



CITY OF CANYON LAKE

"A Little Bit of Paradise"



RECOMMENDATION

Review and discuss the draft Golf Cart Crossing Traffic Safety Study (Study) and Engineering and Traffic (E&T) Study for Railroad Canyon Road.



BACKGROUND

- In 2023, Riverside County Sheriff's Office Lake Elsinore Station (RSO) was awarded Office of Traffic Safety Grant for City of Canyon Lake.
- Grant aimed at targeting Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
- On Friday, Dec. 8, 2023 from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., RSO conducted a Saturation Patrol on Railroad Canyon Rd. as part of this grant.
- Traffic units were required to take a zero-tolerance approach, golf cart crossings are currently non-compliant with City and state laws.
- Resulted in 33 Traffic Stops and Field Sobriety Test, 4 Drivers Arrested for DUI (none from Canyon Lake), 4 DUI Arrests, and 23 Citations.
- **NO GOLF CARTS WERE CITED**, education about existing vehicle codes was provided.



CITY FINDINGS

- Canyon Lake Municipal Code, Chapter 12.08, requires golf carts to cross in the same manner as pedestrian traffic in the area designated for such crossing with restrictions at night.
- CLMC was adopted in 1992 and last updated in 1995.
- Staff met with City Attorney and RSO to determine best path forward for compliant and safe golf cart crossing.
- CA Vehicle Code Section 21115.1- City may establish crossing zones for use by golf carts at any time other than during darkness, on any street, other than a state highway, if adjacent to a golf course. Requires review of safety plan by RSO.



ACTIONS TAKEN BY CITY

- City desires to improve safety on Railroad Canyon Road.
- Commissioned study for golf carts and enforceable speed limit, i.e. Golf Cart Crossing Traffic Safety Study and Engineering and Traffic Survey for Railroad Canyon Road.
- Identified recent State legislation, AB 43, allowing for Safety Corridor designations to further reduce speed survey findings.
- Willdan Engineering completed both and identified a recommended path going forward.



ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC SURVEY

- Engineering and Traffic Survey (ET&S) was performed.
- 85th speed was 54 mph, current law allows 50 mph posting.
- New laws coming June 30, 2024 allows for 5 mph further reduction.
 - Roadway needs to qualify as a "safety corridor."
 - This provision would allow for an **enforceable 45 mph**.
 - City will seek new designation when application is available.



GOLF CART CROSSING TRAFFIC SAFETY STUDY

- Observed behavior of golf carts and vehicles at Canyon Lake Dr. S. and Railroad Canyon Road.
- Examined existing Municipal Code, California Vehicle Code, and best practices for golf cart crossings.
- Identified signs and pavement markings to clarify path for golf carts.
- Evaluated safety considerations including crossing at night and with vehicle traffic.
- Focus was on ensuring the safety of golf carts crossing at this intersection.



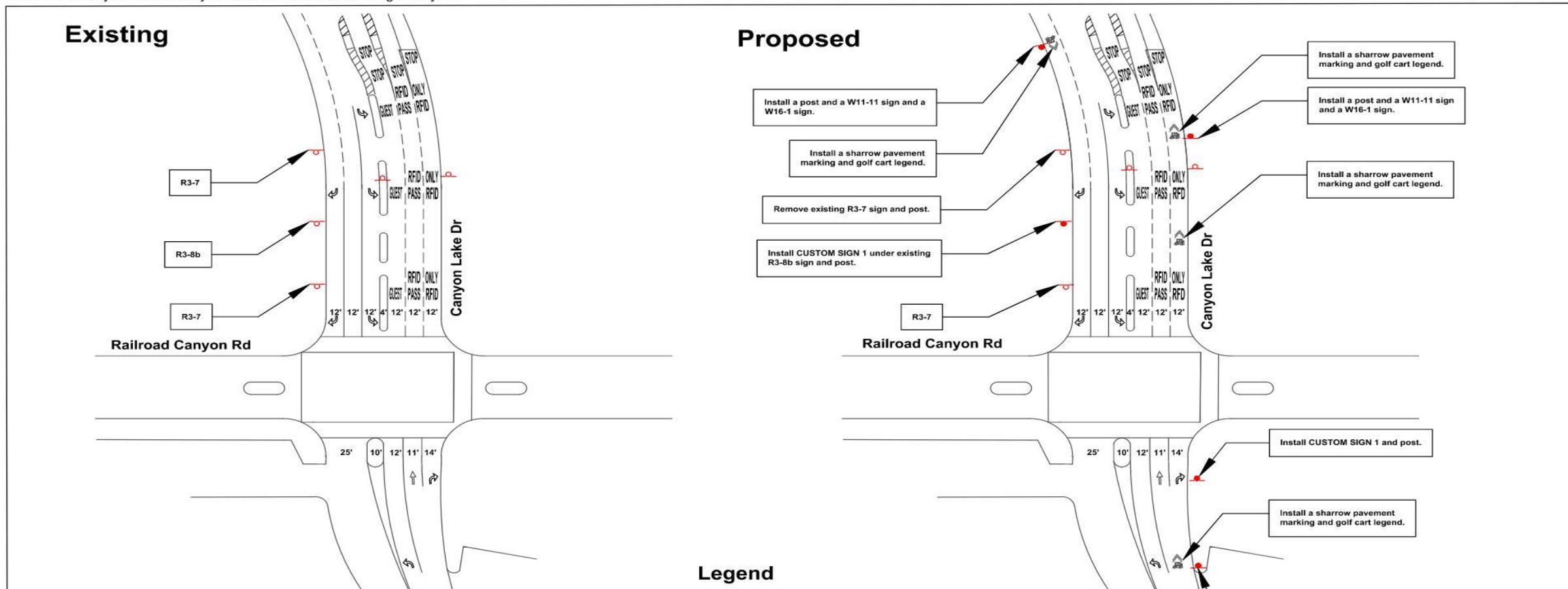
GOLF CART CROSSING SIGNAGE

- **“Golf Carts Must be Street Legal to Cross at Night.”**
 - Street legal includes all safety equipment, turn signals, lights, etc.
 - Street legal also includes proper registration, license, seat belts.
- **Share the Road and Golf Cart Crossing Icon.**
- **Carts Must Use Center Lane.**
- Include Reference to Canyon Lake Municipal Code Chapter.



