

County of Monterey

Board Report

Legistar File Number: 25-269

Item No.

Board of Supervisors Chambers 168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

April 29, 2025

Introduced: 4/22/2025 Version: 1 Current Status: Agenda Ready Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Consider taking a position on Assembly Bill (AB) 1014 (Rogers) Traffic safety: speed limits.

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors consider taking a position on AB 1014 (Rogers) Traffic safety: speed limits.

SUMMARY:

Assemblymember Chris Rogers has introduced legislation, AB 1014 (Rogers) Traffic safety: speed limits. This bill aims to improve road safety, particularly in high-traffic and vulnerable areas, by providing more flexibility in setting speed limits and addressing local safety issues.

The Board's Legislative Committee received a report on AB 1014 at their April 14, 2025, meeting, but did not reach a consensus on a recommendation, so took no action on the bill.

DISCUSSION:

In California, speed limits are determined by engineering and traffic surveys that assess the 85th percentile speed, or the speed at which 85% of vehicles travel in free-flowing conditions. AB 1014 aims to improve road safety, particularly in high-traffic and vulnerable areas, by providing more flexibility in setting speed limits and addressing local safety issues.

Specifically, AB 1014 has two main objectives: 1) to establish clear guidelines for adjusting speed limits in high-traffic areas with vulnerable road uses, such a locations with a high concentration of pedestrians, cyclists, or areas designated as "safety corridors" due to higher rates of collisions or fatalities; and 2) to create the option to adjust speed limits on state highways, including reductions up to 10 miles per hour (mph), based on specific safety concerns.

This bill aims to improve public safety by giving local authorities and Caltrans additional tools to adjust speed limits in response to specific conditions, such as the presence of vulnerable populations and high-risk areas.

AB 1014 is set to be heard in the Assembly Committee on Transportation on April 21, 2025. According to the Committee analysis on the bill there is no registered opposition and the following are listed as supporters: California Bicycle Coalition Del Norte County Board of Supervisors

Hopland Municipal Advisory Council

Nevada County Transportation Commission Office of Monterey County Supervisor, Chris Lopez PeopleForbikes Rural County Representatives of California Sonoma County Transportation Authority Streets Are For Everyone Streets for All Attached to this report are the bill text, bill analysis, fact sheet, and a draft support letter.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The County Administrative Office - Intergovernmental & Legislative Affairs Division (CAO-IGLA) prepared this report. Information was provided by Assemblymember Rogers' Office, and by Nossaman LLP (the County's state legislative advocates).

FINANCING:

Approval of the recommended action has no impact on the General Fund.

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Attachments:

- AB 1014 (Rogers) Bill Text as amended 4/8/25
- AB 1014 (Rogers) Fact Sheet 2/20/25
- AB 1014 (Rogers) Bill Analysis Assembly Transportation (hearing date 4/21/25)
- DRAFT AB 1014 (Rogers) support letter