

CITY OF SAN MARINO

MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR HALE AND MEMBERS OF THE
TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMISSION

FROM: ERIK ZANDVLIET, TRAFFIC ENGINEER

DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2011

SUBJECT: ELECTRONIC SPEED DISPLAY SIGNS

BACKGROUND:

On September 19, 2011, the Traffic Advisory Commission (Commission) recommended numerous measures as part of the Initial Northwest Area Traffic Calming Plan. Some of the initial measures include electronic speed display signs on all four streets within the study area. These devices display the motorist's speed using an internal radar device, usually in conjunction with a speed limit sign. They can be either powered by battery, solar-panel, or hard-wired to a permanent power source. The Commission has asked for a more detailed description and presentation of these devices to better understand the available features and installation methods that may be deployed in the Northwest Area.

DISCUSSION:

Staff has researched several different speed awareness sign products and heard presentations from two distributors. There are three primary companies that provide speed awareness signs in southern California: Fortel traffic, Information Display Company (IDC), and Traffic Logix. Sample product pictures and a comparison of features are provided in this report.

As discussed during the development of the Northwest Area Traffic Calming Plan, the speed awareness signs proposed for Garfield Avenue, Los Robles Avenue, El Molino Avenue and Oak Knoll Avenue are intended to be deployed on a temporary pole, and rotated on a regular basis to different locations along the street. In this way, no one residence is permanently affected by a speed display sign in the parkway. This also means that the sign should be battery or solar-powered so that permanent power at each location is not required. The size and features should be appropriate for the location where it will be used. It should be noted that as the number of features increases, so does the cost for different models and options.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the Commission review the product features and capabilities of speed awareness signs and provide direction to staff on their preferences for the Northwest Area Traffic Calming Plan.

Speed Awareness Sign Comparison Chart

FEATURE	PRODUCT / MANUFACTURER		
	SafePace Traffic Logix	SpeedCheck Information Display Co.	V-Calm Fortel Traffic, Inc.
Unit Cost	400 (Your Speed) 600 (Slow Down)	1520 Standard - \$3,599 W/ Slow Down + BT - \$4,138 W/ Cell Modem – add \$800	16 (Sign only) 16E (Slow Down) YS (Static Your Speed) VMS (Slow Down)
Solar System Cost (No Pole)		\$5,000	
Overall Size	30" W, 42" H	1520 - 30" W, 42" H 1820 - 36" W, 48" H	16E - 28" W, 48" H w/sign YS – 28" W, 45" H VMS – 28" W, 45" H
Weight	45 lbs.	1520 – 31 lbs. 1820 – 35 lbs.	16(E) – 33 lbs. YS-M – 42 lbs. VMS – 48 lbs.
Numeral Size	15" high	1520 - 15" high 1820 – 18" high	16(E) – 16" high YS-M – 16" high VMS - 16" high
"Slow Down" Size	6" letters	6" letters	16E and VMS - 6" letters
Window Type	Anti-glare polycarbonate	Polycarbonate, 2" deflection	3/8" Polycarbonate
Side Masking	Limited Angle LED	LEDs behind Black Screen	Limited Angle LED
Dimming	Yes-Photocell 100 steps	Yes-Photocell	Yes-Photocell
Slow Down Display	Yellow LED	Red or Yellow LED	Yellow LED (16E and VMS)
Programmable Display?	No (400) Yes (600)	No	No (16E and YS) Yes (VMS), web-capable
Programmable Speed Modes?	Yes	Yes	Yes
TOD Scheduling	24/7, 365 days	8 programs/day, 2yr calendar	24/7, 365 days
High Speed Blankout?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Solar Option?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Battery Option?	Yes	Yes, at base 5-7 days	Yes
Strobe Light Option?	Included (Internal)	Optional (External)	Optional (Internal)
Flashing Beacon Option?	Optional	Optional	Optional
Quick-Change Bracket	Unk.	Yes	No
Data Communication	Wi-Fi (Local) Bluetooth (Local)	Bluetooth Optional (Local) Ethernet (Hardwire) Cell Modem (Web Access)	SD-Card (Local) Wi-Fi Optional (Local) Cell Modem (Web Access)
Data Software	Included	Included, Lifetime Upgrades Web-Based Programmable	Included Web-Based Programming
Data Capacity	1524 Data Blocks 15 days at 15-min speed bin	200,000+ vehicles	Unlimited
Stealth Mode Data	Yes	Yes	Yes
Radar Type	CW Doppler	K Band	K Band
Warranty	2 years-sign, 10 years-LED	3 years-sign, 10 years-LED	1 Year - Parts

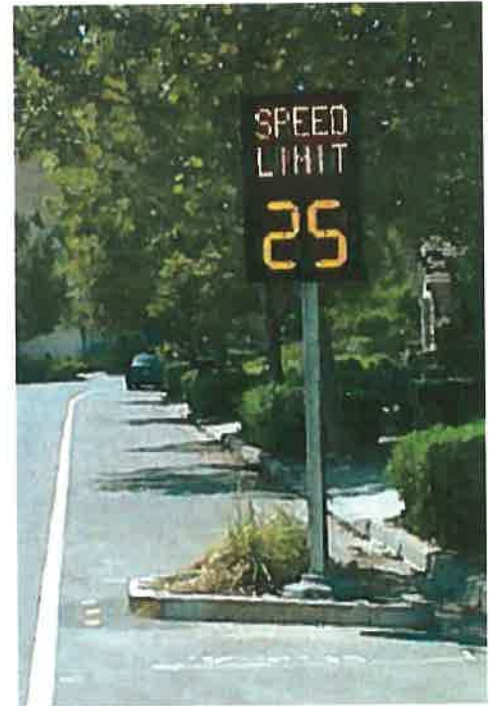
Sample Speed Display Sign Installations



SafePace 400/600
Traffic Logix



Speedcheck 1520
Information Display Co.



VCalm VMS
Fortel Traffic