



mesa·az Transportation Advisory Board Report

Date: March 17, 2009
To: Transportation Advisory Board
From: Benny Rodriguez, Senior Traffic Studies Analyst
Subject: Establish Speed Limit for Thomas Road From Val Vista Drive to a point approximately 3700-feet west of Val Vista Drive

Purpose and Recommendation

Thomas Road from Val Vista Drive to a point approximately 3700-feet west of Val Vista Drive was annexed by the City of Mesa from Maricopa County in 2006. During a routine update of the City's speed limit map, staff determined that this segment was not listed in City Code. It is necessary to establish a speed limit for this section of Thomas Road in City Code.

This section of Thomas Road is an undeveloped two lane arterial road approximately three quarters of a mile in length and has a posted speed limit of 35 mph.

The section of Thomas Road west of the annexed section is under the jurisdiction of Maricopa County and has a posted speed limit of 35 mph. The section of Thomas Road from Val Vista Road to the South Canal is in City Limits and also has a posted speed limit of 35 mph. Given the short length of the section, and the desire to maintain a consistent speed limit between the section in Maricopa County and the section in the City, Staff recommends a 35 mph speed limit for the annexed section of Thomas Road. See Figure 1.

Alternatives

One alternative is to adopt a higher speed limit. However, staff recommends that the speed limit be consistent with the existing sections of Thomas Road immediately to the west and east.

Another alternative is not to adopt any speed limit. The speed limit would then become 25 mph by default. Staff feels 25 mph is unreasonably low.

Fiscal Impact

A total of four new signs will be installed, regardless of the speed limit, at a cost of approximately \$400.

Benny Rodriguez, Senior Traffic Studies Analyst

