



**City of Missoula, Montana  
City Council Committee Agenda Item**

**Committee:** Public Works and Mobility

**Item:** Mary Jane Boulevard & Flynn Lane Speed Limits

**Date:** July 24, 2023

**Sponsor(s):** Kevin Slovarp, City Engineer for Surface Transportation

**Prepared by:** Kevin Slovarp

**Ward(s) Affected:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 6
<input type="checkbox"/> All Wards	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

**Action Required:**

Change the existing posted speed limits on Mary Jane Boulevard and Flynn Lane.

**Recommended Motion(s):**

I move the City Council: Adopt a resolution for Missoula City Council to establish posted speed limits of 25 miles per hour (mph) for Mary Jane Boulevard from Mullan Road to Melrose Place and Camden Street to W. Broadway Street and Flynn Lane from Mullan Road to W. Broadway Street.

**Timeline:**

Committee discussion:	August 9, 2023
Council action (or sets hearing):	August 14, 2023
Public Hearing (if required):	<a href="#">Click or tap here to enter text.</a>
Final Consideration	<a href="#">Click or tap here to enter text.</a>
Deadline:	<a href="#">Click or tap here to enter text.</a>

**Background and Alternatives Explored:**

Prior to the recent design and construction of the Mullan BUILD Project, Flynn Lane was classified as an Urban Collector Street and functioned as such in the Captain John Mullan Neighborhood. Mary Jane Boulevard, from Melrose Place to Camden Street, was classified as a Local Street prior to the construction of the Mullan BUILD Project. This segment of Mary Jane Boulevard was constructed to collector street standards and planned to become the collector street in the neighborhood once it was connected to Mullan Road to the south and W. Broadway Street to the north. The Mullan BUILD Project recently constructed two new street segments of Mary Jane Boulevard from Mullan Road to Melrose Place and from Camden Street to W. Broadway Street making the connections. Now that Mary Jane Boulevard has become the neighborhood’s collector street, Flynn Lane can revert to a Local Street which provides safety benefits to Hellgate School and its staff and students.

The previous (in relation to the Mullan BUILD Project) and currently posted speed limit on Mary Jane Boulevard from Melrose Place to Camden Street is 25 miles per hour (mph). The posted speed limit of the two new segments of Mary Jane Boulevard from Mullan Road to Melrose Place and from Camden Street to W. Broadway Street is 30 mph.

The current posted speed limit on Flynn Lane from Mullan Road to W. Broadway Street is 35 mph, with a school zone speed limit of 25 mph (Mon-Fri 7:00AM to 5:00PM).

City staff is recommending establishing a posted speed limit of 25 mph for both Mary Jane Boulevard from Mullan Road to W. Broadway Street and Flynn Lane from Mullan Road to W. Broadway Street based on the following:

- DJ&A Memo (May 26, 2023) as part of the overall speed investigation, along with the Mullan BUILD Design Basis Report (2021) and Technical Memo #4 (2020), recommends 25 mph. It specifically mentions '30 mph on any of the collector streets [within the Mullan BUILD Project] and posted as low as 25 mph in certain areas, such as on Mary Jane Boulevard, may be implemented to increase safety'.
- The City of Missoula has published the *Safe Speeds on City Streets* guidance. This guidance document provides information and vision to inform its posted speed limits on streets in the Missoula Urban Area. This guidance document was previously presented to PW Committee on April 28, 2021, by Ben Weiss, Bicycle/Pedestrian Program Manager, as a part of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program.
  - It states that Mary Jane Boulevard as a Residential Collector Street should target an average speed of 25 mph. These Residential Collector Streets are vehicular through streets that should be comfortable for residents and most non-motorized users.
  - It states that Flynn Lane as a Local Street should target an average speed of 20 mph. Posting at 25 mph now wouldn't require a separate engineering study and investigation (State Law requirement – minimum posted speed limit of 25 mph). A separate engineering study would need to be undertaken if the posted speed limit was desired to be 20 mph.
- Increase safety – this is the number one goal.
- City staff desires consistent and uniform posted speed limits on its streets for safety purposes.
- Future development along the two new segments will change the environment and will positively affect lower operating speeds. Development has already occurred adjacent to Mary Jane Boulevard as RMB and Hellgate Village subdivisions have already been approved. In addition, new development is being planned adjacent to Mary Jane Boulevard as evidenced by the Snowfarm development and Missoula Loft Homes subdivision.
- Recent citizen safety concerns and complaints regarding operating speeds of truck traffic and the noise those trucks make when traveling at higher speeds.

**Financial Implications:**

Minimal. Streets Division operating budget and staff will be used to purchase and install new speed limit signs, respectively. The existing speed limit signs can be reused and/or repurposed for future use.

**Links to external websites:**

Engage Missoula: [engagemissoula.com/neighborhood-traffic-safety-program](https://engagemissoula.com/neighborhood-traffic-safety-program) – [Safe Speeds on City Streets](#)

**Attachments:**

- 1-Resolution – Mary Jane Boulevard & Flynn Lane Speed Limit
- 2-DJ&A Memo – Mary Jane Boulevard and Flynn Lane – Posted Speed Recommendations
- 3-Mullan BUILD Design Basis Report
- 4-Mullan BUILD Technical Memo #4