AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT
For Board Business Meeting of April 22, 2015

DATE: April 13, 2015
FROM: George Kolb, County Engineer  Road  541-322-7113

TITLE OF AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of Board Signature of Order No. 2015-025, An Order Setting a Temporary Speed Limit of 35 Miles per Hour on Spring River Road from MP 0.022 to MP 0.758.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THIS DATE? NO.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:
Harper Bridge is a recreational area on the Deschutes River on the west side of Sunriver, Oregon. During the summer months, the increase in recreational use at Harper Bridge causes an increase in pedestrian/automobile conflicts. These conflicts are a result of high traffic volumes and speed, traffic congestion from vehicles trying to park next to the bridge, pedestrian/vehicle conflicts with people crossing the road in order to launch their boats from either side of the bridge, and parking problems when there is not enough space available to all the users.

Deschutes County and Sunriver are working together to come up with a permanent solution to the problem via a separate boat launch facility but in the interim, the Road Department is looking to implement the following changes to alert drivers and increase safety:
1. Increased signage to warn motorists of the congestion/pedestrian activity ahead at the bridge
2. Installation of rumble strips on both sides of the bridge to warn motorists that they are coming into an area where extra caution is needed.
3. Installation of a temporary speed zone to slow drivers down through this section of road.

The Road Department feels that a lower speed limit, coupled with the installation of signs and rumble strips, will help warn drivers of the increase in congestion and potential vehicle/pedestrian conflicts in the Harper Bridge area.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:
The installation of the signs will be done by the Road Department

RECOMMENDATION & ACTION REQUESTED:
Move approval of Board signature of Order No. 2015-025, An Order Setting a Temporary Speed Limit of 35 Miles per Hour on Spring River Road from MP 0.022 to MP 0.758

ATTENDANCE: George Kolb, County Engineer

DISTRIBUTION OF DOCUMENTS:
Copy to Sheila Odle, (ext. 7148) at the Road Department
BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON

An Order Setting a Temporary Speed Limit of 35 Miles per Hour on Spring River Road from MP 0.022 to MP 0.758.

WHEREAS, the Deschutes County Road Department, pursuant to the provisions of ORS 810.180(8), has determined that the recreational use associated with river access at the Spring River Bridge has altered the character of the roadway to the extent that a speed lower than the statutory speed is necessary during seasonal high use periods; and

WHEREAS, based upon an engineering determination of danger to the public, the County Engineer has found that when the speed designated in ORS 811.105 or ORS 811.111 or by permanent written order is greater than the speeds designated below, a temporary speed reduction to lessen the risk to the public is desirable; and

WHEREAS, the Road Department has installed additional safety improvements in the form of signage and rumble strips alerting motorists to the unexpected presence of pedestrian activity within the vicinity of the Spring River Bridge; now, therefore

Section 1. That the designated speed for the following section of roadway be as follows:

Name: Spring River Road

Designated Speed: 35 miles per hour

From: Milepost 0.022 Spring River Road (near the intersection with South Century Drive)

To: Milepost 0.758 Spring River Road (near the intersection with Lunar Drive)

Section 2. That the Road Department shall install appropriate signs giving notice of the designated speed per ORS 810.180, Subsection 8(d).

Section 3. That the signs installed pursuant to this order comply with the provisions of ORS 810.210 and 810.220.

Section 4. That this speed zone will be in effect from May 22nd to September 8th of each year until an alternate solution to the roadside parking and associated recreational use is implemented.

Section 6. That this Order shall be recorded with the Deschutes County Clerk, and copies shall be filed with the Deschutes County Surveyor and County Assessor.
DATED this _____ day of ____________________, 2015.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON

_____________________________________________
ANTHONY DEBONE, CHAIR

______________________________
ALAN UNGER, VICE CHAIR

ATTEST:

______________________________
Recording Secretary

_____________________________________________
TAMMY BANEY, COMMISSIONER
Spring River Road Temporary Speed Zone

Legend
- Temporary Speed Zone
- County Routes
- Other Roads
- Bridge
- River

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