Understanding Speed Limits

The City of Laguna Niguel is responsible for setting the local speed limits. Speeds are typically set at the first five-mile per hour increment below the 85th percentile speed, defined as that speed at or below which 85-percent of the traffic is moving. Further reduction must be documented and justified by the Engineering and Traffic Survey.

Simply lowering the speed limit does not guarantee motorists will drive slower; other speed management tools may have to be implemented along the roadway.

According to published data, 1 in 5 car crashes in Laguna Niguel are associated with unsafe speed.

Each person traveling within the City of Laguna Niguel can model good behavior by traveling the speed limit or less based on roadway conditions.

Increasing speeds have a dramatic impact upon people walking and biking during a crash:

- Struck by a vehicle traveling at 20 mph: 9 out of 10 pedestrians survive
- Struck by a vehicle traveling at 30 mph: 5 out of 10 pedestrians survive
- Struck by a vehicle traveling at 40 mph: Only 1 out of 10 pedestrians survive

More Questions?

Speed Limit Enforcement Questions:

Laguna Niguel Police Services (administered by the Orange County Sheriff’s Department), is responsible for enforcing traffic laws within the City of Laguna Niguel. If you have questions about the enforcement of speed limits, please contact: (949) 362-4346

Questions About Locally Posted Speed Limits:

The City of Laguna Niguel Public Works Department is responsible for setting and posting local speed limits on the basis of engineering and traffic surveys. Feel free to reach out to us with your concerns or additional questions.

Contact Us for More Information

City of Laguna Niguel
Public Works Department
30111 Crown Valley Parkway
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677
949-362-4337

This brochure is designed to answer these questions and more.
The most common concerns about speeding generally originate from residential areas.

Speed surveys are required to establish speed limits on most city streets, however, 25 MPH speed limit signs may be posted on residential streets without conducting a speed survey, if the street or segment of street being considered (CVC 515) meets the following:

1. Street width cannot exceed 40 feet.
2. Uninterrupted length of street cannot be more than 1/2 mile; interruptions include official traffic control devices such as stop signs and traffic signals.
3. There can be only one traffic lane in each direction.