PROPOSED MARKINGS AND SIGNS

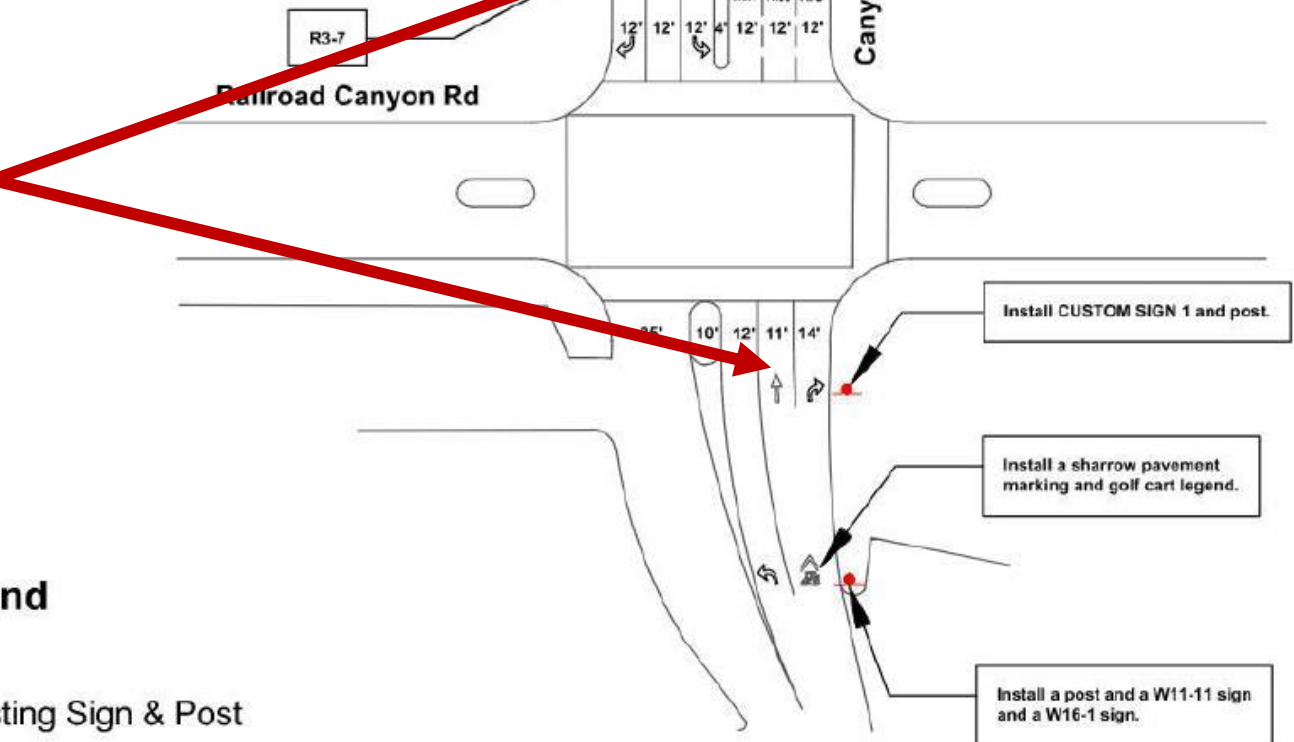
Railroad Canyon Rd & Canyon Lake Dr Traffic Calming Analysis





Proposed

- Install a post and a W11-11 sign and a W16-1 sign.
- Install a sharrow pavement marking and golf cart legend.
- Remove existing R3-7 sign and post.
- Install CUSTOM SIGN 1 under existing R3-8b sign and post.
- Install a sharrow pavement marking and golf cart legend.
- Install a post and a W11-11 sign and a W16-1 sign.
- Install a sharrow pavement marking and golf cart legend.



**PROPOSED
CROSSING LANES**

Legend

- Existing Sign & Post
- Proposed Sign & Post



CONCLUSIONS

- Both studies are currently a draft.
- E&T Study will provide enforceable speed limit for first time in more than 10 years on Railroad Canyon Road.
- RSO currently reviewing both studies and providing feedback based on Willdan's findings and suggested safety plan.



NEXT STEPS

- Next Steps by City and Willdan:
 - Proposed Ordinances Amending Chapter 12.08 (Golf Cart Crossing) and 12.04 (Speed Limits) of the Canyon Lake Municipal Code based on Staff, RSO and Willdan Recommendations.
 - Willdan to seek Safety Corridor Designation as soon as available.
 - Changes effective after July 1 (or soon after)
- RSO is planning three additional Saturation Patrols and a DUI Checkpoint this year.



PUBLIC OUTREACH IDEAS

- Develop education and outreach materials about crossing.
- Develop safety messages for Golf Cart Crossing, e.g.:
 - Extreme Caution urged in Golf Cart Crossing.
 - Golf Carts Must be Street Legal to Cross at Night.
 - Golf Carts Crossing in Designated Lanes Only.
 - Drinking and Driving Golf Carts in the Crossing is Prohibited and will be Strictly Enforced.
 - Passengers Must Be Seated Properly When Crossing.





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