Draft/Suggested Motion: