



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

CITY COUNCIL NPUA

Regular Special

Meeting Date: August 12, 2025

Title: School Zone Analysis

Background: Periodic reviews of school traffic safety zones are performed to assess the condition and effectiveness of current traffic control measures and make adjustments to traffic patterns, signage, and pavement markings to maintain a safe school environment and prevent accidents.

In May 2025, TKE Engineering, Inc. completed an analysis of the existing school zone at Needles High School, Needles Middle School, and Vista Colorado Elementary School located along Washington Street. An on-site field review was performed during school hours to observe current operational conditions, and traffic data was collected to determine directional speeds and pedestrian routes.

Findings:

- Overall vehicular speeds in the school zone were found to be appropriate for the conditions.
- Pedestrian activity was observed to be low relative to the high concentration and mix of school facilities within a short distance.
- The school zone is well organized by school district staff and operates cohesively.

Recommendations:

- Remove, salvage, and replace all existing school signs with updated signs.
- Repaint all pavement markings per the attached Signing & Striping plan.
- Retain the existing School Assembly C signs, which establish speeds of 25 MPH.

Estimated cost to remove or black out existing improvements and install new signage and pavement markings is approximately \$50,000 by competitive bid.

Fiscal Impact: The estimated cost for the School Zone Signing & Striping improvements is \$50,000. Funding for this project is not currently budgeted. If approved, staff will seek grant opportunities or identify other funding sources prior to project implementation.

Environmental Impact: N/A

Recommended Action: Provide direction to staff to pursue grant opportunities or other funding sources for the School Zone Signing & Striping improvements and return to Council for authorization prior to project implementation.

Submitted By: Kathy Raasch, Director of Development Services/Capital Projects

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez

Date: 8/7/2025

Other Department Approval (when required): Jill Taura

Date: 8/8/2025

Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>	Other: <input type="checkbox"/>
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