



## Briefing Notes

### Town Hall Meeting 7.19.24

#### Meeting Link:

<https://youtu.be/WxKv5To5rbA?list=PLorTWAD4b8CBMIEW76w6xz7y1wQH7qq>

## Golf Cart Crossing Railroad Canyon Rd.

### Issue History:

- City Incorporated in 1990.
- [Railroad Canyon Road Golf Cart Crossing Ordinance Number 55](#) on October 6, 1995.
- Cities may establish Golf Cart Crossings under California Vehicle Code Section [CVC 21115](#) and [CVC 2115.1](#).
  - [CVC 21115](#) and [CVC 21115.1](#) state that for the purposes of crossing established by a City. Low-speed vehicles shall be considered “golf carts”.
  - The definition of low-speed vehicle acknowledges that low speed vehicle is considered a “golf cart” when operated pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section CVC 21115 or CVC 2115.1
  - A low-speed vehicle is not a “golf cart”, except when operated pursuant to Section CVC 21115 or CVC 21115.1
- No issues for almost 30 years.
- Riverside Sheriff’s Office endorsed the original ordinance.
- Riverside Sheriff’s Office received \$34,358 Cal OTS Grant with a focus on Railroad Canyon Rd. speed and DUI (as requested by residents after 7.4.23).
  - Mon. – Thurs. 15,000-18,000 Cars that utilize Railroad Canyon Rd.
  - Sat. – Sun. 25,000-28,000 Cars that utilize Railroad Canyon Rd.
- Dec. 2023 first DUI saturation patrol using OTS Grant.
- Riverside Sheriff’s Office confirmed that “Golf Carts (2-seater only)” could cross Railroad Canyon Rd., but unregistered, non-street legal low speed vehicles could not. June/July 2024 DUI Saturation Patrol on Railroad Canyon Rd., Riverside Sheriff’s Office stating that golf carts cannot cross Railroad Canyon Rd., several citations issued.
  - The City’s position disagrees with Riverside Sheriff’s Office citations based on [CVC 21266\(b\)](#).
- Golf cart VS Low-Speed Vehicle/ Neighborhood Electric Vehicles have different definitions under California Vehicle Code based on number of passengers, weight, and top speed.

### Community Questions:

**Q.** Can any non-street legal golf cart with more than 2 seats cross Railroad Canyon Road and Canyon Lake Dr, South into/out of the Canyon Lake Town Center?

**A.** Any vehicle that crosses needs to be a street legal vehicle (with license and registration).

**Q.** Why is Riverside Sheriff’s Office enforcing this issue now when Canyon Laker’s have been crossing for over 30 years?



**A.** Asked to address DUI safety concerns, applied for and received grant. Saturation research found that crossing is illegal then. Ordinance null and void in Riverside Sheriff's Office opinion. Should have been updated but was unaware of the issue until Saturation events.

**Q.** What are the current consequences for crossing Railroad Canyon Rd. if its considered a non-appropriate vehicle.

**A.** Riverside Sheriff's Office, Capt. Rayle will issue citations, not tow vehicles until matter is resolved.

**Q.** Will City Code Enforcement or Property Owner's Association Security cite those who cross?

**A.** City: No Code Enforcement citations. Property Owner's Association Security will not cite.

**Q.** Can the Golf course tunnel be modified to allow for crossing? Can improvements be made to accommodate vehicle crossing?

**A.** No, the Property Owner's Association must maintain security and safety of members. Recycled water is used for the golf course, which is unable to have human contact with this water. Property Owner's Association has maintained the tunnel and town center gate access for 56 years for the Mobile Home Estates residents, who have now become disadvantaged by the issue.

**Q.** Can the City Ordinance be changed and modified to allow for legal Railroad Canyon Rd. crossing?

**A.** Yes, working on a draft to be approved by both entities: City and Riverside Sheriff's Office and all legal counsel to bring a modified Ordinance and Transportation Plan.

**Q.** Can the City build a bridge to cross Railroad Canyon Rd.?

**A.** Looking into engineering costs, but this may not be plausible due to high costs. This is the best solution, but costs would prevent feasibility.

**Q.** Can the City change the speed limit on Railroad Canyon Rd. to 35 mph?

**A.** This requires a traffic study or 85<sup>th</sup> percentile study. Needs to fall into state requirements to change speed limits. No radar, but Sheriff can issue prima facie speeding tickets for speeding incidents on Railroad Canyon Rd. City must follow state requirements and cannot arbitrarily set speed.

Clarifying traffic study – This was misunderstood to mean it takes 10 years. It lasts for 14 years but is traditionally done by cities around every 10 years. For this road the last study was conducted in the 80's.



**Q.** Did the City sour the relationship with Riverside Sheriff's Office because of the City's desire to start a Police Department?

**A.** Riverside Sheriff's Office, no, City, no. Our job to inquire to get service options.

**Q.** Does the City Council want the Town Center to fail and gut the Town Center to build high rise apartments?

**A.** No, never try to jeopardize tax dollars. Come over and spend more money, use Canyon Cash.

**Q.** Residents boycotting the Town Center to force the City and Riverside Sheriff's Office to resolve issue?

**A.** No, please do not boycott local businesses and be good neighbors, do not hurt them.

**Q.** Where is written material available for residents?

**A.** Look for written articles, i.e. Canyon Lake Insider, Friday Flyer, and check City social media accounts and pages, check the City website.

- Safety Issue: Street legal, seat belts, car seats. Solution to continue Canyon Lake quality of life to be protected. Riverside Sheriff's Office objective to keep Canyon Lake safe.

**Q.** Can we get more communication from City to dispel rumors, email/text, for non-website users?

**A.** Information changes too frequently and won't send outdated collateral that wastes tax dollars. One City mailer could be more than \$5000.00

**Q.** Wants clear and consistent guidelines and instructions of what is allowed or not, conflicting information available?

**A.** City will have accessible information available.

**Q.** Did the three lanes attribute to the issue?

**A.** It did not, Riverside Sheriff's Office is only looking at speed of Railroad Canyon Rd. for the crossing issue.

**Q.** Pedestrian crossings are not safe, if safety is the issue, how does that work?

**A.** Information changed from further research by County Council since there is no lane., no crossing is legal unless vehicle is registered and insured.

**Q.** Cross walk use of golf carts, refer to [AB1238](#), Jan. 2023, Pedestrian traffic cannot be limited to cross walk, wouldn't this apply to golf cart crossing?

**A.** It is unsafe to get out to push button to cross with pedestrian traffic.

**Q.** Do street legal golf cart vehicles need to have the same requirements as motorcycles per [CVC Section 21950](#) (2023), [CVC 2115](#) (2000)?



**A.** The current law supersedes any older law.

**Q.** Can a stop sign be added, and the speed limit reduced to 35 mph on Railroad Canyon Rd.?

**A.** No, the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile Traffic Study State law requirements need to be followed.

**Q.** Are deputies educated enough to identify between a modified golf cart vs. NEV/LSV? Will a deputy enforcement be able to tell the difference between an aftermarket modification and a manufacture modification?

**A.** Traffic deputies can differentiate the vehicles for the safety requirements.