



TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer *KD/K*
Chris E. Larson, P.E., Public Works Engineering Division Manager
COPY: Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee
Tadd Wille, Assistant City Manager
PRESENTER: Brennan D. Kidd, P.E., Principal Engineer, Public Works
SUBJECT: Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 11.05 Model Traffic Ordinance Amendment
DATE: July 17, 2019

PRESENTATION TYPE:

Request for Ordinance

SUMMARY:

Public Works staff will present a draft ordinance amending Chapter 11.05 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Model Traffic Ordinance, to designate East R Street between East 28th and East 30th Streets as one-way and to designate SR 509 North and South Frontage Roads as a forty mile-per-hour limit, arterial classification. Public Works will be recommending the draft amendments be forwarded to the full City Council for review and approval.

BACKGROUND:

Chapter 11.05 Model Traffic Ordinance of the Municipal Code includes the street traffic regulations of the City and all of the state vehicle laws applicable to street traffic in the City. The proposed ordinance will allow the City to regulate and enforce vehicle laws in alignment with the adopted Transportation Master Plan. It also provides a means to improve and address traffic conditions for proposed developments.

The Puyallup Tribe of Indians (Puyallup Tribe) is constructing a new casino and hotel in the vicinity of East 28th Street to the north, East 32nd Street to the south, Portland Avenue to the west, and SR167/the Puyallup Tribe cemetery to the east. A Traffic Impact Analysis, dated February 12, 2019, conducted by Transportation Engineering Northwest, includes a traffic operational analysis of key access intersections and identification of any transportation mitigation measures to offset traffic impacts. East R Street is identified as the primary vehicle site access entry roadway, as an assumed one-way (southbound) roadway.

Pursuant to an original agreement and process (spanning 2000 to 2002) between the Washington State Department of Transportation and the City to turnback portions of Port of Tacoma Road and the associated SR 509 North and South Frontage Roads, an updated agreement was executed by both parties in July 2012. As described in the "Turnback and Maintenance Agreement" (GMB 1005), the City was to accept roadway facilities and right-of-way for maintenance and operation purposes. The areas identified along the SR 509 corridor included the North and South Frontage Roads from Milwaukee Way to about 2,000 feet east of Port of Tacoma Road.

ISSUE:

The proposed amendments are a result of internal staff and development requests. The recommended changes will reflect existing and proposed conditions and create consistency with the Transportation Master Plan. This proposal will amend Sections 11.05.150 One-way streets designated, 11.05.490 Arterial streets designated, and 11.05.540 Forty miles per hour limit – Streets designated.



The proposed amendment related to East R Street between East 28th and East 30th Streets will be designed and constructed to accommodate development access and circulation as outlined in the project traffic impact analysis. The proposed amendments related to SR 509 North and South Frontage is intended to complete the turnback agreement process by formally identifying the North and South Frontage Roads within the Municipal Code. Presently, one of the roadways is misidentified in the Municipal Code and associated references to name and extent is based on outdated information superseded by roadway construction changes and the turnback agreement terms. The proposed modifications would formally list "SR 509 North Frontage Road" and "SR 509 South Frontage Road" (instead of "East-West Road") as Minor Arterial roadways and designate them to have a forty mile-per-hour limit.

ALTERNATIVES:

Approval of the proposed changes to Chapter 11.05 Model Traffic Ordinance can be completed at a later date or revisions can be made to the proposal. No action may result in delay of project completion and inappropriate or ineffective enforcement of traffic laws.

FISCAL IMPACT:

In general, roadway construction and rechannelization for changes to East R Street will be funded by the Puyallup Tribe of Indians project. Minor signing changes are required for SR 509 North and South Frontage Roads.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is requesting a recommendation to forward the proposed changes to Chapter 11.05 Model Traffic Ordinance to the full City Council for review and approval. The proposed amendments are consistent with the City's street designations, design speeds, and existing conditions.