ORDINANCE NO. 7
SERIES 2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, AMENDING CHAPTER 5.20 TRAFFIC, SECTION 5.20.020 ADDITIONS OR MODIFICATIONS OF THE GUNNISON MUNICIPAL CODE BY THE MODIFICATION OF PART 11, SPEED REGULATIONS, 1101 SPEED LIMITS

WHEREAS, the City of Gunnison adopted the Pedestrian and Non-Motorized Transportation Plan in April 2013 to facilitate development of an efficient multi-modal transportation system that was safe for all users; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 City Strategic Plan, A. Strategic Priority – Infrastructure and Safety, Results #2: Safe Roads on Main and Tomichi, is specific to respondents desiring the reality and perception that the downtown area is safe and aesthetically pleasing to walk, bike and drive through Main and Tomichi Avenues. For this to be achieved that same sense of safe walking and biking is needed throughout the community as individuals travel to and from the downtown area; and

WHEREAS, 79% of respondents to a community survey conducted by the City in 2017 supported or strongly supported improvements to pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, the Gunnison Vibrancy Initiative, consisting of a series of community meetings and surveys conducted in 2019 determined that the downtown area of the community needs to be pedestrian and bicycle friendly. Pedestrian and bicycle traffic downtown has to be able to safely get from the residential areas to the downtown; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 01, Series 2019 reduced the required number of off-street parking spaces required in residential areas; and

WHEREAS, a traffic study conducted by the police department May 22nd through July 1, 2020, at seven (7) locations on city residential streets, provided an average speed of 23 miles per hour and an 85% reading of 28.7 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, basic traffic reconstruction and physics indicates that a vehicle traveling at 25 MPH will provide more time for a driver to respond to a driving hazard and require less distance to stop than a vehicle travelling under the same condition, travelling at 30 MPH; and

WHEREAS, MTC Section 1102 allows a municipality to determine upon the basis of a traffic investigation or survey that any speed specified or established as authorized under sections 1101 to 1104 is greater or less than is reasonable or safe under the road and traffic conditions at any intersection or other place or upon any part of a street or highway in its jurisdiction, said local authority shall determine and declare a reasonable and safe speed limit thereat which shall be effective when appropriate signs giving notice thereof are erected at such intersection or other place or upon the approaches thereto; and

WHEREAS, MTC 1101(7) states in relevant part that any city or town may by ordinance adopt absolute speed limits as the maximum lawful speed limits in its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that based upon the community involvement, surveys, and traffic investigation conducted by the City that the speed in residential zone districts should be modified to 25 miles per hour as the maximum speed limit, and that such changes would benefit the health, safety and welfare of the City’s residents and, therefore, is in the City’s best interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, ORDAINS THAT:

Section 1. Gunnison Municipal Code (G.M.C.) Section 5.20.020 is modified by the addition of Part 11, Speed Regulations and modification of 1101 (2)(c), to read as follows:

1102(c) Twenty five miles per hour in any residence district, as defined in section 42-1-102(80), C.R.S.
Section 2. Severability. Should any section, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance be ruled invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction it is hereby declared the intent of the City Council of the City of Gunnison Colorado, that the remaining provisions of this ordinance shall be given full force and effect if it is possible to do so.

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED this 11th day of August 2020, on first reading, and introduced, read, and adopted on second and final reading this 25th day of August 2020.

Jim Gelwicks, Mayor

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Erica Boucher, City Clerk

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