

# City of Los Alamitos

## Agenda Report Discussion Items

August 3, 2009  
Item No: 8D

**To:** Mayor Troy Edgar & Members of the City Council  
**Via:** Jeffrey L. Stewart, City Manager  
**From:** Steven Mendoza, Community Development Director  
**Subject:** Installation of Lexington Drive Weight Limit Signs – Follow Up Report

**Summary:** At City Council's July 20, 2009 meeting, staff provided an analysis of Lexington Drive weight limits. This report provides information regarding installation of the weight limit signs, requests Council's direction on installation, and responds to issues raised during the previous discussion on the issue.

**Recommendation:** Install signs designating a 4-ton weight limit on Lexington Drive, from Katella Avenue to the south City right-of-way at Farquhar Avenue.

## Background

The City Council at its July 20, 2009 meeting, reviewed the issue of vehicle weight limits on Lexington Drive. The staff report for that meeting is included in **Attachment 1**. As of the writing of this report, the approved meeting minutes were not available and are therefore not included in the attachments. This report provides an update for Council's information on the truck weight limit signage.

## Discussion

### Weight Limit Signage

The existing Municipal Code is clear and specific that vehicles exceeding four tons are to use existing truck routes and are further restricted from using any non-designated truck routes except for delivery or pickup to any building or structure located on the restricted street. It is not necessary for the Council to take further formal action regarding designating Lexington Drive as a weight-limited street for vehicles not

destined to a “building or structure” along the street. However, with City Council’s concurrence, signage can be posted on Lexington Drive to make overweight vehicles aware of the restriction.

### City Attorney Review

Staff is working with the Attorney’s office and the Police Department regarding interpretation of the Code, and enforcement of the weight limit restriction as it specifically applies to overweight vehicles destined to the composting facility.

### Lexington Structural Design

The City Council raised the question of the structural integrity of Lexington Drive to handle overweight vehicles. The only available structural design information was found in a 1996 Lexington Drive resurfacing project. A structural section design analysis was performed based on existing pavement and soils conditions. The design document (**Attachment 2**) recognized the need to design the street to accommodate heavy vehicles due to the JFTB facilities and assigned a much higher design factor, than would be used for residential streets. The report determined the existing structural section was not adequate to handle the additional heavy truck traffic. The report recommendations would have required complete removal and replacement of the street to provide an adequate structural section. In reviewing the construction plans, the full-recommended structural section was not installed. Instead, the plans provided for edge grinding and resurfacing with 1½-2” of asphalt.

One former Councilmember informed staff they believed Lexington Drive had major work done sometime in 2003/04 or thereabout. However, no City information is available to document whether or not that occurred. A research of contract files, engineering plans and budgets did not reveal a more recent project. Based on the information available at this point in time, it may be concluded that the street structural section is not sufficient to sustain the current truck traffic.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There are some costs for signage and posting along Lexington Drive. Costs are expected to be less than \$500. This item was not included in the 2009/10 approved budget.

Submitted By:

Prepared By:

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Steven A. Mendoza  
Community Development Director

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William Huber  
Interim City Engineer

Approved By:

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Jeffrey L. Stewart  
City Manager

*Attachments: 1) July 20, 2009 Staff Report  
2) 1996 Lexington Avenue Pavement Design Report*