ORDINANCE NO. 2924

AN ORDINANCE of the City of Kent, Washington, amending Kent City Code Chapter 10.08.036 relating to streets and speed limits on the West Valley Highway; declaring a emergency warranting the protection of the public health and safety through a temporary reduction of the speed limit on a portion of the highway during its construction and improvement.

WHEREAS, the City of Kent and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) have previously set the maximum speed limit on the West Valley Highway (68th Avenue South) from the intersection of S. 212th St. to a point 370 north of S. 190th St. to be 50 miles per hour, (Kent City Code [KCC] 10.08.036); and

WHEREAS, The City is now engaged in construction and improvement of a portion of the West Valley Highway between South 212th Street north to 190th Street, an area covered by the above speed limit; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the construction, conditions have been created on the roadway warranting a reduction in the speed limit from 50 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour for safe and reasonable vehicular operation; and

WHEREAS, restoration of the original speed limit is contemplated after the completion of construction and installation of traffic control devices, or in approximately four month’s time; and

WHEREAS, RCW 47.48.010 authorizes the governing body of a city to declare a lower maximum speed limit during periods of improvement and construction on city streets; and
WHEREAS, this portion of the West Valley Highway satisfies the definition of a 'city street' as set forth in RCW 47.04.010(6), as a portion of a highway partly located within the limits of the city of Kent; and

WHEREAS, notice of the effective date of the speed reduction on this portion of the West Valley Highway has been published in one issue of a newspaper of general circulation, to comport with the notice provisions of RCW 47.48.020; NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT, WASHINGTON DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Kent City Code Chapter 10.08.036 relating to speed limits on the West Valley Highway is amended as follows:

West Valley Highway
(68th Avenue South)
from point 583.7 feet north
of the intersection of
Morton Street (S. 238th)
to the intersection of
S. 212th St. 35 mph at all times

West Valley Highway
(68th Avenue South)
from the intersection
of S. 212th St.
to a point 370 feet north
of S. 190 St. 35 mph at all times

Section 2. The improvement and construction by the City on a portion of the West Valley Highway between South 212th street and 190th Street have caused conditions warranting an emergency reduction in the set speed limit from 50 to 35 miles per hour, in order to protect and safeguard the public health and safety. This speed limit reduction shall be in effect for a period of approximately four months from the day a notice is posted informing the public of the speed limit reduction on the affected
portion of the Highway, or until completion of construction, whichever occurs first.

Section 3. The City Traffic Engineer (CTE) is hereby authorized to immediately post a notice of the reduction of the speed limit in a conspicuous place at each end of the affected portion of the West Valley Highway, as contemplated by RCW 47.48.020, and at other locations, as appropriate. The CTE is also authorized to communicate this action to the appropriate office of the WSDOT District One Office, both for coordinative purposes and supporting action by that agency.

Section 4. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this ordinance is hereby ratified and confirmed.

Section 5. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable. The invalidity of any portion of this ordinance shall not affect the remainder, or the validity of its application to other persons and circumstances.

Section 6. Effective Date. This emergency ordinance shall take effect and be in force after such time of its final passage as provided by law and the CTE has completed the posting as described in Section 3 herein.

[signature]
DAN KELLEHER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

[signature]
MARIE JENSEN, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[signature]
BILL H. WILLIAMSON, ACTING CITY ATTORNEY
PASSED the _______ day of ____________, 1990.
APPROVED the _______ day of ____________, 1990.
PUBLISHED the _______ day of ____________, 1990.

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of Ordinance No. 2934, passed by the City Council of the City of Kent, Washington, and approved by the Mayor of the City of Kent as hereon indicated.

MARIE JENSEN, CITY CLERK (SEAL)