

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI  
**PUBLIC WORKS AND  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

March 16, 2001

**Committee  
Report No.**

01-61

Honorable Chair and Members  
of the County Council  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Public Works and Transportation Committee, having met on February 28, 2001, makes reference to County Communication No. 00-259, from former Councilmember Michael A. Davis, transmitting copies of correspondence pertaining to Section 10.36.070 of the Maui County Code, relating to speed limits in school zones.

Your Committee notes that County Communication No. 00-259 was referred to the prior Council's Public Works and Water Committee at the Council meeting of October 6, 2000.

At its meeting of November 1, 2000, the Committee met with the Director of Public Works and Waste Management, a Lieutenant from the Department of Police and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

The Committee noted that a report conducted by the Department of Public Works and Waste Management indicated that 26.7 percent of motorists traversing the area fronting Lihikai School on Papa Avenue traveled at speeds in excess of 35 miles per hour (mph) during the period of the test, and that only 8.8 percent of the motorists observed the 20-mph speed limit. The Committee also noted that the speed limit for that section of Papa Avenue, during school hours, is 20 mph. The Committee further noted that the report indicated that there were 20 motorists that were clocked in excess of 61 mph at 7:00 a.m.

Lt. Charles Hirata advised the Committee that speeding was the number one concern cited by individuals that participated in two surveys conducted by the Department. He agreed that the Department would prefer to have consistent speed limits in all school zones for enforcement purposes.

Lt. Hirata also noted that speed humps are not normally located in close proximity to schools as speed humps are not currently allowed on collector roads

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even though they are effective in slowing traffic. He added that other measures, such as rumble strips, speed tables and flashing lights could be considered. He cautioned that certain options might involve undesirable side effects, such as the rumble strip, which creates an inordinate amount of noise when vehicles traverse the area.

The Deputy Corporation Counsel advised the Committee that the matter should be referred to the Maui County Traffic Safety Council pursuant to Section 2.36.020 of the Maui County Code. This section provides that all matters pertaining to traffic safety measures referred to the County Council shall first be referred to the Traffic Safety Council for its recommendation.

The Committee agreed to refer the matter to the Maui County Traffic Safety Council (TSC) for its recommendation before proceeding with several viable options that were discussed.

By letter dated November 6, 2000, the Committee advised the TSC of the recommendations discussed by the Committee at its meeting of November 1, 2000, transmitted a copy of County Communication No. 00-259, and requested that the TSC review the matter and transmit its recommendations to the Committee as expeditiously as possible.

At its meeting of November 15, 2000, the Committee discussed the disposition of all items on its agenda.

The Committee recommended that County Communication No. 00-259 be referred to the Council Chair for the term beginning January 2, 2001, for a recommendation as to referral or other disposition.

At its meeting of January 12, 2001, the Council referred County Communication No. 00-259 to your Public Works and Transportation Committee (County Communication No. 01-24).

By memorandum dated January 24, 2000 [*sic*], the Chair of the TSC advised your Committee that the TSC has reviewed the matter and recommends that the duration of the 20-mph speed limit be extended from the current 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. time period to the recommended 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. time period

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unless specified by a "yellow blinking light." The TSC also recommended that the Department of Public Works and Waste Management work with the various schools to design crosswalks utilizing pedestrian activated lights and appropriate funds to construct these improvements.

By memorandum dated February 20, 2001, the Chair of your Committee requested that the Department of the Corporation Counsel draft a proposed bill that would effectuate the recommendations transmitted by the TSC.

By memorandum dated February 23 2001, the Department of the Corporation Counsel transmitted a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10.36 OF THE MAUI COUNTY CODE, PERTAINING TO SPEED RESTRICTIONS". The purpose of the proposed bill is to extend the duration of the 20-mph speed limit from the current 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. time period to the proposed 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. time period.

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Director of Public Works and Waste Management, a Lieutenant from the Department of Police and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

Your Committee received testimony from Cathy Wilson, a member of the TSC, noting her support for the 20-mph time period extension. She also clarified that the TSC opined that extending the period would protect children participating in various after school programs.

Lt Hirata advised your Committee that the school zone extends 300 feet from the school's property lines. However, he noted that on Oahu, the school zone extends 1,000 feet from the affected school's property lines.

Your Committee agreed that the matter should be discussed in greater detail and requested that your Committee Chair consider referring the matter to the Council for further review.

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Your Public Works and Transportation Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

1. That Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_ (2001), attached hereto, entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10.36 OF THE MAUI COUNTY CODE, PERTAINING TO SPEED RESTRICTIONS", PASS FIRST READING and BE ORDERED TO PRINT; and
2. That County Communication No. 00-259 be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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