



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF VENTURA

GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93009

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

LINDA PARKS, Chair
STEVE BENNETT
KATHY I. LONG
PETER C. FOY
JOHN C. ZARAGOZA

STEVE BENNETT
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT
(805) 654-2703
FAX: (805) 654-2226
E-mail: steve.bennett@ventura.org

August 9th, 2011

Board of Supervisors
800 S. Victoria Ave.
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE POSITION OF SUPPORT FOR AB 529
REGARDING ROUNDING DOWN SPEED LIMITS

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a position of support of AB 529 and convey this position to our legislators and lobbyist

DISCUSSION:

As our Board heard on July 26th, local governments must follow state protocols in the setting of speed limits. Since 2004, local jurisdictions have been required to round speed limits to the nearest, rather than lower, five MPH increment following a speed survey.

AB 529 will allow local jurisdictions to again round to the lower five MPH increment. This will return speed limit setting to the pre-2004 methodology. This bill further states that speed limits so adjusted could not be further reduced for any reason.

This bill has been supported by local governments around the State and is supported by Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean. As indicated to our Board, successive speed surveys and speed limit setting at the 85th percentile often result in steadily increased speed limits, particularly in combination with the requirement to round to nearest 5MPH increment, rather than rounding down.

As elected officials, speeding on local streets is a commonly heard complaint, and speeding traffic runs counter to encouraging bicycle and pedestrian mobility and family-friendly communities. The adoption of AB 529 will enable Ventura County to be responsive to our residents in setting speed limits on County roads.

Cordially,

Steve Bennett
Supervisor, First District